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UNDERMINING THE BULWARKS

Capitalism's Machinery Of Murder Threatened By "Propaganda Of Mutiny" In The Armies of Europe.

According to information gathered from various sources by the Literary Digest, there exists an active and wide-spread "propaganda of mutiny in the armies of Europe." Socialist and Radical agitators are urging upon the conscripts to refuse to shoot down their fellow-men at the word of command, and "in many of the garrison towns of France and Italy insurrectionary posters are being addressed to the soldiers inciting them to desert after assassinating their officers." The Osservatore Romano, says the "International Anti-military Association is in full operation and its agents carry on a diligent propaganda by interviewing and disseminating their literature in the cans and cafes frequented by soldiers the conscripts are reminded that they owe neither duty nor obedience to the state which is a stepmother, who would teach them the art of murder. They are bidden to throw away, or break their weapons of destruction, or to discharge their rifles against their commanders, and are invited to join the ranks of the civil workers."

Of course the police, faithful tools of tyranny, are busy tearing down these anti-military manifestos, and arresting those who are accused of publishing them."

In a speech at Limoges, M. Jaures is quoted as follows: "The duty of socialists, as soon as danger of war appears, is very plain. The International Labor Association stands before everything else for a permanent and universal propaganda of peace. When ambition or desire of conquest rises in the State and suggests the possibility of war, the international proletariat must rise as one man, and make it plain to the Government of a capitalistic state that the laboring men will have no slaughter." M. Jaures' position is ably seconded by "M. Herve, a publicist, under whose auspices the anti-militaristic campaign is being prosecuted." The Journal des Debats (Paris,) is quoted as saying:

"The influence of Herveism is at the present moment brought to bear upon the conscripts, in whom is inculcated at the moment of their departure for foreign service the most profound contempt for their duties, and for military courage. For this end they are besieged by publications such as the Conscrit, of which 50,000 copies have already been circulated in France.

"The Advantgarde, the weekly organ of M. Herve and of his most trusted friends, is taken up with anticipating the coming occurrences on next First of May, and the soldiers are incited not to march against those who will then engage in socialistic demonstrations, and an attempt to fill the minds of the conscripts with abhorrence of the Government under which they are compelled to live."

Brave words are these attributed to M. Herve during a recent speech "of unparalelled violence." "Comrades, you are called to the military school in order to be degraded; in order to learn how you may kill your brethren! Refuse the rifles offered to you, or take and smash them; insult your gold-laced commanders. Let us all cry out: Down with the army! Away with country! Long live internationalism!"

M. Ferri, a leading Italian Socialist, declares this anti-militaristic propaganda ought "to illuminate the public opinion" by pointing out "the enormous waste of money involved in a military budget," and above all ought to educate the consciences of soldiers and conscripts not to neglect their personal duties in the matter of national defense, but at least not to take part in "those slaughters of the proletariat which are shamefully common, and are passed over in our country."

"In undermining the army we shall destroy the main bulwark of capitalism," said one of the delegates at the Socialist congress at Bremen, Germany. To its eternal shame, however, that congress rejected the proposition for "the issuing of a decree favoring the carrying on of an anti-militarist propaganda even to the heart of the barracks."

While this crusade of the awakening working class against the military establishment, that engine of repression and murder by which masters have always held their slaves in subjection to exploitation, and ruthlessly slaughtered them when driven by their miseries to revolt, is being carried on tirelessly and persistently to the end that "peace may unfold her wings," and pillage, rapine and slaughter be known no more, it is worth while to note that the Osservatore Romano, the Italian organ of the Vatican, "blames the state for not repressing the Italian Socialistic associations," and declares this campaign to be "the fruit of liberty,, little understood, which the government has always yielded to the revolutionary party" and this will be found to be the attitude of all institutions whose tap-root of material interest runs down into the exploitation of labor at the hands of its brutal master—capital.

To those who desire to locate the abiding place of the real advocates of the gospel of "peace on earth," the foregoing should prove a valuable guide.

A Sydney firm recently advertised for a canvasser to sell tea on commission. It is said that the most a man can make at this game is 15 shillings per week, and yet there were 500 applicants for the job. Guess everything is all right in Australia.

A traveler in Kentucky came upon an old negro hauling driftwood from the Ohio river into his farmyard. As there was already a stack of it nearly as big as the two-roomed house, the stranger remarked:

"I see you have gathered a lot of firewood, uncle."

"Oh, dat's only half of what I've picked up dis season!" said the darkey, proudly, stopping his mule.

"What did you do with the rest—sell it?"

"No, suh. I hauled it to Mr. Tucker's, de white man what libs in dat big house yander. We's pahtners. He lets me hab half ob all I kin pick up."—N. Y. Times.

George A. Lucas, Democratic candidate for the Massachusetts legislature at the recent election, declared for "free hides," especially in his district, where "they are used to a great extent." They are free now. Any capitalist may help himself to as many working-class hides as he requires for profit-making purposes. What more could be desired?

His wages is the price the worker receives for his commodity labor-power. This price is determined by the same law which regulates the price of any other commodity," i.e., "by means of competition between buyers and sellers, and the relation between supply and demand—offer and desire."

Roseberry in a "fighting speech," delivered before a Liberal audience at Sturbridge, Eng., recently declared that "Every vote given to the Tories is a slice off your loaf." This will be a grievous hardship to England's millions of unemployed and pauperized work-people who have neither loaf nor the means of getting one.

According to Comrade Wanhope, in The Worker, prospects are brightening in New York City. Only seven people died of starvation there last week.

"Owing to the war, the inmates of the Tokyo Poor Asylum have so greatly increased in their number, that the building ought to be extended. Many of them are wives and children of dead soldiers."— Tokyo Socialist.

When the Japanese armies are recalled from the field and reduced to a peace footing something like a quarter of a million of men will be thrown back upon the labor market. The cessation of demand for military stores is expected to add another half million to this labor force for which there will be no room in industry. The authorities are looking to the future with apprehension.

ANOTHER SUIT FOR DAMAGES

Economic Ignorance Once More Leads Workingmen to Get Their Fingers Burned in the Fires of Capitalist Judicial Procedure.

The sympathetic strike in Chicago, is attacked in a suit for damages for $50,000 filed today in the Circuit Court against the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers and Frank M. Ryan, General President. The Oscar Daniels Iron Works Company is the plaintiff.

The action grows out of the strike of iron workers that began against the American Bridge Company several months ago. The Daniels firm's most important contract was for the new $5,000,000 plant of the Allis-Chalmers Company in Milwaukee. —Press Dispatch.

This adds one more to the already long list of suits brought against trade unions by employers in the United States since the famous Taff Vale decision in England, some three years ago, established the legal rule that organized workingmen are responsible to capitalists for losses caused to the latter by lawful and peaceable strikes and boycotts. In several such suits decisions have already been given against the unions, and the funds of the unions and the property of individual members levied on to reimburse the employers. Many other cases are pending.

If a judge recognizes the "sacred right" of capitalist property, the right of capitalists to control workingmen's opportunities of employmen and to make profit out of their labor, it is quite logical for him to apply "Taff Vale Law" and hold that even the most orderly of strikes and boycotts is an "interference" with the capitalists' right to make profits, and that it entitles the capitalist to damages. Only a Socialist, one who holds human interests entirely subordinate to them, could, on the judicial bench, consistently maintain the right of the working people, while capitalism lasts, to organize and act together, by the strike and boycott, to improve their condition or resist capitalist aggressions. Only Socialist judges will do this, and until the workingmen begin to elect Socialist judges, they may expect most of the decisions to go against them.—The Worker.

If a child cannot be taught by wise counsel to keep its fingers out of the fire it must pay the penalty by the pain that comes from its burns. The strike and boycott have been resorted to by the workers times without number, and the result has always been the same. If not absolute defeat, at least nothing better than temporary relief for the ills of which they have complained has been their reward for efforts along these lines. By the very nature of the circumstances surrounding them under the rule of capitalist property, to even hope to raise themselves to more comfortable conditions by resorting to the use of such subterfuges, is sheer folly. To a person capable of drawing sound conclusions no better evidence of this could be required than the experience of the past, an experience that has been but a continued repetition of disasters to those who have been so stupid as to assault the walls of capitalist Jericho with such farcical weapons. The walls of this stronghold refuse to crumble though a multitude of slaves balk and bray before the gates.

Just as the child, not understanding the nature of fire, gets burned in the handling of it, so the workers, not understanding the nature of capitalist property, its laws of exchange and its labor-market, likewise meet with painful experience in their efforts to combat them. Their stubborn persistence in the use of wrongful methods of coping with the difficulty that besets their pathway, has called forth many severe penalties, by no means the least of which is that of being mulcted for damages a la "Taff Vale" decisions. Thus, as it were, they are "burnt as with fire," as a penalty for doing that which they ought not to do, from the standpoint of the highest and best interests of their economic class in present day society.

The strike and boycott, the so-called economic weapons of labor, are not class weapons at all. When used for a political purpose as in Russia recently, the former becomes a class weapon, as that for which it is used is a class purpose.

Just how many more times the workers, in bunches here, and bunches there, must needs have their fingers burned by these verdicts for damages and other uncomfortable experiences before they will learn to abandon factional folly and turn to class wisdom and class warfare, remains to be seen.

Under the rule of capitalist property every power that it can conjure forth is being used to compel the workers to discover the line of least resistence and follow it to deliverance.

Were capital a personality endowed with the wisdom of the Creator, it could with no more releatless logic point the way to freedom to the working class than it is now doing through its courts and other stage properties. So plainly does it point out to the workers the necessity of acting together politically for the purpose of seizing control of the State, and through it the control of industry that it would be incorrect to say capital "works in most mysterious ways its wonders to perform." Its teachings are as plain as a "pike-staff." Its machinery and method of production, its legislatures and courts, its every act proclaims to the workers of the world, that if they think and act as a class, they may, as that class, become masters of the earth. They may become Freemen.

A new industry has been opened up in South Africa, that should afford an outlet for a large number of England's unemployed. Europeans are now allowed £1 and expenses for each deserting Chinaman they arrest upon the Rand. The attention of General Booth is respectfully called to this for Christ's sake.

THE RECENT BAKU MASSACRES

Maxim Gorky Comments on the Horrible Butchery of Armenians at the Instigation of the Russian Authorities.

At the door of Petrovitch Probiedonostseff, ex-Chief Procurator of the Holy Synod, lies the guilt of the recent frightful destruction of life and property in the naphtha districts of the Caucasus, says the correspondent of the Manchester Guardian. The coalition of Armenians with the united forces of Finns, Poles, Jews and Russian Socialists was a measure of self-defense, called forth by Mr. Pobiedonostseff's confiscation of all the property of the Armenian Church. With the aim of preserving their national existence, we are told, the Armenians joined the revolutionary camp, and the Government retaliated by stirring up the lowest element of the population, the Tartars, against them. While the Tartars were suffered to carry arms, says the above quoted correspondent, the Armenians were disarmed, man by man. Then the Tartars were encouraged to fall upon their more helpless townsmen and ended by destroying the naphtha works in which many Armenians took shelter. The oil, buildings, and machinery thus wiped out, we learn, were valued at $50,000,000, and the loss of life has not been accurately ascertained. Commenting on this horrible catastrophe Maxim Gorky's letter, published in the London Times, is pitched in a lofty strain of sorrow and indignation. He thus describes the state of the Caucasus region in happier times:

"When I was in the Caucasus I saw the Georgian everywhere working peacefully and contentedly side by side with the Tatar and the Armenian. How happily and simply, like children, they played and sang and laughed, and how difficult now to believe that these simple, delightful people are busy killing each other in a senseless, stupid way, obedient to dark and evil influences."

He attributed the change to the working of the bureaucracy, "a foul external power"—a group af men who are "playing" for their own ends with the "evil passions" of the people. To quote:

"This group is trying to extinguish with blood the fire of conscience which is gleaming in the Russian people, at last awakened to the knowledge of its right to choose its own form of existence. These men are accustomed to power. Life is pleasant to them while they can dispose of the fate and riches of our country, the strength and blood of our people, and that without giving account to anyone of their acts."

He thus gives in some detail the method of the Government in stirring up disorders among the people:

"They openly hound on, like dogs, Russians on Jews, Poles and Finns; Tatars on Armenians and Georgians; the sluggish peasant, dulled by hunger, on students and even on children; and perhaps even if tomorrow the Tartars demanded the acknowledgement of their rights they would send against them the Girghiz and the Mordvinian in order to oppress them."

Turning to the subject of eventual release and freedom for Russia, he speaks hopefully of the bold and free thought which is breaking out over all the country. In his own words:

"This senseless and inhuman oppression has not been able to extinguish the fire of bold and free thought in our country. It is breaking forth everywhere with greater strength. Even the blind now see its angry flame. This flame is spreading unexpectedly in all directions, and is struggling to burst into one strong, glorious blaze, into a stormy whirlwind of protest from all thoughtful and honest men against the violence which is used by an incapable group of parasites who have been nourished on the best sap of the country."

He feels, however, that a true and effective revolution can not be carried on without unity and mutual confidence among the people, and he concludes his letter in an eloquent appeal for combination against the "one enemy." There can be no distinction and no rivalry between nationalities as they fight shoulder to to shoulder for their freedom. Thus:

"Does the Armenian indeed deprive the Tartar of this freedom? Does the Georgian? Are not the Russian and Jew and Pole bound hand and foot by that same power which presses equally heavily on the shoulders of the Tartar? We have but one enemy. All men whose reason is clear and whose will is not enslaved must unite in the struggle against thie evil and senseless power which presses on all of us. All have but one enemy. Let equality and brotherhood be ours. Let the light of reason shine on us all and weld us together in one great, invincible will, and then, 'Hail, freedom.'"

OBJECTIONS TO CAPITALISM

By A. M Simons, In Wilshire's Magazine, With No Apologies To Sundry Fool Critics of Socialism.

Capitalism is so frightfully and parsely materialistic.

It is quite shocking to anyone with spiritual and artistic impulses. Its greatest exponents admit that the prime object of its members must be to satisfy their animal necessities. It seems to look upon mankind as having no organs other than the stomach. Its highest ideal of success is the hog with the biggest ear of corn.

It would keep 95 per cent. of the population straining tooth and nail merely to live, with no reason or purpose in living. It calls "successful" only those who pile up such large amounts of filthy lucre that they have no time to think of anything but caring for and getting rid of their surplus. It makes animal life the end and sole object of existence, instead of a means enabling something worth while to be done. It is a "pig philosophy," and short in swill.

Capitalism is destructive of the family.

It believes in and practices both free and purchased love—or passion rather. Its doctrines, if logically carried out, would destroy all family ties. It would make marriage a commercial relation. It would break up by divorce one-fifth of the marriages it permitted, and make a consensed hell of a large portion of the remainder. It would force hundreds of thousands of girls in America to become the prey of lust debauchery. It would drive industries into the home until it became but a pocket edition of the factory. It would compel the wife and mother and babes to toil in dangerous occupations while the father became a tramp. The domestic work would have to be done either by those whom poverty has forced into slavery and enforced celibacy, or else by an already overworked wife. It would foster a class of idlers among the "successful" portion of society who, having no useful occupation, would live in an almost sexual promiscuity that has been unknown since men ceased to be reckoned among simians.

Capitalism would destroy all individuality.

It would prevent a man from in any way impressing his personality upon the products of his hand and brain. It would only permit each worker to make a small portion of an article and give him no voice in determining the form or character of that article. It would tend to reduce the great mass of people who would be compelled to do the work of the world to one common level. It might even take away their names and give them in its place a brass tag with a number on it. It would force the children of these workers to enter whatever industry was in most need of human cogs when they became old enough to be useful to the owners of the factories, mines, and mills. The individual would have no choice whatever as to what profession they would follow in life. The great mass of the people would be subject to the "terrible tyranny of the minority," who could say to each individual worker "do this" or "go there." All disobedience could be punished by starvation for "lack of a job." Some men would be compelled by this autocratic power to leave their native homes and families and be herded together in military or industrial armies.

Capitalism would certainly crush out all incentive to progress.

It would stop all social advance. It would tend to divide society into two fixed classes within which there would be little room for individual distinction. Those who were doing the constructive labor, and from whom all progress must come, would be reduced to such a dead level that there would be no hope of escapin and hence would make no attempt at improvement in social and industrial matters. No defender of capitalism has ever been able to tell how inventors would be rewarded under that system. It looks as though it would be possible for a few idlers to take away any invention that the workers might make, and thus discourage the inventive impulse. With the great body of the people forced to spend all their time getting the mere means of existence, and the remainder wholly separated from the process of industry, the first would have no time and the second no ability to devise improvement. Society would soon stand still and finally lapse back into barbarism and savagery.

Capitalism proposes to "divide up" all that the laborers produce among

THERE IS TROUBLE AHEAD.

"The overshadowing question in trade union circles at present is the threatened suspension of work in the anthracite and bituminous mining districts next spring. This cloud on the industrial horizon is growing in proportion as the weeks and months pass, and there is no longer any doubt that the struggle will come on schedule time. The officers and organizers of the miners are working feverishly, night and day, to thoroughly unionize the various districts and to strengthen every weak point. During the past few months President Mitchell has taken personal control of the field work and appealed to the men who have become careless and lukewarm in their unionism to flock to his standard and prepare to resist the encroachments of the combines of capital that are thirsting for greater profits, no matter how deep into poverty and misery they force their workers. On the other hand the coal barons, who now possess the power to raise and lower prices at will, are making their usual excuses that the market is overstocked with coal and prices are too low. Some of them even go so far as to insult the miners, as well as the intelligence of the rest of the people, by claiming that their employes are the only ones who are making money and ungratefully refuse to accept wage reductions, and thus are forcing a general stagnation in the industry. Therefore, the operators declare, they are compelled to make a cut of 25 per cent. in wages or close their mines to save themselves from ruination. Meanwhile however, the poor, unsophiscated mine owners, who are forced to live in mansions and clip coupons and make trips to Europe as a penalty for their extreme generosity, are piling up mountains of coal in anticipation of the shutdown, and, by arbitrarily raising prices because of the "scarcity" of coal, they will fairly revel in prosperity next year, while the dear people, who vote for private ownership of mines, dig deeper into their jeans if they would keep from freezing a year hence and while many a miner makes side jumps toward the poorhouse. So once again there is coming a great crisis in the class struggle, and while the suffering will be severe in some quarters, it is likewise certain that the unbridled plutocracy, which appears to have become afflicted with a mania to "teach the people a lesson" ever so often, while on its periodical drunks, will only hasten its own downfall.—Max. Hayes, in International Socialist Review.

Workingmen should avoid falling into the error of believing that capital assists in wealth production- It is labor alone that produces wealth, the function of capital merely being to take possession of it.

A WOMAN'S WAY OF SETTLING TRADES UNION TROUBLES.

I was having a discussion with a man the other day who seemed to think that if we had no trades unions we would be completely lost, and it struck me forcibly that to level the opinions of the unionist, it would be a g and thing to have every worker under the sun receive the same wage, thus removing the aristocratic swelled head of some of the wage-slaves and pay the man who digs the ditch the same as the man who has a comfortable inside job, etc.; for one man is just as important a factor in the community as another, and one man has to pay the same price for his loaf, etc., as the other. Of course my suggestion includes foreman and workers of every rank and file, parsons, doctors, lawyers, etc., included. It seems so ridiculous for there to be such diversities of pay when commodities are all the same price to the purchaser. (The worker's labor-power being a commodity likewise.)

I think then, we would have all positions filled with men capable for those positions, whereas today we have persons holding jobs they know practically nothing about.

Of course, I don't suggest this as a remedy for labor's troubles, for unionism is today only a stumbling block to the solution of labor troubles, and history has proved that any organization or society that bars any part of the community, is not good, as we are all, from the weakest to the strongest, depending on each other.

Unionism has probably had its part in evolution, but has now proved to the world that there is nothing left for it to do but die a natural death, or wake up and use the only weapon left—the ballot box; and vote for their own interest, and not play the fool any longer.

It often occurs to me, why men having all the privileges of the franchise do not crave for a change in politics, for to my knowledge, men have been going to the polls year in and year out, voting for the same old thing and getting something worse every time, and still they keep on doing it.

I think if I had the same chance to vote, (which I ought to have), I would make a change somehow, and try something less old-fashioned than the old ruling class parties.

Not that Socialists want votes that are not intelligent; for that would not prove a success. But why do not workingmen read and investigate why we are in such a mix-up today? For if every union man would hold himself aloof from the old parties and mind his own business and vote for Socialism he would not be long in obtaining freedom from the worst slavery the workers have ever been subject to.

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A GOOD OMEN.

But a few years ago were the accusation of what is termed graft and corruption made against those high up in the political and business world, it would have fallen largely upon deaf ears. But a most remarkable change has taken place and now it is a matter of common knowledge that such practices not only exist, but are followed in the most unblushing manner by the foremost citizens of every land. This has become so generally known that it no longer causes surprise and the most that can be said of exposures laying bare schemes of graft and corruption involving millions of dollars, and implicating our "foremost citizens," is that they cause little more than a ripple upon the surface of things and one that is soon forgotten.

The laying bare of the methods of the great capitalist concerns like "Standard Oil," the "Ship-building Trust," the "Insurance companies," the "Beef Trust," and others; the wholesale graft, fraud, and corruption prevalent in municipal, state, and federal administrations, and the utter repudiation of all principles of integrity and honor by the dominant industrial and polical forces of our time, is looked upon without adverse comment by an ever-increasing number of people. This doubtless arises from the fact that the average person is instinctively recognizing these manifestations to be but the legitimate expressions of business, just like the thing they express, and noticeable only because of the magnitude of latter-day transactions.

The entire structure of modern business and politics is based upon a crime. That crime is the robbery of labor. The entire business world is implicated in the robbery, and the subsequent division of the spoil resulting from it. The robbery is effected in the field of production under the guise of the wage-system of labor which enables the robbers to seize all the wealth produced by the workers. This proceeding and the subsequent "Donnybrook" that the thieves engage in over the division of the loot constitutes the world of business.

In the earlier days of the present system of robbing labor and disposing of the proceeds, when the business concern was yet small and its transactions of little magnitude, its corrupt nature would not be readily exposed to the public gaze because of the very insignificance of those transactions. As the system developed, and the huge business concern came to the front, the magnitude of its swindling operations would of necessity be noticed, and gradually an understanding of their significance would be acquired by even the ordinarily careless observer. In the course of time it would be a matter of general recognition that the capitalist process of industry and business was merely one of robbing labor and disposing af the loot. That time is evidently here, and this accounts for the matter-of-fact manner in which the average person views the huge exhibitions of graft and corruption that are of such frequent occurence during these "strenuous" days. Even the stolid and phlegmatic workingman instinctively feels that these gigantic schemes of graft and plunder are of no concern to him. And he is correct in this for the very good reason that the plundering of himself is not effected during the division of the spoils, but at the time of the production thereof.

Capitalist politics must of necessity be just like business, as it is purely the expression of it. Such being the case, it could not take on a different aspect or behavior.

For a time simple-minded folk will endeavor to compel honesty among the denizens of the capitalist jungle of robbery, graft and corruption, by the enactment of law. Their efforts will prove as futile as would be the case were they to attempt by the same means to compel a rosebush to thrive and bear fragrant blossoms in a cellar, or an Ethiopian to change his skin. Such things are not brought about by man-made laws, as most people will readily acknowledge.

The general indifference and apathy manifested in regard to the wholesale exhibitions of graft and corruption so frequently made of late appears to us as a good omen for the future. Once it has become generally recognized that such are but the logical results of a system of property and business that is based upon the foul crime of robbing the wealth-producers of the product of their toil, it is but an easy step to the time when a blow will be struck to wipe out that fundamental crime, which is responsible for all of the ensuing lesser evils.

It is no extravagant assertion that the flood of vice, crime, degradation, and misery that all but engulfs human society today springs from and is made possible by that fundamental crime upon which civilization rests, the exploitation or robbery of the wealth producers, and which every institution of civilized society today is pledged to protect, defend and perpetuate.

While graft, corruption, fraud and chicanery proceed apace, let the workingmen be not disturbed, but "gird up their loins" for the approaching task of cleansing the "Augean stables" of present day civilization of the accumulated filth of decades of capitalist rule, by turning on such a flood of revolution as will wash capitalism and its filth into the sewer and cesspool of oblivion.

BOURGEOIS ALARM.

It is plainly to be seen from the press dispatches that the persistent activity of the Russian revolutionary proletariat since the promise of some sort of constitutional government has been wrung from the Czar, is throwing the bourgeoisie, not only of Russia, but of the world, into a veritable terror. As one writer expresses it, the outcome of the revolution in Russia will be "a transfer of power and property to new hands." The Liberal and Conservative elements are suddenly awakening "to the imperative necessity for resisting to the utmost the attempt of the radicals and Socialists, who are conducting the present strike to obtain the upper hand," and this has galvanized the leaders into action, and started a healthy movement in favor of entirely cutting loose from the Radical wing."

In other words now that the workingmen have succeeded in breaking the autocratic rule of the Czar and his Bureaucrats, true to its cowardly, treacherous and thieving instincts, the profit-mongering class is to turn heaven and earth for the purpose of preventing the working-class from reaping any of the fruits of its victory. The "transfer of power and property" from autocratic to "new hands," will not be objected to by the bourgeoisie, provided the "new hands" is not the working-class, but it's own precious self. If these conscienceless scoundrels have their way the rule of the Czar's autocracy is to be followed by that of capitalist plutocracy. The result in this case will be the same to the workingmen, as they will be as mercilessly sacrificed upon the altar of exploitation as before. The only difference being that the incense from the sacrifice will arise unto the nostrils of the capiralist swine instead of the beast of autocracy.

We shall be surprised if Count Witte does not prove to be a second edition of M. Thiers, the hypocritical, sneaking, cowardly, cold-blooded and merciless butcher of the Parisian workmen of 1871. If the forces of reaction succeed in getting the upper hand by rallying around this suspicious character Witte, the pages of history will probably record another butchery of the proletariat, even greater than that at the downfall of the "Paris Commune." The very terror into which the labor-skinning fraternity is thrown at the prospect of their skin game being interrupted by a successful uprising of their victims will quicken into activity all of their well-known treacherous and murderous instincts. The recent slaughter of Jews which is attributed solely to the autocratic regime, is alleged to have numbered more victims than is accredited to the reign of terror during the French revolution. No one need flatter himself that the blood-thirsty measures resorted to by Russian autocracy in order to maintain its sway, will not be resorted to with equal readiness by the Russian bourgeoisie in order to establish its own, once the opportunity offers. And whatever is done or however widespread and brutal the butchery of the workers at the hands of that bourgeoisie, it will meet with the approval of that thieving tribe, which, vampire-like, sucks its substance and power from the flesh and blood of labor in each and every country on earth, Canada included.

That bourgeois terror arising from the conduct and power of the Russian proletariat in the present crisis, is not confined to Russia is evidenced by the daily press dispatches. The vampire class of the world is watching events in that country with much the same degree of alarm as the workers of the world are of satisfaction. May the Russian workmen prove sufficiently well-informed, alert and powerful to forestal the efforts of re-action to deprive them of the fruits of victory, or to erect obstacles in the pathway of their further advancement.

SOLD AGAIN.

In the Vancouver Daily Province of Oct. 23, appeared an editorial under caption "German Socialism," that was so replete with error and downright falsehood that we did not feel justified in allowing it to go unquestioned. In the Western Clarion under date of Nov. 4, we reproduced the article and took occasion to point out some of the more glaring inconsistences and falsehoods which it contained. We felt at the time that there was something suspicious about that particular editorial. Although it was absolutely without merit from any point of view, it still seemed to us to be of superior quality to the usual Province grist. Though our suspicion was evidently the result of instinct rather than reason, late English exchanges bring evidence that it was at least well-founded. In one of them we found this precious editorial reproduced word for word and accredited to a leading Tory journal of London. Upon making this discovery we confess to experiencing a feeling of intense satisfaction at the thought that, a great metropolitan journal should be unable to equip itself with the necessary perfervid imagination and lack of scruple to enable it to dish up suitable "tommy-rot" with which to befuddle its confiding readers, and thus be compelled to draw its supply from the fountain of up-to-date Western editorial wisdom. It seemed to be a sort of tacit admission of the superior quality of B.C. editorial pabulum.

Our satisfaction was, however, of short duration. A glance at the date of the exchange referred to, showed it to be Nov. 4, the same date upon which we had reproduced the article in question, and but eleven days after its ponderosity had been hurled forth from the Province sanctum, even unto the utmost confines of Steveston, Squamish and Chilliwack.

We always were an easy mark, a sort of a good thing to be operated upon by every aspiring gudgeon-worker that came within hailing distance. Many a time and oft have we been disposed of cheaply. In this case we feel that we have been sold again. While we in good faith and absolutely devoid of guile were endeavoring to rasp down some of the warty outcroppings on the grey concrete formation of the editor of the Province, which our diagnosis of his case led us to believe, was necessary in order to prevent him falling into more grotesque and eccentric aberration in the future, it seems that we were only expending our efforts on a second-hand dealer who did not need our services, while the mental sour stomach that had ejected the offending editorial spew, was some thousands of miles away and probably unconscious of our tender solicitude in its behalf.. We always knew that capitalism meant the plunder of labor. Also that capitalists would pilfer from one another, even down to very small things. Although capitalists rob laborers and even pilfer material things from each other without giving credit, it has been a sort of custom among their journalistic henchmen when stealing each other's tommy-rot, to give proper credit so that the victim that got plastered with it could locate the culprit. This custom gave rise to the saying "there is even honor among thieves." We used to have an abiding faith in the truth of the saying, but we don't believe it any more.

WELL-MERITED.

"There is a rumor afloat that several governments have notified the Czar that they will intervene and "prevent anarchy." This is only another way of saying that these governments will join the Russian despot in suppressing the aspirations of the people for freedom. It remains to be seen if any of them are in position to dare the wrath of their own proletariat. Outside of such backward nations as the United States and England it is doubtful if any great nation could make such a move without being overwhelmed by the uprising of the working class within her own borders. It might be well to remember what happened to those rulers and states who intervened to "prevent anarchy" when the French started the pious work of killing kingcraft and priestcraft."—The Crisis.

The Crisis is perfectly justified in referring to the United States and England as backward countries, that is judging from the standpoint of the working class. In no countries of the earth have the workers as yet manifested so little disposition to do something for themselves, and in no countries are they more prone to beg petition and whine for relief. About the nearest approach to manhood that the great majority of them seem to be capable of making is to play the balky mule by refusing to work unless some trifling addition is made to their food supply. And even this refusal is of short duration because so extremely short are their usual rations that they are unable to lay by a sufficiency to enable them to persist in a balky period of any length.

A country inhabited by men would be spared the pitiable spectacle of a lot of human animals begging, petitioning or whining around houses of parliament for redress for their grievances, and salve for their economic wounds. To anything in the nature of manhood the frittering away of time over the question of how much food the slave should receive at the hands of his master would be too repugnant to be tolerated. Such conduct is only indulged in by those who are either slaves but do not know it, willing slaves, or those, who, knowing themselves to be slaves, have not sense enough to locate the road to deliverance.

That slave never yet felt the shackles upon his limbs who had it so completely within his power to break his fetters as the American slave. That power is his not only by right of superior numbers, but by every tradition of the country which he inhabits and of the people of which he is a part. Taught that their country at its birth was especially dedicated to freedom, that "all men are born free and equal," and that they, themselves, are sovereigns, they bend their necks to the yoke of capitalist exploitation, that wrings from their slavish sweat such a huge stream of surplus value as to fairly flood the markets of the world. To emphasize the fact that they are without conception of even the meaning of freedom, or the manhood to seize it if they did, they repeatedly foregather in convention and conclave and vociferously bray abaut wages and other pertuisities, much as a band of four-footed asses might bray about their stipend of fodder. It may be all right to indulge in patience with the wage-slave. Presumably, it is so. Yet it is not to be successfully denied that he is the most persistently assinine slave that ever stood in his own road. Before he can reasonably be expected to get out of his own way, the fact of his slavery and his folly must be pounded into his thick head. This is a task that will require a multitude of sledge-hammer blows.

The officers and directors of the National Bank of Illinois which is now in the hands of a receiver, are accused of having looted that institution of $3,000,000. Some reckless ones have even declared them to be robbers. It is sad indeed, to note how many people there are in this world, who seem unable to distinguish between business and robbery.

According to some of the daily papers there is much of what is commonly termed corruption in San Francisco. The police are accused of being crooked just because they have turned an honest penny occasionally by protecting and even otherwise aiding the enterprising "bunco" man in relieving the guileless sucker of his superfluous cash. Surely suckers were intended to be caught If not, why were they ever made? The average sucker has to be repeatedly caught before he awakes to a realization of the fact that he is one. Just why San Francisco, or any other city should be expected to maintain a police force for the purpose of protecting suckers, while the very stability of modern civilization depends upon their being caught in plenty, is by no means as clear as it should be. Granted that it is a crime upon the part of the genial bunco man to catch an occasional one, it is the height of folly to expect the sucker to be protected by the police, for it is a well-known fact that they are the greatest criminals on earth. It is unreasonable to expect them to throw down their fellow criminal—the bunco man. The San Francisco bunco man, policeman or any other thief should be held in much higher esteem than the sucker that allows himself to be caught and then squeals about it.

Socialist Directory

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

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

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

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

Now that "many Chinese Christians have given up their work at home in order to go to the Transvaal as evangelists among the 40,000 Chinese coolies there," it is to be hoped the latter will become speedily converted to that eminently Christian doctrine of "servants obey your masters," Once thoroughly converted an earthly "compound" will no longer be necessary to hold them to their work; the promise of a heavenly one will be quite sufficient

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The Seattle Union Record is "agitating the question of forming temperance societies to assist the union brewers who are out on strike." Now this is sensible. We are heartily in favor of it. We'll all quit drinking beer and take to pop and ginger ale until the haughty brewery bosses are humbled in the dust. This in turn will boom the soft drink business, and give the pop-bottle washers' union a chance to become strong in membership and mighty in "collective bargaining." Yea, verily; the wisdom of unionism is past finding out and Labor Omnia Vincet.

RUSSIA.

The strike of the bakers of Moscow, of which the government sheets speak very guardedly, was not an economic strike, but a purely political one. The men were demanding their share of participation in the national Duma. Such preposterous pretensions the government has the habit of drowning in blood, and in this case it did not fail to do likewise. The miserable little baker apprentices, for the most part still children, were dragged from their underground hiding places into the street, thence to the police court, and there scourged until the blood ran. "The blood was swept into the street," wrote a witness of the horrible affair. But all the extreme measures will not throttle the even more extreme necessity of political and social life to which the Russian proletariat is each day becoming more awake, and the repression of which may usher in, amid frightful upheavals, the day when one favored class in the nation will no longer enjoy alone a privilege which the working class has earned by its heroism, wakened to class consciousness by the teachings of the Socialists of Russia.

(This appeared in the "Le Socialiste," of October 21.)

As a result of a strike of some of the poorly-paid Thuringian weavers for shorter hours and better wages, the association of employers in the Saxon Thuringian weaving industry, has decided on a general lock-out of all hands in 142 factories. This means that on Saturday nearly 18,000 bread winners will be out of employment. A further result of this lock-out must be that the dyers will have nothing to do and unless the employees soon come to terms, between 40,000 and 42,000 male and female workers will be on the streets Over 6,000 employees, mostly women, in the Berlin underclothing industry, are now on strike for an improvement in their conditions of work, and in this case, too, the masters have joined hands to compel the workers' submission. The Association of Berlin Underclothing Manufacturers issued notices stating that if the strikers do not resume work by Monday next, all factories will be closed. Fifteen thousand persons would then be thrown out of employment.—Leicester Pioneer.

Union Directory

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

Phoenix Miners' Union, No. 106, 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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Trend of Social Evolution

Brief Outline of the Transformation of Capitalist Property into the Collective Property of all the Members of Society.

[From "Socialism," By William Scholl McClure.]

Capitalism is self-destructive; and, what is more striking, is itself laying the foundation of the future state—preparing the way for the Socialist revolution. Its first act was the expropriation of the workers from the means of production, the transformation of individual property into capitalist property. The next stage, in the midst of which we now are, is the expropriation of the small capitalist by the large and the concentration of capital, through the play and pressure of competition, into ever larger masses. Competition tends irresistibly to combination and monopoly, which in productive industries are now taking the form of the trust in distribution, of the bazaar store. The unmistakeably greater efficiency of massed capital and business organization on a large scale, will sooner or later render the position of the small producer and the small distributor untenable. They have as little chance in the struggle with these improved forms of commercial organization as the handicraftsmen had with the machines. Competition, whose regulative action is so vital to our present system, so largely adduced in its justification, competition is eliminating itself. The organization of industry, though remaining capitalistic in spirit, tends more and more to the co-operative form.

In another direction the development is even more distinctly Socialist in form. A strong tendency is manifest towards state or municipal control of many industries. The first step in state regulation, which is in itself an admission of the principle of state interference—the right of the people to control. From partial regulation to absolute ownership by the people is a question of policy, of degree, rather than of principle. State ownership of railroads, telegraph and telephone, state insurance and banking, municipal ownership of waterworks, electric light, gas works, street railways, etc., all of these have been tried and proven most feasible. The statistics as to their advantages are incontrovertible, but because of their capitalist management the advantages are all on the side of the capitalist class.

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP IS NOT SOCIALISM.

This marked tendency in the direction of public control of such industries, is so seemingly socialist as to be sometimes mistaken for it. Yet, strange as it may seem, this movement, so far, is little more than a development of capitalism. The industries thus partially socialized are mostly such as are easily monopolized, and tend to exorbitance. They are by nature also parasitical—that is, they exist at the expense of the more distinctly productive industries. And the capital invested in productive industry seeks their transfer to the state, either to secure relief from a burden that has become oppressive or to provide an independent source of revenue, to meet the growing needs of state or municipality. Either the interest of one set of capitalists are sacrificed for the benefit of the rest, or the state itself is made the exploiter. But, in any event, every step in this direction—in the substitution of public in place of individual control—goes far to prove the individual capitalist superfluous.

Now, while these constructive tendencies of capitalism are developing the forms through which socialism can be eventually realized, its slow, destructive action is equally potent in the same direction. As has just been shown, every monopoly is forcing those whose interests are threatened by it to adopt the socialist method of self-defense. And every concentration of capital into fewer hands, but increases the mass of those whose interests are opposed to the maintenance of its power, and vastly simplifies the process of its absorption by the state. As Marx has stated it, "The transformation of scattered private property, arising from individual labor, into capitalist private property, is, naturally, a process incomparably more protracted, violent and difficult, that the transformation of capitalistic private property, already practically resting on socialized production, into socialized property. In the former cases we had the expropriation of the mass of the people by a few usurpers; in the latter, we have the expropriation of a few usurpers by the mass of the people."

As a summing up of this outline of the main features of modern scientific socialism, the definitions of Kirkup and Schaffle are perhaps the clearest that have been given in a concise form of the nature and aim of the movement. According to Kirkup, "The theory of Socialism . . . is that the present economic order, in which industry is carried on by private competing capitalists served by wage labor, must and ought to pass away; and that it will give place to the economic system, in which industry will be conducted with a collective capital abd by associated labor, with a view to an equitable system of distribution."

DEFINITION OF SOCIALISM.

Again he explains it as "A theory of social evolution based on a new principle of economic organization, according to which industry should be carried on by co-operative workers jointly controlling the means of production."

Schaffle, after defining it in almost the same terms, goes on to state that "This collective method of production would remove the present competitive system by placing under official administration such departments of production as can be managed collectively (socially and co-operatively), as well as the distribution among all of the common produce of all, according to the amount and social utility of the productive labor of all. . . . The productive labor of all would be associated in establishments for the purpose of production and exchange, socially managed, equipped out of collective capital, and worked by persons in receipt of salaries, not of private profits and wages." And elsewhere he states that "The Alpha and Omega of socialism is the transformation of private and competing capital into a united collective capital."

With the significance of these definitions clearly in mind, you will readily appreciate how wholly lacking in force and application is much of the current criticism of socialism; such for instance as frequently emanates from the omniscient and oracular editorial department.

SOCIALISM AND THE "DIVISION OF WEALTH."

Socialism does not propose any portioning out of the wealth of the country, share and share alike, nor does it have a vague expectation that if this were done, it would somehow or other stay divided. On no other point is misrepresentation so frequent. Of such sort was the remark of Mr. Ingalls, which recently went the rounds of the Press, to the effect that if the wealth of the nation were equally divided, "Within six months some men would be riding in palace-cars, some in buggies, some would be on foot, and some would be sitting on the fence-corners waiting for the procession to go by." The only drawback to this brilliant epigram is that it requires for its proper appreciation ignorance equal to that of the man who made it. True enough in itself, it is wholly pointless in its intended application. Equality of opportunity, with an equitable distribution of the product, not necessarily equality of wealth, is the aim of socialism. It would, it is true, establish a joint and equal or common ownership of the productive capital of the nation But it would not divide it. It is the product that would be shared, according to the value of each one's labor. That is a simple proposition that anyone with business experience can understand. No firm divides its capital. It is preserved intact, and the profits only are shared.

SOCIALISM AND ITS USE OF CAPITAL.

Neither does socialism expect to get along without capital, though changing its character fundamentally. Today capital is the means of exploitation: while under socialism, it would lose this capitalist quality, and become simply the means of production. Socialism aims at the absolute concentration of capital, the realization of its greatest efficiency. Instead af blindly denouncing combinations and trusts, it points out and seeks to utilize their saving qualities. The trust is a superior form of commercial organization. It eliminates the tremendous wastes involved in competition, and demonstrates the advantages of combination and system over scattered and planless effort. The trusts have come to stay. But we must take possession of them if we would not have them for our masters.

Socialism does not preach antagonism between labor and capital, nor is it blind to the dependence of the one upon the other. It has just been shown that it would have labor profit by the use of capital to the fullest possible extent, by utilizing it in its most efficient form. What it does teach is that fundamental opposition of interests which necessarily exists between those who monopolize the capital to their own advantage, and those who, through that monopoly are being robbed. The antagonism is not between labor and capital, but between laborer and capitalist. We may blink our eyes and cry peace but none the less there is war incessant.

The Government of To-day

By Van Cortlandt Bevis, in The "Buffalo Express."

The following whether written in sober earnest or merely as a josh, is well worth careful perusal by every workingman, as it pictures in true light the views of the ruling class in regard to their relative importance to that of the "mudsills" of the social structure, the working people. There is considerably more than reasonable justification for the opinions entertained by Bevis. In fact, they are perfectly logical from the standpoint of our present day ruling class. The recent elections in the States, furnished ample evidence that the vast majority of workingmen were "without ideas, without ambitions, without aspirations," that they had little thought for "anything beyond their own dunghill environment." It is refreshing to know that the ruling class places a correct estimate upon the laborers, and that there is an occasional Bevis who does not hesitate to proclaim it. Read the following Mr. Mudsill, and get a look at yourself and your class:

"The whole theory of the referendum is wrong, because the populace are fools, to be governed, not to rule, A government by the people, that is, by all the people, of any country is an utter absurdity, something that never existed and never will exist. It is only because of its oligarchical tendencies that our American commonwealth has survived to the present time. Consider for a moment the intellectual development of the masses of people in this country at the present. Leave out of consideration the negro element, eliminate all that horde of "citizens" who cannot speak our tongue, and take only the lower half of the residue, what feature would impress a student from another planet who should make a careful study of the capabilities of the section of humanity thus isolated? How could he differentiate their mentalities from those of an intelligent animal, a horse, a dog, or an ape? This is the class whose schooling consists of their ability to write and read and cipher. The class that lives from hand to mouth without thought for tomorrow or for anything beyond their own dunghill environment. A class without ideas, without ambitions, without aspirations. When they were enfranchised by our worthy but short-sighted ancestors, it was never conceived that they would exercise that franchise otherwise than under the leadership of those whom nature and environment had fitted to rule. Our nation was born at a time when society was recoiling from the doctrines of absolutism and in their enthusiasm the pendulum swung too far.

"But it matters little how we got into the present unfortunate condition of affairs. The question is, what are we going to do about it? Society is an enormous pyramid. Bisect it in the center of its perpendicular and the base represents the solden, seething mass of ignorance, bigotry and superstition, the apex represents what there is of intelligence, refinement, culture and wisdom. You cannot balance the social pyramid on the apex any more than an individual could substitute his head for the normal purposes for which his feet were created. This comparison holds good in many ways. The base of the social pyramid is essential, it is as necessary to the welfare of the whole as the feet and legs are to the well being of the human body, or the common laborer and mechanic to the welfare of the community. The legs and feet must be properly controlled, they must be ruled by the heads; so must the lower strata of society be ruled by the upper. Does the head submit to the toes a referendum as to whether they shall progress in a certain direction? Does the toes rebel because they are not asked or inaugurate the initiative of their own accord? If the head directs the feet over so rough or long a path that they become tired or sore, does not the head take cognizance of this fact and make amends therefor? So in society who is interested in the welfare of the laboring people? Who is agitating for better factory regulations? Who is interested in the establishment and conduct of public charities if not the wealthy and intellectual class? Then they seek to take from their hands the reins of government and intrust them to intellectual incompetents? I claim as an axiom of civics that intelligence must rule. And by intelligence what do I mean? I mean that class of people who have the education, training and the leisure to take thought for the morrow, that class of people who have an interest in the permanency of our social institutions, that class of people who by their skill in managing their own affairs have fairly won the right to manage the affairs of others. In just the proportion that the best element rules, do we have wise laws, clean administration, protection of property and proper co-ordination of classes. As you inject the low, rude and uneducated masses into the affairs of state in just that proportion do you inject lawlessness, corruption and foolish and disrupting class legislation, leading legitimately to anarchy and Socialism. The crying need of the hour is not for more representative legislation, but for less representative, not to prostitute government by bringing it down to the people, but to chasten and purify it by exalting it above the people.

"To secure temporary gain it is the custom of the educated and intelligent classes to cajole the mob by fair words and alluring promises, and of late this has largely taken the form of instructing the masses as to the power of the ballot. This Fabian program has now borne its legitimate fruit. The constant prating about rights which do not exist and the holding up of false ideals of political equality has intoxicated the public mind with a lust of power. We have sown the wind and are reaping the whirlwind. A new tack must be taken. In some manner intelligence must continue to control. Strong measures must be adopted, or we shall shortly drift through the alluring portal of public ownership to pure Socialism. Few seem to appreciate the full significance of events; for instance, it was by the hardest of work and by a narrow margin that we saved the Civic League from being filched from our control and being made representative of the public.

"As an illustration of my meaning I have but to refer you to the limitations on the elective franchise recently adopted in some parts of the German empire, where the Socialists threaten the permanence of society. There they have been compelled to make three classes of voters according to their incomes. allowing each class to elect one-third of the legislative bodies.

"Let us no longer trifle with the deadly virus in the veins of society, no longer temporize with the clamoring mob, but speak out our true thoughts, and act our true selves, and assert the inalienable prerogatives of wealth and learning before it is everlastingly too late."

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THE MARSEILLAISE.

Above the cracking of the Cossack whips, the irenzied shouts of the strikers, the maddening yells of the revolutionary radicals and the intermittent discharge of firearms, there rises in plaza and prospect in St. Petersburg the sound of the Marseillaise. Crowds of excited workingmen are parading the streets singin the inspiring hymn that has been the anthem of freedom in all European movements of liberation since the French revolution.

Some day the historian will write of the part the Marseillaise has played in the progress of civilization. It will be an interesting chapter of the world's history. For more than a century now, the famous hymn has inspired men to throw off the yoke of the oppressor, to stand forth upright and free. Not a revolutionary movement in Europe since the streets of Paris ran blood that the Marseillaise has not rallied the people to the standard of freedom and sent them battling either to liberty or death.

It was in April, 1792, that the Marseillaise was born in Strassburg. When a company of volunteers was about to leave the city, the mayor, one Diedrich by name, gave a banquet in honor of the troops and asked an officer of artillery, named Rouget de Lisle, to compose a song in their honor. Rouget wrote the words during the night, adapting the music, probably, from Grison's oratorio of "Esther." On the following day it was sung with rapturous enthusiasm and instead of 600 volunteers, 1,000 marched out of Strassburg. The Marseillaise—or the War Chant of the Army of the Rhine, as it was baptized—began its mission of stirring the hearts of the liberty-loving that first day it was given to the world, has kept it up to this day, and will keep it up to the end of time.

Although the Marseillaise became the hymn of the French revolution, it was not heard in Paris until the Marseillaise battalion took it to the city and sang it at the storming of the Tuilleries. It was received with transports by the Parisians, who gave it the name which it has since borne.—Des Moines Register Leader.

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The teacher had grown eloquent in picturing to his little pupils the beauties of heaven, and he finally asked: "What kind of little boys go to heaven?" A lively little four-year-old boy, with kicking boots, flourished his fist. "Well, you may answer," said the teacher. "Dead ones!" shouted the little fellow at the extent of his lungs.

"It strikes me, Mary," mildly observed Mr. Slowgun, "that these cakes would be decidedly better if they had a little more ginger in them."

"So would you, John," calmly rejoined the feminine end of the combine."—Chicago Daily News.

Mr. Marpole, general superintendent of the C.P.R., having returned from a trip through the Kootenay, and along the main line, reports the people along the road to be "full of confidence," which presumably implies that that enterprising company has left them nothing else for filling. Whether this cheap but no doubt satisfactory filling was left within their reach by the company intentionally or not is unknown.

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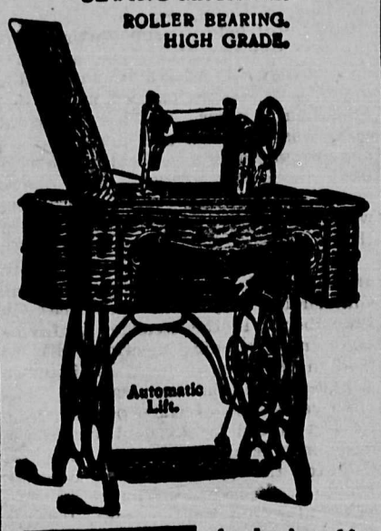

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PLATFORM OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

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.

NEWS AND VIEWS

AS GIVEN OR EXPRESSED BY SOCIALISTS THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION

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

"Are you on, Kiddo?"

If not—"Outside for yours!"

That is to say; have you rustled a Clarion sub., or contributed to the "News and Views" department yet?

The "Marseillaise" being sung by a parade of hungry workers in the streets of London, Eng., augurs well for the coming revolution at the seat of Capitalism,

"To arms, to arms, ye brave!
Th' avenging sword unsheath,
March on, march on,
All hearts resolved
On Victory of Death!"

"Workers of England, why crouch ye like cravens? * * * Labor shall triumph and England be free."
—J. Connell.

"My client is a working man," said Mr. Baxter, a local lawyer who threatens an action against the city, because the police threw the client into gaol like an old pair of boots, dislocating his shoulder, and then treating his appeal for aid with contempt for over five hours. "A workingman!" Why, certainly. Who else would it be?

The Czar of Russia recently decreed that some 150 mutinous sailors be shot to death for conduct unbecoming defenders of the ruling class. Later a mass meeting of revolutionary workers passed a resolution, threatening to wipe out the whole Bureaucracy if the Imperial decree was carried out at Cronstadt. Now comes the announcement that "His Majesty" has decided to show "Imperial clemency to the mutineers." There is need for a proletarian revolution in more places than Russia.

If ever there was a bunch of useless belly-achers on the Pacific Coast the Vancouver Moral Reform Association is hereby commended. It gets very busy about municipal election time with the usual tommy-rot about "Sunday drinking," and the removal of the "red-light district. The proletarian gin-mills occasionally get soaked; the "better class" hotels go scot free, and the "liquor traffic" still prevails. If the frequenters get too hilarious "after hours," they are apt to be ejected and put to the trouble of hiring a hack, or walking all the way to Dupont street where no "licenses" or "after hours" obtain. Oh, the farce of it all, it is to laugh!

So long as there is profit in selling booze, there will be booze—at any and all hours—for those who savy.

It is claimed that the Great Northern is employing 1,000 men on its extension from Midway, B.C., and would employ 5,000 if it could get them. This awful scarcity of labor is heartrending, especially when the work is so light and the wages so heavy.

There's a writer on the editorial staff of The Province who is apt to be let out at any time. Listen to what he says of the struggle for freedom in Russia:

"The spirit in which the strikers' committee in St. Petersburg have received the appeal made to them by Count Witte must have pained that distinguished statesman and reformer. And yet it must be confessed that their pointed ridicule of his professions and promises are not without the elements of sound common sense. Count Witte is in no position to place himself on a level as, he does in his note, with the workmen whom he addressed. THEY ARE NOT WORKING FOR THE SAME ENDS AT ALL, AND ANY CONCESSIONS WHICH THE RUSSIAN PREMIER MAY MAKE TO THE PROLETARIAT ARE WRUNG FROM HIM BY THE EXIGENCIES OF THE MOMENT. * * * "

For the sake of the cause he represents, let it be hoped that the Daily Province has incorrectly reported the pulpit remarks of Rev. W. E. Pescott, of Wesley Church, this city, on Sunday week. Otherwise, Mr. Pescott has exhibited monumental ignorance of the science of Socialism, and made a very sickly defense of the present Christian era. For instance, he says: "Adopting Socialism would be going back to barbarism. * * * Another result of Socialism would be the rule of the average, the common-place intelligence in the world. * * * It would be a reversal of the laws of nature and God to go back to the system suggested by Socialism." Such base calumny is unworthy a fair-minded man, and needs no refutation. The above excerpts are reproduced merely to further convince the 5,000 voting Socialists of B.C., of the errors of their way. Suffice it is to say that Mr. Pescott has never studied Socialist economics, nor even attended a Socialist meeting in his life. If he has and believes his own words, the editor of this department would be glad to arrange for a public debate in the City Hall with a member of "the average common-place intelligence in the world," all expenses, as usual to be borne by the latter, providing, of course, Mr. Pescott can come down from his high pedestal of broadcloth and dignity long enough to associate with a hall-full of workingmen. Will yau come out in the open, Mr. Pescott? Or will you insist upon the protection of the pulpit?

POLITICAL ACTION!

NECESSITY OF THE WORKERS USING THE FRANCHISE

TO HELP THEMSELVES

As Set Forth by A. R. Stebbings, in Sullivan Hall Last Sunday Evening Before a Fair-Sized Audience of Workingmen and Women

The regular educational meeting of Vancouver Local, S.P. of C., was held in Sullivan Hall, last Sunday evening, A. R. Stebbings being the speaker of the evening.

His subject was "Factors in the Socialist Movement."

First he dwelt upon the necessity of the Socialist movement remaining a proletariat movement, voicing the interests of the wage-earning class, propertyless in the means of wealth production.

Of "intellectuals" the speaker seemed somewhat in doubt, history having so often proved their betrayal of the workers. Too often, they have to do with "wages," "reforms," and what not, forgetting the necessity for the abolition of human slavery.

"Expropriation" was also dealt with by the speaker. He pointed out the many hallucinations obtaining among the bourgeoisie, and too often among those who had nothing to be "expropriated," showing that under the wage-system the workers had the product of their labor "expropriated" every day they were fortunate enough to have a master— a job. To seize the reins of power, and by legal enactment, or otherwise to take back our own, would be "restoration," rather than "expropriation." This "restoration" of course, would only apply to capitalist property—things which the workers use collectively, and the ruling class use to exploit labor of its product. Private property would then be possible, a something which few peddlers of labor-power enjoy today.

The "Press" and "Pulpit" as factors in the defence of the present-day ruling class also received some little attention at the hands of Com. Stebbings. He explained why these forces were but mere expressions of their "base of supply"—capitalist property.

"Organized labor" was briefly alluded to, the recent attempt to hitch the I. W. W., to the Socialist Party, receiving more notice than entitled to.

In summing up the speaker emphasized the necessity of political action first by the ballot, then by whatever means deemed expedient. Said he, in closing, "Any workingman who votes the Liberal or Conservative party ticket, thereby sanctions his slavery and deserves the consequences, if the workers need help, they must help themselves." (Applause.)

Quite a few questions were answered later by the speaker, and the five-minute discussions were chiefly comments upon the happenings in Russia at this time.

A "labor-day parade" was also mooted for next election day in Vancouver, the workers to convene at Labor Hall, and march to the polls as men, not as sellers of the commodity labor-power.

Five yearly sub. cards, $3.75.

I.W.W.—The general strike in Russia has no bearing whatever upon the trades or any other kind of an economic organization. In fact there are no trades unions in Russia, as we understand the term. The demonstrations on the part of the revolutionaries in Russia is nothing if not political; it seeks to overthrow Autocracy and establish Capitalism in its stead. The Socialist Revolution is yet to come—by precisely the same modus operandi. There is nothing in the I.W.W. constitution advocating any such action. Expend your energy on an emancipating movement.

LET THE RULING-CLASS DO THEIR OWN FIGHTING.

The workers of British Columbia are getting next to themselves. In order to induce some of them to join the defenders of the ruling class, Col. Holmes, D. O. C., is doing a little side-stepping stunt, entitled "It isn't but it is."

First the Colonel says: "You may assure all young men for me that they may join the militia without the slightest fear of ever being called upon to suppress disorders growing out of labor troubles."

And as a military substantiation, adds the following: "I cannot guarantee that the militia will never be called upon to SUPPRESS INTERNAL DISORDERS. First, however, there are the local and district police, reinforced if necessary by special constables. Of course, if disorders develop into a rebellion against the government, THE MILITIA MUST ACT. But even in such a case, which we hope will never arise, local militia will not be mobilized. It is too hard on citizen soldiers to ask them in any case to charge or fire upon their personal friends and acquaintances.

"I hope that the fear referred to may be speedily dispelled, and that all able-bodied young men may be led to do their duty to the empire by fitting themselves by physical training and discipline for national defence."

All this guff about the workers' "duty to the empire," fails to enveigle B. C. workers any longer. There isn't a speck of fight in a slave who stoops so low as to join his masters' means of holding his fellow-workers in subjection. Men don't join militias.

CHILLIWACK, B. C.

Secretary Morgan is in Chilliwack this week, seeking a field for exploitation, and will probably organize a Local of the S. P. of C., as a sideline. Further particulars later.

LADYSMITH, B. C.

"Mail me another bundle of Clarions to Ladysmith. Arrived here yesterday," writes Com. Arnason, under date of 16th inst. May have to have the Clarions come to Com. Hannay for some of the subscribers, because they fear having it mailed direct. 'Nuff sed."

VANANDA, TEXADA ISLAND, B. C.

Van Anda, Texada Island, Nov. 13. Dear Comrade. Will you kindly change my address to Read Island P. O., as I am about to leave Texada. Also send the extra Clarions coming to me to Com. Mat Halliday, who will be able to make better use of them in the future than I. I may say that I hope to be able to eke out a living on a farm from now on and if I can do so shall not be forced to peddle my labor-power any more. However, my good wishes and my vote will ever be with the wage-laborers, and if I ever get any spare dollars I will be ready, as in the past, to help the movement with a little cash. Socialism in Vancouver seems to be making very encouraging headway and no one will watch its progress with greater concern than I. With best wishes for the Clarion and all concerned. I remain, yours fraternally,

ED. UPTON."

CROFTON, B. C.

"Mount Sicker O. K.!" This is the message from Com. A. J. Arnason, dated Nov. 14th., at the above address. "Being a traveller engaged in trying to spread the seeds of Socialism among those who produce all," writes the comrade, "I arrived at Mount Sicker on Saturday Nov. 11th., and it being the first mining camp I ever visited, this peculiar form of wealth production proved quite interesting to me. However, after taking my bearings, I commenced operations and to my (I may say) surprise, I found miners with whom I had conversation who were more than beginning to understand their position in society as wage-slaves, and still studying and threshing the questions out among themselves. * * * Arrangements for a meeting in Miners' Hall on Sunday afternoon were hurriedly made, and it was well attended. Com. Woodroff acted as chairman, and Coms. Lea, Tallon, Woodroff and myself made short speeches. * * * A debate is to take place at the next regular meeting of the Miners' Union, on Nov. 15th, on 'Unionism or Socialism.'"

CLARESHOLM, ALTA.

Organizer Chas. F. Lowrie, sends along cheering news of the progress of Alberta Local, No. 2. Says he: "Our Local held a propaganda meeting last Sunday, Nov. 5th., at Stovely. Com. Ed. Auclan, of Park Hill, made a creditable maiden speech for Socialism, after which the usual questions of "How are you going to acquire possession. Wouldn't everybody have soft snaps?" etc., were asked by some of those present. These were answered to the satisfaction of the interrogatees. Collection $1.90.

The organizer was authorized to arrange for the next meeting at Claresholm, about the first week in December. If the weather is favorable an open-air meeting will be held in the afternoon, in addition to a hall-meeting in the evening.

No candidate of the Socialist Party was placed in the field during the first provincial elections in Alberta, due to the $100 deposit required, which practically disfranchised S.P. adherents for the present, "But," says Com. Lowrie, "you'll hear from us later." Comrade O. Lund, a United States Socialist Party national committeeman from the State of Washington, is locating in Alberta, and we expect to make him do his share of the propaganda work when he gets settled.

"What is the matter with the rest of Alberta? We ought to have strong, healthy locals at Calgary Lethbridge, and in the Crows' Nest district. Yours for Socialism in our time."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Labor Hall was full up on Sunday evening last, when Comrade Arthur Morrow Lewis, State lecturer of California delivered a lecture on "Some Objections to Socialism Answered." Comrade Lewis handled his subject well, and kept his audience in their seats till after ten o'clock. The usual stock of objections to Socialism was answered right well, and I think many went away with new ideas they had not before perceived. After Comrade Lewis explained the dividing-up process, I am sure many "tumbled" to the correct process of dividing-up some of the work instead of the erroneous idea of a division of money. Comrade Lewis scored the pulpit for its attitude toward the working class, and if there were any respectable pew-holders present and didn't get any kinks taken out of them I am sorry far them. Comrade Lewis' clear exposition of the socialist philosophy, his clear, uncompromising Marxian tone throughout his able discourse, seemed to impress his hearers, and no doubt some went home at least convinced that there was something radically wrong in the kingdom of capitalism, while let us hope that some lukewarm socialists present received a new impetus, were shaken out of their lethargy and will take a more active part in the affairs of the Local and movement generally in the future. If Comrade Lewis ever lectures here again, a bumper house is in store for him.

HAROLD BURNETT.
Literary Agent.

VANCOUVER, B. C.

The followiog account of Mrs. Lena Morrow Lewis' meeting, written by a lady comrade recently from England, was received too late for last issue:

A large and enthusiastic audience assembled in the City Hall on Sunday evening, Nov. 12th, to hear Mrs Lena Morrow Lewis, of San Francisco, who lectured on "Child Labor," under the auspices of Local Vancouver of the Socialist Party of Canada.

She opened the meeting by reading several passages from Robt. Blatchford's book "God and My Neighbor." What is the use of preaching individual holiness with the present economic conditions? What is the use of weeping over the sufferings of a Savious crucified two thousand years ago when men, women and little children are being cruicified in our midst day after day without pity and without help?

Speaking of Child-labor as it exists in the United States, Mrs. Lewis mentioned that whole factories in certain states, after the passing of the act forbidding the employment of children, migrated to South Carolina where the act does not exist.

Child-labor under the capitalist system is absolutely necessary.

It is necessary for the capitalist to make his profits and if a child can do the work of an adult with only a child's pay why not? It is alas, necessary for the maintenance of the homes from which the children come.

Were child-labor to be abolished tomorrow, no small proportion of the population would be thrown into dire poverty in consequence.

It is necessary, then, that our little ones should, instead of romping in the playground enjoying a happy healthy childhood, be minding the looms, breathing close flax-laden air, their heads racked with the roar of machinery, toiling far beyond their strength for ten and even twelve hours a day.

What is the consequence of this for them, both physically and mentally? A large percentage of them die of consumption before reaching maturity. Many of them become idiots. A young child will not live more than four years after working this number of hours. Those who do survive are stunted in growth and mentally dulled and an impaired physique renders them an easy prey to disease.

The next generation are inferior in both mind and body and the degeneracy of the race is consequent upon this inhuman system.

Mrs. Lewis read the two following stanzas from Mrs. E. B. Browning's poem, "The Cry of the Children:"

"Do ye hear the children weeping, O my brothers,
Ere the sorrow comes with years?
They are leaning their young heads against their mothers—
And that cannot stop their tears.
The young lambs are bleating in the meadows;
The young birds are chirping in the nest;
The young fawns are playing with the shadows;
The young flowers are blowing toward the West—
But the young, young children, O my brothers,
They are weeping bitterly!—
They are weeping in the playtime of the others,
In the country of the free."

"Do you question the young children in their sorrow,
Why their tears are falling so?—
The old man may weep for his to-morrow
Which is lost in Long Ago—
The old tree is leafless in the forest—
The old year is ending in the frost—
The old wound if stricken, is the sorest—
The old hope is hardest to be lost;
But the young, young children, O my brothers,
Do you ask them why they stand
Weeping sore before the bosoms of their mothers,
In our happy Fatherland?"

Several questions were asked at the close of the address, and in reply to one, the apathy of the Church with regard to this crying evil, was commented upon. Its attitude was one of servile submission to the ruling class, from which it derives its support. It teaches that no matter how many ills you may suffer in this world Heaven will be ample compensation for them all.

Applause was created when Mrs. Lewis voiced the Socialist maxim that if there is a Heaven, the surest way to get a seat there will be to do your utmost to improve conditions here below.

The room was well filled, several hundred men being present, but the women could be counted on the fingers. I wonder why. Is it that the fathers are more interested in child labor than the mothers? I wonder. One Socialist writer declares the women are sound asleep and fervently wishes someone would invent a way to wake them up, and ejaculates:—"Lord, how they do sleep!"

F. E. C.

REVELSTOKE, B. C.

"Revelstoke, B.C., Nov. 19.— I'll semain here probably the remainder of the week. Send me another bunch of Clarions. Will send you money order tomorrow with a fine bunch of subs. * * * Am now arranging for trip through the Okanagan. Will double back to Salmon Arm and walk to Armstrong, (18 miles), as it is well settled along the road. * * * Of the movement, here, more later. * * * "—Harry Sibble.

HAMILTON, ONT.

"Having formed a Local here, I am desirous of having all members read Canadian Socialist literature, so I'll make a start by enclosing a postal note for 25c, for a bundle of 25 Western Clarions, and I will bring the matter up at next meeting as to the advisability of continuing this bundle weekly, or more if possible.

Please send me a copy of Marx' "Wage, labor and Capital." Yours, Alexander Boyd, 736 King St., east, Hamilton, Ont.

A couple of communications are held over this week.

VANCOUVER LOCAL, NO. 1.

The regular business meeting of the above local was held at the headquarters on Monday evening, Nov. 20th Comrade Seney in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted, and one application for membership admitted, and two others ordered to take the usual course.

Warrants were authorized for:

Rent of headquarters	$20.00
Rent of Sullivan Hall	3.50
Postage, duty and stationery	.70
Total	$24.20

The Program Committee reported the engagement of Comrade Pettipiece, as speaker at Sullivan Hall, on next Sunday evening, and the literary Agent reported having sent for ten dollars' worth of new literature.

A bill from the "Clarion" was ordered to stand over to next meeting while the treasurer was making settlement on warrants already drawn.

The financial report showed receipts for the week as follows:

Collection, Sullivan Hall	$4.30
Literature sales	.15
Dues	2.50
Total	$6.95

N.B.—Immediately after the adjournment of the next business meeting on Nov. 27, a special meeting will convene to consider the advisability of interesting ourselves in the forthcoming Municipal elections.

D. P. MILLS,
Secretary.

Under the present system the resources of the earth and the machinery of production can only be used as a means of exploiting labor.

The wages of labor are determined by the condition of the labor market. Every improvement in the machinery and processes of production, tends to aggravate these conditions, by rendering superfluous an ever-increasing number of workmen.

If the Russian peasants succeed in killing off all the land-owners, the country will face a much more serious calamity than has yet befallen it, as there would be no one to whom these peasants could pay their rent. The resultant consequences are too horrible to contemplate.

Among the banners carried in a recent London unemployed demonstration was one bearing the words: "There is a Limit to Human Endurance." After a careful perusal of the history of the English working class for the past one thousand years or so, we are inclined to wonder how they acquired this knowledge about the "Limit" so soon.

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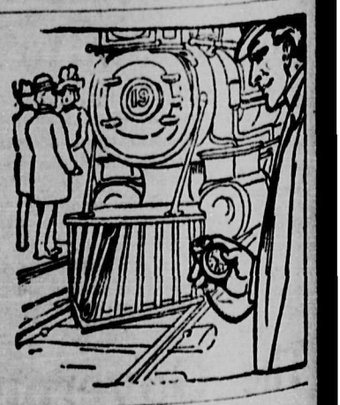

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