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N OBSTACLE TO BE REMOVED

Socialist Party of Canada to Clear the Way for Future Progress

peaking from the standpoint of usefulness, there is but one use- class in human society. That is working class. This is not only ... now, but was always so. They no feed, clothe and shelter human ciety alone make its existence pos- ble. Upon their backs are borne e burden of civilization.

For centuries the working class has en an enslaved class. Bearing up- its back the burden of civilization, has been allowed but a meagre rticipation in civilization's bene- s. The workers have fashioned the sources of the earth into the fin- ed product, not for their own mfort and well being, but for the ry, aggrandizement and power of ruling class. Though their power produce wealth is today greater an ever before, their lives are but continued round of toil, drudgery, verty and misery. The more alth they produce, the deeper they k in the quagmire of poverty, and more uncertain becomes their ten- upon the means of sustenance.

That we are approaching an era of pendous change and upheaval in ard to social and industrial in- tutions, no careful student of cur- t events will dare dispute. The ntinually increasing pressure ought to bear upon the workers rough the high development and rmous concentration of capital, creating such an ocean of unrest d discontent among them that its lume must in the near future ex- ss itself in a flood tide of revolu- n that will sweep from its founda- ns the structure of capitalist so- ty and make way for the next ge in human progress. What that ge must be is indicated by the sent or capitalist mode of wealth oduction itself.

y the very nature of present alth production and the character the tools and implements used in rying it on, it is purely a social collective process. That is, men oduce the wealth necessary to sat- their needs by working together, tly or collectively, each individu- doing his small part or share in great process of making all ngs. This collective or social pro- tion is more absolutely such as tools or machineries of produc- n become more highly developed, plicated and powerful. To such tage has this already been carried t the labor of the individual is pletely merged into that of the ole. The labor of one can no ger be separated from that of all. result of the labor of all is the total of the wealth produced. is the social or collective product social or collective labor.

t is safe to say that this social collective power to produce wealth sufficient to make it easily possi- to produce enough to satisfy the sonable wants of every individual, hout the hours of labor being ex- sively long. That such a happy ult is not obtained at the present e is due to one fact alone. There but one obstacle in the way of h a "consumation devoutly to be hed." That obstacle is capitalist perty in the means of wealth pro- tion.

apitalist property is not private perty. Neither is it collective perty, using the term to include of the people. It is class pro- ty, a stage of property between ividual and collective. Capitalist perty belongs to the economic ss in human society known as the italist class. The benefit arising m property must of necessity ac- e to its owners. With the owner- p of the means of wealth produc- n in the hands of the capitalists o number but a small proportion he whole people, it stands to rea- that all of the benefits arising m such property must of necessity to them as the owners. Owning this property it logically follows that they must perforce own the things produced by its operation. This is exactly what occurs under the present property regime, and there lies the reason for working class poverty alongside of enormous wealth production. The workers have no control over the things they produce, because the means of production (resources of the earth and machinery) are not their property. The things they socially or collectively use, and must so use or starve, held as class property, become the means of their enslavement.

The gigantic machinery of production of today instead of being an aid to the comfort and welfare of mankind is, under capitalist class ownership, merely a huge lever whereby that class squeezes an enormous stream of profits from the flesh, bone, blood and marrow of the only useful portion of human society—the working class.

Such is class ownership of social things. Such is capital.

By sophistry, pious declamation and specious argument, does the press, pulpit and professor attempt to apologize for capitalist property, justify its existence and give it divine sanction. Without the state to establish its legality, protect and defend it, it would fall to the ground instantly. Government is the instrument of capitalist property today, as it was one time the instrument of feudal or chattel-slave property; its purpose in each case that of holding the slaves in economic bondage to the masters.

The wage slaves of today have the franchise in at least some countries. They are beginning to intelligently tug at their chains. They are getting to understand that their bondage is due to the fact of class ownership of the things upon which they depend for a living, and that this class ownership is maintained solely by the power of government, or the state. Awakening to the fact of possessing political power they are coming to see that by the use of that power they may deliver themselves from economic bondage by using it to legally strike down capitalist ownership of the means of wealth production, and legalize in its stead the social or collective ownership thereof, thus making the ownership conform to the method of production.

That is why the Socialist Party of Canada springs into existence. Under its banners the workers of the Dominion intend to peacefully and legally brush aside the obstacle of capitalist property and make of Canada the home of a free people. A people free because they till the soil, weave, forge and spin for themselves to enjoy, and not for the luxury, pomp, splendor and profit of a useless class. That is the mission and purpose of the Socialist Party of Canada.

NEW NAME FOR IT.

The voters of Kansas are running wild-cat. There is no telling where tney will stop.—New York Press.

We knew that at least a large number of the "voters of Kansas" were job chasers, but we never heard it called "running wild-cat" before. Presumably they will stop when they catch one.

Another great railroad strike is brewing in Italy. A congress of 1,300 delegates has recently been held in Milan to consider the question and it is more than probable that the men will be called out. As the roads are owned by the State it means a conflict between the workers and the Government as there is a certainty of the troops being used at once.

CITY HALL MEETING.

Mrs. Irene Smith, of Tacoma, Addresses Large Audience.

There are amongst us those who believe, or pretend to, that the Socialist movement is dead. If any such were curious enough to visit the City Hall last monday evening, for the purpose of viewing the corpse, they were afforded a splendid opportunity to disillusion themselves. Far from being dead, it is not even drowsy, but very real; very live; very aggressive, and—growing fast.

The large auditorium was packed to the doors, and the big audience frequently testified its approval of and its concurrence with the views expressed by the speaker in prolong- and hearty bursts of applause.

Comrade A. J. Wilkinson occupied the chair and in a neat speech introduced Mrs. Irene Smith, of Tacoma, who without hesitation pulled the veil off capitalism and exposed in all their horror the deformities of the present social system.

Profit is the keynote of capitalism—its only function—all its energies were bent in perfecting its methods of wringing surplus values out of the bodies of the workers. We had but to look a short way back into the past to note great concentration in industry, and see the vast improvement in machinery; but under capitalism the only reason for this has been to enable the capitalists, by dispensing with labor, to lessen the cost of production, thus adding to their profits. When it was found that little children could operate some of the machines installed and that child labor was cheaper than adult labor, the father was discharged and the child took his job. Why? Because it added to the profits of the master class.

People were prone, even some calling themselves Socialists, to point out individuals prominent in the world of industry and hurling anathemas at them. She decried any thing of that nature. These capitalists were only doing what the system permitted; nay more, compelled them to do. "And I would do the same thing under similar circumstances," said Mrs. Smith, "and I would be a silly goose if I did not." The working class constituted 85 per cent. of the people, and because they voted into the hands of the other 15 per cent. the power to control industry, thus enabling them to skin the workers, they were "a lot of silly geese, anyhow."

Mrs. Smith warned the working class against "reforms." It was like trying to stop the growth of a tree by breaking off a branch. It would grow another. You must uproot the tree. Reforms could do nothing—they only dealt with effects. To be successful you must remove the cause.

Christianity, too, had failed in its mission, because it ascribed to individual depravity what was really due to a rotten social system, and wasted its efforts trying to pull some of the wrecks from the river of destruction, instead of fencing the spot where they fell in.

For over two hours Mrs. Smith, with the skill of an anatomist, pointed out the defects in the existing system, and appealed to the workers to apply the remedy which was in their hands alone, impressing on them that it was useless to depend on the capitalists to give it to them.

The platform was at the service of non-Socialists at the close of the lecture, but they were content to ask a few questions, which were satisfactorily answered.

If the Japanese succeed in forcing Kuropatkin's complete defeat, it will doubtless have a marked effect in speeding the revolutionary movement in Russia. Anything tending to lessen the prestige of the autocracy can but give additional impetus to the revolution.

"BUOYANT PROSPERITY."

Floats Within Easy Reach of the Big Capitalist Concerns.

According to the Victoria Times "the great railway systems of Canada share in the buoyant prosperity of the country." As proof of this it cites the case of the Grand Trunk, which reports the net plunder of the half year, ending December 31, 1904, to be £924,700. This was the tidy sum left after the "working expenses" were paid.

"Buoyant prosperity" is good. It must of necessity have a pleasing sound to the employes of the Grand Trunk, out of whose hides this huge plunder was wrung. It will be readily seen by those who care to enquire that the other shares of "buoyant prosperity" were enjoyed by the remaining capitalist concerns who hold control over Canadian industries. The workingmen of the Dominion, whether in mine, mill, smelter, lumber camp, or upon the farm enjoyed such "buoyant prosperity" as indicated by an ever-lowering wage, out of which by the exercise of rare judgment they were able to eke out an existence for the half year.

The prosperity of employers is determined by the magnitude of the plunder they are enabled to get out of the sweat of their employes. To the extent the masters enjoy "prosperity," either "buoyant" or of the ordinary brand, do the workers "enjoy" the opposite of it.

Such papers, however, speak truly enough. Being but the mouthpieces of capitalist property, they could not be expected to take note of a prosperity that does not strictly appertain to the class which owns, and benefits by such property. True to their instincts as spokesmen of capitalism, they voice the conditions, either prosperous or otherwise, as expressed in the balance sheets of great corporations. If the balance shows upon the right side "prosperity" exists and it may even be dubbed "buoyant. If, however, it shows upon the wrong side, things are in a bad way indeed. The huge combinations of capital loom up in the vision of these servile "penny-a-liners" as the whole thing, which in reality they are from the standpoint of the present system of property. Prosperity cannot exist except it apply to such concerns. That sort of prosperity is the kind referred to by capitalist papers generally.

Let the workers learn that their prosperity is not included in that of capitalist concerns. They are a negligible quantity. Their mission as wage slaves of capitalism is to uncomplainingly coin their sweat into "prosperity" for capital. They are not entitled to any themselves.

The present "buoyant prosperity" is heaven for the capitalist class which has it, but hades on the working class which pays for it.

BESIEGERS REPULSED.

In West Hoboken, New Jersey, recently an insurance agent desiring to send out a large number of circulars advertised for men to address envelopes at $1.25 per day. The "ad." requested applicants to call at 11 o'clock a.m. A number of applicants besieged the building before its doors opened in the morning, and by 10 o'clock tne corridors and elevators were so full that the police had to be called upon to repel the besiegers.

The insurance man succeeded in capturing the fifteen men he required. One man who was qualified to write asking for a job in four, or make verbal application in six languages, was much "put out" because his application failed. He was in consequence "put out" by the police, thus being "put out" in a double sense.

Great is prosperity, and the occupation of the "job hunter" is as "strenuous" and full of excitement as that of a dog hunting woodchucks.

POINTS IN SOCIALIST DOCTRINE

Brought Forward in Clear and Concise Manner

Some few months ago the proprietors of Reynold's Newspaper invited Mr. H. M. Hyndman, the founder of the British Social-Democratic Federation, to prepare a series of questions on Socialism, and offer prizes of two guineas and one guinea for the best set of answers, Mr. Hyndman consenting to act as judge.

In making his award, Mr. Hyndman wrote: "I have been surprised at the very large number of competitors in this competition, who have given correct answers to the most important and most difficult questions. This, which I confess is contrary to what I expected, has rendered my work much harder than it would have been had less knowledge and capacity been generally displayed."

We select a few of the best answers by one of the winning contestants.

Question 1. What is meant when Socialists say that they seek to obtain the ownership and control of all the great instruments of production, distribution and exchange by and in the interest of the whole people?

What Socialists mean is that the mines, the machinery, and all instruments incidental to the present methods of capitalist production, instead of being owned, controlled and worked in the interest of the capitalist and landlord class, who are in the minority, to the detriment of the working class, who are in the majority, should, by legal enactment, become collective property, controlled and worked by, and in the interest of the whole people.

Question 2. Why is the demand that the individual laborer himself should obtain the full value of his labor unreasonable and absurd?

Because through having in society a number of people whose labor, although economically unproductive, is socially necessary. All necessary functions of a legislative, administrative and educative character have to be now, and would have to be then, provided for by productive labor (as well as children and old people).

Question 3. What is the difference between labor power, or force of labor, and labor.

Labor power is the totality of the brain and muscular energy possessed by the laborer, the use of which the capitalist buys as a commodity; and only by its incorporation into the finished commodity does it become labor.

Question 4. Why is it incorrect to speak of any commodity today as the product of an individual; and what is meant when it is said that all commodities are produced by social work for a social purpose?

1. Because the infinite division and subdivision of labor, inseparable from the present stage of social development, makes it imperative that the article in process of manufacture pass through dozens of hands before it finally enters the market as a finished commodity and a use value.

2. Because the elimination of waste, both in time and material, resulting from the application of machinery and the subdivision of labor, has socialized the production of commodities that supply a social want.

Question 5. What are wages? How are they regulated? Why is the prospect of a wage-earner ceasing to be a wage-earner becoming less and less favorable under existing conditions? Why will there be no wages when Socialism is realized?

1. Wages are that part of capital given to the laborer in exchange for his commodity—labor power.

2. Wages are regulated by the laborer's cost of subsistence—that is, by the cost of food, clothing and shelter requisite for the reproduction of the same quantity of labor power, but may be affected by the condition of the labor market; or to use a bourgeois phrase, by supply and demand.

3. Because the concentration of capital, and the enormous amounts tied up in costly machinery, necessary for production on a large scale, make it impossible, however intelligent and energetic a workman may be, to raise himself by his own ability and saving out of the proletariat class. The conditions that obtained during mediaeval times, when a man had served his apprenticeship, worked a few years as journeyman, then became a master craftsman, no longer prevail. The same factors which keep him a worker have, as Kautsky points out, made warfare, and are rapidly making scientific pursuits an impossibility for the individual—namely, the costliness of the requisite instruments.

4. The word wages is simply a term coined to express a given phenomena inherent in capitalist production. With the substitution of Socialist for capitalist production, the phenomena will have disappeared and the remuneration received by the laborer in return for his labor (for there cannot be a labor power commodity under Socialism) will be determined, not by his cost of subsistence, but by his power of production collectively.—S. D. Herald.

TALKING IN HIS SLEEP.

The Governor of Kansas in his message to the state legislature recommending the establishment of state oil refineries for the purpose of assisting the "independent producers" in their struggle for existence against the Standard Oil Company gives vent to the following gem: "The competitive system is essential, in my judgment, to the healthy industrial growth, while Socialism is a soporific, which would put the industrial world to sleep."

As the Standard Oil Company is the child of competition, and a sufficiently "healthy industrial growth" to take care of itself by furnishing the necessary "soporific" to put its little would-be competitors to sleep, what is the Governor kicking about, any way? Instead of borrowing trouble about Socialism putting anything to sleep, he had better wake himself up.

HORSE DOCTOR'S PILL.

In publishing the Governor's (of Kansas) message recommending the building of state oil refineries to help out the "independents," Wilshire's Magazine sagely remarks, "This is Hoch's gubernatorial message. See how gracefully he swallows his Socialist pill)"

The building of state refineries to be operated by convict labor for the purpose of preventing "independent producers" from being squeezed out by the Standard Oil Co., is the most peculiar "Socialist pill" we ever saw advertised. We should beg leave to decline swallowing it even upon Wilshire's recommendation. It looks too much like a horse doctor's pill, and we should fear the consequences.

Capital does not make any advances to labor. Generally speaking, labor makes advances to capital. The working man, as a rule, works a week or a fortnight before he receives any wages at all, and during that time he increanses the value of his employer's capital by far more than he receives by wages. Quelch.

Are Conditions of Labor Improving?

From The Journal of Labor.

his is a question which must be wered and answered quickly, and whole future policy of labor de- ds upon how this question is an- red. If, after fifty years of uni- sm and the stupendous achieve- nts in invention bringing into the rld masses of wealth hitherto un- amed of, labor is no better off n it was before, it is time to se and reconsider a policy which y be fraught with appalling re- ts. In considering the question s not enough to determine wheth- labor has a fuller stomach or a ter clothed back; labor's compara- e power in society, labor's com- ative share of wealth, and labor's ition as to security and economic ty are facts of greater import- e.

e do not need statistics to prove t labor is slowly, inevitably sink- in the comparative social scale, uded and blinded and betrayed by cry from the pulpit, platform and ool that it is rising year after r to better conditions. We need y the cold, appalling facts culled m conditions of fifty years ago, of the present, set alongside of n other.

Facts We All Know.

e are told that fifty years ago laborer got less dollars and cents ay, ate less beef, lived in poorer ses, owned fewer pianos, wore broadcloth, dressed his wife and ghter less fashionably, gave his less education and attended few- amusements than now. There is ank deception in this statement which has a tendency to make labor more contented and less troublesome to the business interests of the country, and, therefore, the doctrine is inculcated without stint. The laboring man has been led to believe that if he will keep on producing without change of methods, to meet the new conditions and powers, that in fifty more years his children will have more beef, broadcloth, pianos, education, amusements and style. But we all know that the ponderous system of industry has divided the workingmen into higher and lower classes, beginning at the top with the skilled mechanics and running down to the sweatshop and man in the gutter. If we stop to think we should know that the improvement in labor conditions applies only to the men at the top, who are comparatively few in number.

Fifty Years Ago and Now.

Fifty years ago labor was not divided to any great degree into classes. Fifty years ago a dollar would buy twice as much as it will buy now.

Fifty years ago the most poorly paid laboree lived far better than the most poorly paid laborer today, and commanded more respect.

Today the best paid laborer receives far more than the best paid laborer of fifty years ago, but he is employed only a part of the time and he is not nearly so sure of his job.

Fifty years ago we had an open frontier, plenty of land and untaken opportunities and an unlimited demand for labor; driven from the factory, labor could set up on the farm. It was absolutely outside the power of capital to starve labor. Labor was far more independent then than now and secured a lar larger share of the product. Today we have no open frontier; the lid is closed; the land is taken. Driven from the factory, tha laborer must come back to the factory again. The spirit of independence has given away to a demoralizing timidity and the increasing labor population makes the holding of a job extremely difficult against the large number seeking employment.

Fifty years ago there were 110 jobs for every hundred men; today there are 150 men for every hundred jobs.

Fifty years ago there were no tramps; today there are practically 2,000,000.

Fifty years ago there was no child labor; today 1,750,000 little children are utilized for profit at from 10 to 50 cents per head.

Fifty years ago a few women were worked in factories; today the majority of factory operatives in many textile industries are women who work for from $3 to $5 per week.

Fifty years ago there were no New Yorks, Chicagoes, Philadelphias as we know them today, with their fearful slum districts where capitalism gathers together its last wrecks of exploitation—the worker who refuses to work, the tramp who refuses to tramp—and strangles them to death in its terrible pest holes of crime and squalor.

Fifty years ago there were no Coeur d'Alenes, Cripple Creeks, Packingtowns, Homesteads; no militia bills, injunctions, blacklists, deportations and the herding of vast dependent bodies of serfs to the voting shambles.

Insecurity.

If the whole beef and piano argument of those who desire labor to remain submissive and content were admitted, there yet remains a fact of such overshadowing importance that it cannot be gainsaid. The monopolization of land and opportunity, the increase of the labor population, the invention of labor-saving machinery, have engendered such keen competition between the employed and the unemployed, the union man and the scab, that the position of the working class is one of unnerving insecurity. The liability to be thrown out of employment at any time by the merciless fluctuations of capital and the horrors of unemployment constitute a fact which is dragging down labor to the lowest stratum of degradation. We are confronted in America today by a fact never observed before; we have an increasingly vast floating population which drifts from place to place for jobs. Without homes, without families, without responsibility, deprived of citizenship by their constant change of locality, these men rapidly become mere hoboes. ...

The most stringent and cruel vagrancy laws are made everywhere against these unfortunates, who are hounded, fined, prosecuted, imprisoned and driven from place to place by the officers of the law. It is appalling to think that there are millions of these men in our country and that their numbers are increasing each year. Even the cruel methods by which capitalism draws the surplus population into the large cities and kills it off with rum, filth, disease and starvation are not sufficient to keep down this ever-increasing army of the unemployed.

As much as labor has lost through the encroachments of a bloated capitalism, the future is fraught with more danger than the past has ever contained. Think of the tremendous work during the last fifty years that, aided by the millions who have swarmed over from Europe, has dotted the country with vast cities and constructed the great lines of communication. Think of the wilderness of fifty years ago, and Chicago, the St. Louis and San Francisco of today. Think of the Herculean task of building these miles and miles of brick and machinery.

But the ocean is reached, the frontier is closed; new opportunities are shut off; less and less capital may be employed; the lid is down, and the pot is boiling. The old cities may be added to, but there are few places to put new cities, and few places to put new railroads.

We have completed a cycle of construction, and face a cycle of unimployment.

If during the period of construction the status of labor has declined, what will be the condition during the period of unemployment?

The recent decision of the American Federation of Labor to admit economic and political discussion in the union meetings is timely, and there never before was such a crying necessity for union men to take a careful study of the problems of the hour for their own safety.

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MORE UNTERMAN WISDOM.

In No. 307 of the Western Clarion we had the hardihood to question some of the conclusions of Mr. Ernest Unterman, as set forth in an article of his published in the "Appeal to Reason." The gist of Mr. Unterman's article was "that the worker was held up as a producer and as a consumer."

We confess to being of plebian extraction, and to "fame and fortune unknown." We have not yet attained to the distinction of having our picture emblazoned in Wilshire's, or the handle "professor" prefixed to our cognomen, however much we might secretly covet such a distinction. We cannot write long-winded disquisitions on a "world's process," nor are we qualified to appraise at anything like its full value in that process, the act of a "Patagonian" squirting tobacco juice, or an idea chasing a "kangaroo."

We acknowledge a lack of reverence for the "intellectuals," due, perhaps, to our early training, or perchance more properly speaking our want of it. For all of these shortcomings we humbly apologize. The result of our clumsy criticism of the mighty Unterman, however, caused that worthy to unsheath his sword and neatly puncture our bubble as follows, which we clip from the Chicago Socialist of March 4.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

The question of the relation of production and distribution to the exploitation of the proletariat by the capitalist appropriation of surplus values has long played a prominent role, not only in the objections of the bourgeois opponents of Marxian economics, but also in the speeches and literature of the ultra-revolutionary hyper-Marxians. In a recent editorial of the Western Clarion, for instance, we find an editorial entitled "Unterman Wisdom," in which the editor ridicules the idea advanced by me in the Appeal to Reason that the proletarian is exploited as a producer and as a consumer, and advises me to study a certain work called "Capital," which I am supposed to have overlooked. We shall see preently that the advice of the editor of the Western Clarion would not be thrown away if he were to follow it himself.

Marx and Engels have not only anticipated the objections of their bourgeois opponents, but have written many things which would be of great benefit to the editor of the Western Clarion and to others of his ilk who expound Marxian theories without taking the trouble to familiarize themselves with the works of Marx and Engels.

According to Marxian economics, a commodity is not regarded as "produced" until it has reached the consumer. And the consumer, in buying commodities produced by himself or other proletarians, pays a price which is generally above the value of the average social labor time required for its first production, because in the process of distribution, other surplus values have been added to its primitive social labor time. In other words, the proletarian is exploited not only in the process of manufacture of a certain commodity, but also in its price when he buys it. And whether that commodity is food, clothing, shelter, land or money, both production and distribution always enter into the question of exploitation.

Of course, it is the merit of Marxian economics to have pointed out that the typical and overwhelming exploitation of the proletarian takes place in production proper. But at the same time Marx and Engels have never lost sight of the fact that this is not the only form of exploitation.

Says the "Communist Manifesto": "No sooner is the exploitation of the laborer by the manufacturer so far at an end that he receives his wages in cash, than he is set upon by other portions of the bourgeoisie, the landlord, the shopkeeper, the pawnbroker, etc."

Expressed in terms of Marxian economics, this means that no sooner has the manufacturing capitalist pocketed his commercial profit than the landlord appropriates a part of the wages of the laborer in the form of rent, the shopkeeper in the form of trader's profit, the money lender in the form of interest, etc. On the other hand, the manufacturing capitalist can no more keep all the commercial profit wrung from the laborer than the laborer can keep all his wages. "The whole of the profit," says Marx, in "Value, Price and Profit," "is not pocketed by the employing capitalist. The monopoly of land enables the landlord to take one part of that surplus value, under the name of rent, whether the land is used for agricultural buildings or railways, or for any other productive purpose. On the other hand, the very fact that the possession of the instruments of labor enables the employing capitalist to produce a surplus value, or what comes to the same, to appropriate to himself a certain amount of the unpaid labor, enables the owner of the means of labor, which he lends wholly or partially to the employing class—enables, in one word, the money lending capitalist to, claim for himself under the name of interest another part of that surplus value, so that there remains to the employing capitalist as such only what is called industrial or commercial profit. . . . Rent, profit and interest are only different names for different parts of the surplus value of the commodity, or the unpaid labor enclosed in it, and they are equally derived from this source, and from this source alone."

We appreciate the value of Mr. Unterman's advice, as we hope he appreciated that of the similar advice we so kindly offered him in the criticism referred to. Should we follow the advice we sincerely hope to be able to read to better purpose than to attempt to jusiify the assumption that "the laborer is held up as a producer and as a consumer," by the quotation from Marx's "Value, Price and Profit" used by Mr. Unterman and more especially the last half dozen lines of it. While reading Mr. Unterman's fulmination, the enormity of our offense gradually dawning upon us was about to reach its culmination in complete acknowledgement of defeat, until he hurled this Marxian bomb at our head: "RENT, PROFIT AND INTEREST, ARE ONLY DIFFERENT NAMES FOR DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE SURPLUS VALUE OF THE COMMODITY, OR THE UNPAID LABOR INCLOSED IN IT, AND THEY ARE EQUALLY DERIVED FROM THIS SOURCE, AND FROM THIS SOURCE ALONE." We were then forced to ask: what has become of Mr. Unterman's contention? Where is he "at" any way? As we were unable to answer, we will be forced to leave it to the reader to judge.

Yea, verily. The "intellectual" who skates around over the works of Marx to find justification for "middle-class" philosophy, skates upon very thin ice.

After thus neatly "squelching" us Mr. Unterman goes on to issue some sort of a challenge to "the inspired prophets of impossiblism in the United States, for instance the editor of the Western Clarion, or the Referendum, or the economic teacher of the Chicago impossiblists, all of whom claim such superiot familiarity with the works of Marx, to solve this problem before the instalment of my article dealing with this point will appear in the Chicago Socialist."

Again must we plead possible ignorance, although included in the challenge. We are not sure that we know the meaning of "impossiblism" and "Chicago impossiblists." Perhaps the term is applied to those who find it "impossible" to swallow the economic puke offered by Unterman and his ilk. The refusal to swallow is doubtless an inspiration, hence the term "inspired prophets."

The "problem" referred to in the "challenge" relates to surplus value and the exchange of commodities, more especially the commodity labor power. Though this has been already solved by Marx in "Capital," "Wage-Labor and Capital," etc., we shall still await "my article dealing with this point," with a breathless expectancy.

In reading the clipping from the Chicago Socialist the reader should be particularly careful in separating the part written by Mr. Unterman from the quotations from Marx and Engels by which he attempts to justify his conclusions. The latch string is always out, Mr. Unterman.

"KILKENNY CATS."

A regular "Kilkenny cat" fight is on the boards for the near future within the camp of "organized labor." In fact, the preliminary skirmishes have already begun. The respective "cats" are to be the old-line organizations, by certain facetious persons dubbed "pure and simplers," and the new line, dubbed by the same facetious persons "industrial unionists."

As both are out for the one purpose of trying to juggle more agreeable treatment out of the labor market in respect to the commodity in which they deal, i. e., labor power, the distinction attempted to be made seems one too poor to have a difference. Be that as it may, however, there is to be a great yowling, scratching and scattering of fur, in the very realistic exemplification of the solidarity of labor, and the class struggle, from a commodity standpoint. The first fur has been loosened by the "industrialists" in a so-called "manifesto" eminating from Chicago, which has been emphasized by the loud-voiced approval of numerous "mavericks" wandering aimlessly about in the jungles of confusion. Then cometh the Don Quixote Gompers, the "pure and simple" high priest, and unsheathing his trusty bellows, the American Federationist, the which he so mercilessly uses in blowing his own horn, proceeds to torment the impudent "industrial cat" by most angry and vicious "blows." In this he is ably assisted by one Sancho Panza Hamilton, of Colorado, who delivers some ugly welts with his terrible hind claws, in "A Story of Funny Unionism."

This delectable scrimmage is already enlivened by crimination and recrimination. A perfect tempest of "caterwauling" in the shape of "union smashers," "scab herders," "fakirs," "crooks," "labor lieutenants," "scabs," "renegades," "kangaroo," and other similar yowls will ascend to heaven as an attestation of the fact that "organized labor" is begarbing itself with a dignity befitting its great mission of "bettering its condition," while functioning as a wholesale peddler of the commodity labor power. To those who are weak enough to expect it to act differently we apologically quote the words of Lawrence Gronlund: "Wares can not act like men, for wares are only things."

It is fervently hoped that the "cats" will fight fair, and neither be able to avail itself of such weapons, or means, as to do violence to time-honored tradition regarding "Kilkenny" affairs of the cat kind. There is a fear, however, that the affair will not reach the traditional satisfactory ending. That fear is aroused because of the awful thrust given the opposition "cat" by editorial Sam in the current Federationist.

It seems that Sam, by long experience as a cigar maker acquired a no mean dexterity in rolling long-filler cigars. The result of this experience enables him with equal dexterity to roll out long-filler editorials, and furnish the filler himself.

Under caption, "The Trades Unions to be smashed again," we find the following long-filler: "That they (the enemies of the trade union movement) will be confronted and overcome is as sure as it is said, 'God made little apples,' and someone else has made little Socialists who launch bubbles which are filled with the exuberance of their verbosity, and which explode from the flatulency of their enormous gabs."

As cruel as is this terrible thrust at the other "cat," we are compelled to admit it to be the cleverest thing that has happened since the editorial author coined that famous slogan, that will go ringing down the corridors of time, of "Grit your teeth and organize." A few more such "long-filler" wicked thrusts and the mind's eye can readily picture the "industrial cat" as strenuously hiking for oblivion, as Kuropatkin is hiking for Harbin.

While "peace hath her victories," she also comes in for her quota of horrors. According to W. J. Ghent, writing in Tom Watson's magazine, "the railroad and trolley lines of the United States during 1904 destroyed nearly as many lives as were lost in the three great battles of Gettsburg, Chikamauga and Chancellorsville during the Civil war."

He declares that "the factories destroyed more lives than the railroads although the figures are not obtainable," and "these accidents are for the most part needless, and due almost entirely to the brutal indifference of capital to the lives of workers." He further asserts that "by far the greater part of the suicides, of which we read and hear, are of beings who have been sent to death through economic troubles."

The holocaust of horror which the human family pays for allowing the resources and machinery of production to wear the garb of capital, and thus serve merely as a means of exploiting the workers, is enough to make "angels weep," and ought to be enough to make mundane animals swear.

Like all good things, capitalism comes high, and if the workers wish to retain it they must pay the price in poverty, misery and death.

In London alone 1,800,000 live on the poverty line and below it, and another 1,000,000 with one week's wages between them and pauperism, said Jack London in a recent speech. That's nothing. We have the greatest Empire that has ever happened and one whose greatness is not confined to bluff and bluster alone. It is especially great in poverty, which in itself is no bluff. In fact, the corner stone of Britain's greatness is an ocean of poverty, of which the London instance is but a fair sample.

Statistics published by the Italian government relating to the recent elections show the Socialist vote to have been 20 per cent. of all votes cast. This is an encouraging showing for the brutally exploited and oppressed workers of that unhappy land.

THE WAGE SLAVE.

His History in Brief by H. C. Castle in Los Angeles Labor News.

Now I will attempt to show briefly and concisely how labor is exploited. Allow me to turn back in history to the time the rising capitalist class threw off the yoke of the feudal nobility, and instituted the capitalist method of production. Prior to that time the serfs had to work three days a week for their lord and three days for themselves. The feudal lord owned the land, and the people who were born on the land had no right to leave it without permission. Nor could they till the soil to which they belonged without the lord's permission. Nor could they obtain his permission only on certain conditions, which were the ones I have just stated and the only reason that the lord was so gracious as to allow them to have three days for themselves was not because the barons were lenient with them, but because the serf required that much time to produce sufficient products to sustain himself and family.

The smiths and trades people were a little more privileged than the serfs, but still they were hampered in their enterprises by the nobility, hence the revolution which overthrew the nobility and placed the manufacturing or capitalist class in power.

At that time the methods of production were primitive hand tools and owned by the man who used them, and he alone by his own labor and skill, produced an entire article by his own labor and when he had completed the article it was his own to do with as he pleased.

In those days a man or boy would work long hours as an apprentice or journeyman and he was sure of becoming a master in the end. But commerce grew and man's ingenuity invented more improved tools and it was discovered that a man could produce more socially than he could individually, that is to say, four men, each doing a certain part could make more articles in a given time than the same four men, each working individually and producing the entire article himself could produce in the same time, hence the factory and the division of labor. Now here is where the competitive part of capitalism performs its part.

Here were two methods of production side by side, the primitive factory with the division of labor, or co-operative labor competing against the individual producer. The man who owned the factory could pay the men as much as they could make working individually, and yet on account of the increased output he could undersell the individual producer, thus forcing him to either start a factory or go to work for some one who already had one.

Now, even yet the laborer is not very severely exploited nor is he very far from his tools, for the factory is simple and just mainly a division of labor, and it does not matter much at this stage whether he is a factory owner or a factory hand, but it is the point at which the producer begins to drift away from his tools and his product.

It is the place where the canoe in which capital and labor are paddling splits into pieces and begins drifting apart; in one piece is the laborer, in the other is the capitalist and the tools with which the laborer must earn his daily bread and also in the same end of the canoe is the product which labor has created.

Now labor has tried many ways to get into the same end of the canoe the capitalist is in; he has created invention after invention, to try to accomplish his end, but every one only causes the two pieces of the canoe to drift farther apart until today we have the gigantic factories run by steam and electricity, owned by corporations and stockholders who have never even seen them, and the wage-slave who makes a part of the product has no knowledge of what the entire product looks like or how many others are working on other parts of it, of what it is for, nor what it is worth.

The serf could not work or till the soil without the consent of the feudal lord. He could not live without tilling the soil, or in other words, under what conditions he could live.

Today the wage-slave cannot worv without the consent of the employing capitalist. The employing capitalist names the conditions under which you work and what is your pay, and he gives us an average of $1.50 per day. Not because the banks charge him little or much, but because we have to have that much to live.

The serf's time was divided by the week, and the three days which he worked for himself was his pay, half of his time was paid labor (that is full paid, he received the full product) and half was unpaid, that is it cost the lord nothing. But the entire labor of his life seemed to be unpaid labor. Now our modern wage slave goes into a factory; in two hours he has produced sufficient commodities to ekual his wages, so that is all for which he really receives pay, the balance is no more paid labor than was the three days the serf worked for his master or lord, although the serf's labor seems to be all unpaid and the wage-slave's to be all paid, but if it was all paid, that is if he received the product of his toil or its equivalent in any other commodity, there would be no surplus value for the masters to buy yachts with.

The conflict or ?truggle between the capitalist class and the laboring class, the employer and employe, is not over the amount of interest the banks charge, (that is only a question between the capitalists themselves), but it is always over the amount of the product the laborer shall receipe or how many hours he shall work for the capitalist for nothing. For instance, supnose I am working for a corporation making shoes. I work ten hours and receive $2.50 a day. I make enough shoes in two hours to pay my wages, then the other eight hours are unpaid labor. Now suppose I go on a strike with my brothers for eight hours, don't you see the controversy between capital and labor is whether we work eight hours for nothing or only six for nothing.

The labor problem is not one of whether one capitalist charges another exhorbitant interest or rent, but it is always over the amount of hours which labor must perform gratuiously for the capitalist class for the permission to work at all, and as long as labor has to work one hour for which it is not paid, there will be a conflict and the only people under the sun who can stop the war between capital and labor is the laboring class themselves, by taking the reins of government and ta ing the co-operative or social means of production (which are now owned privately) thus owning their own tools, owning their job and owning socially the social product of their social labor.

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

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Wage-Labor and Capital

By KARL MARX.

We must therefore enquire more closely into the effect which the increase of productive capital has upon wages.

With the general increase of the productive capital of a bourgeois society a manifold accumulation of labor force takes place. The capitalist's increase in number and in power. The increase in the number of capitalists increases the competition between capitalists. Their increased power gives them the means of leading into the industrial battlefield mightier armies of laborers furnished with gigantic implements of war.

The one capitalist can only succeed in driving the other off the field and winning possession of his capital by selling his wares at a cheaper rate. In order to sell more cheaply without ruining himself he must produce more cheaply; that is, he must heighten as much as possible the productiveness of labor. But the most effective way of making labor more productive is by means of a more complete subdivision of labor, or by a more extended use and continual improvement of machinery. The more numerous the departments into which labor is divided, and the more gigantic the scale in which machinery is introduced, in so much the greater proportion does the cost of production decline, and so much the more fruitful is the labor. Thus arises a manifold rivalry among capitalists with the object of increasing the subdivision of labor and machinery, and keeping up the utmost possible progressive rate of exploitation.

Now, if by means of a greater subdivision of labor, by the employment and improvement of new machines, by the more skillful and profitable use of the forces of nature, a capitalist has discovered the means of producing a larger amount of commodities than his competitors with the same amount of labor, whether it be for realized-up labor or direct—if he can, for instance, spin a complete yard of cotton in the time that his competitors take to spin half a yard—how will this capitalist proceed to act? He might go on selling half a yard at its former market price; but that would not have the effect of driving his opponents out of the field and increasing his own sale. But the need for selling increasing his sale has increased in the same proportion as his production. The more effective and more expensive the means of production which he has called into existence enable him, of course, to sell his wares cheaper, but they also compel him to sell more wares and to procure a much larger market for them. Our capitalist will therefore proceed to sell his yard of cotton cheaper than his competitors.

The capitalist will not, however, sell his complete yard so cheaply as his competitors sell the half, although its production does not cost more than the production of half costs the others. For in this case he would gain nothing, but would only get back the cost of its production. The contingent increase in his receipts would result from his having set in motion a larger capital, but not from having made his capital more profitable than that of others. Besides, he gains the same if he prices his wares a slight percentage lower than his competitors. He drives them off the field and wrests from them a part of their sale, if not all, he undersells them. And, finally, we must remember that the price of cotton always stands either above or below the cost of production, according as the sale of a commodity is transacted at a favorable or unfavorable period of business. According as the market price of a yard of cloth is above or below its former cost of production, the percentage will alter in which the capitalist who has employed the new and productive means of production exceeds in his sale the actual cost of production to him.

But our capitalist does not find his privilege very lasting. Other rich capitalists introduce, with more or less rapidity, the same machines and the same subdivision of labor; and this introduction becomes general until the price of the yard of cotton is reduced, not only below its former, but below its new, cost of production.

Thus the capitalists find themselves relatively in the same position in which they stood before the introduction of the new means of production; and if they are by these means enabled to offer twice the product at the same price, they now find themselves compelled to offer the doubled amount for less than the old price. From the standpoint of these new means of production the old labor begins anew. There is greater subdivision of labor, more machinery, more rapid progress in the extension of both. Whereupon competition brings about the same reaction against the same result.

Thus we see how the manner and means of production are continually revolved and revolutionized, and how the division of labor necessarily brings in its train a greater division of labor; the introduction of labor a greater introduction; and the rapidity of progress in the efficiency of labor a still greater rapidity of progress.

What is the law which continually forces bourgeois production out of the old track, and compels capital to intensify the productive powers of labor for the very reason that it has already intensified them—the law which allows it no rest, but forever whispers in its ear the words "Quick work!"

This is no other law than that which, cancelling the periodical fluctuations of business, necessarily individualizes the price of a commodity by its cost of production.

However powerful are the means of production which a particular capital may bring into the field, competition will make their adoption general; and the moment it becomes general the sole result of the greater fruitfulness of his capital is that he must now, for the same price one ten, twenty, a hundred times as much as before. But as he must dispose of, perhaps, a thousand times as much in order to outweigh the decrease in the selling price by the larger proportion of the products sold, since a larger sale has now become necessary, not only to gain a larger profit, but also to replace the cost of production; and the implements of production, as we have seen, always get more expensive; and since this larger sale has become a vital question, not only for him, but also for his rivals, the old strife continues, with all the greater violence, in proportion as the previously discovered means of production are more fruitful. Thus the subdivision of labor and the employment of new machinery take a fresh start, and proceed with still greater rapidity.

And thus, whatever be the power of the means of production employed, competition does its best to rob capital of the golden fruit which it produces by reducing the price of commodities to their cost of production; and, as fast as their production is cheapened, compelling, by a despotic law the larger supply of cheaper products to be offered at the former price. Thus the capitalist will have nothing by his exertions beyond the obligation to produce faster than before, and an enhancement of the difficulty of employing his capital to advantage. While competition continually persecutes him with its law of the cost of production, and turns against him every weapon which he forges against his rivals, the capitalist continually tries to cheat competition by incessantly introducing further subdivision of labor and replacing the old machines by new ones, which, though more expensive, produce more cheaply, instead of waiting until competition has rendered them obsolete.

Let us now look at this feverish agitation as it affects the market of the whole world and we shall understand how the increase, accumulation and concentration of capital bring in their train an uninterrupted and extreme subdivision of labor, always advancing with gigantic strides of progress, and a continual employment of new machinery, together with the improvement of the old.

But how do these circumstances, inseparable as they are from the increase of productive capital, affect the determination of the amount of wages?

The greater division of labor enables one laborer to do the work of five, ten, twenty; it therefore multiplies the competition among laborers five, ten or twenty times. The laborers do not only compete when one sells himself cheaper than another, they also compete when one does the work of five, ten or twenty; and the division of labor which capital introduces and continually increases, compels the laborers to enter into this kind of competition with one another.

Further: in the same proportion in which the division of labor is increased the labor itself is simplified. The special skill of the laborer becomes worthless. It is changed into a monotonous and uniform power production, which can give play neither to bodily nor to intellectual elasticity. Its labor becomes accessible to everybody. Competitors, therefore throng into it from all sides; and besides, we must remember that the more simple and easily learnt the labor is, and the less it costs a man to make himself master of it so much lower must its wages sink, since they are determined, like the price of every other commodity, by its cost of production.

Therefore, exactly as the labor becomes more unsatisfactory and unpleasant, in that very proportion competition increases and wages decline. The laborer does his best to maintain the rate of wages by performing more labor, whether by working for a greater number of hours, or by working harder in the same time. Thus, driven by necessity, he himself increases the evil of the subdivision of labor. So the result is this: the more he labors the less reward he receives for it; and that for this simple reason—that he competes against his fellow workmen and thus compels them to compete against him, and to offer their labor on as wretched conditions as he does; and that he thus, in the last result, competes against himself as a member of the working class.

Machinery has the same effect, but in a much greater degree. It supplants skilled laborers by unskilled, men by women, adults by children; where it is newly introduced it throws the hand laborers upon the streets in crowds; and where it is perfected or replaced by later improvements and more inventions, discards them by slightly slower degrees. We have sketched above, in hasty outlines, the industrial war of capitalists with one another; and the war has this peculiarity, that its battles are won less by means of enlisting than by discharging its industrial recruits. The generals, or capitalists, vie with one another as to who can dispense with the greatest number of soldiers.

The economists repeatedly assures us that the laborers who are rendered superfluous by the machines find new branches of employment.

They have not the hardihood directly to assert that the laborers who are discharged enter upon the new branches of labor. The facts cry out too loud against such a lie as this. They only declare that for other divisions of the laboring class, as, for instance, for the rising generation of laborers who were just ready to enter upon the the defunct branch of industry, new means of employment will open out. Of course, that is a great satisfaction for the dismissed laborers. The worshipful capitalists will not find their fresh supply of exploitable flesh and blood run short, and will let the dead bury their dead. This is indeed a consolation with which the bourgeois comfort THEMSELVES rather than the laborers. If the whole class of wage-laborers were annihilated by the machines, how shocking that would be for capital, which, without wage-labor, ceases to act as capital at all.

But let us suppose that those who are directly driven out of their employment by machinery, and also all those of the rising generation who were expecting employment in the same line, find some new employment. Does anyone imagine that this will be as highly paid as that which they have lost? Such an idea would be in direct contradiction to all the laws of economy. We have already seen that the modern form of industry always tends to the displacement of the more complex and the higher kinds of employment by those which are more simple and subordinate.

How, then, could a crowd of laborers, who are thrown out of one branch of industry by machinery, find refuge in another without having to content themselves with a lower position and worse pay?

The laborers who are employed in the manufacture of machinery itself have been instanced as an exception. As soon as a desire arises and a demand begins in an industry for more machinery it is said that there must necessarily be an increase in the number of machines, and therefore in the employment of laborers in this manufacture; and the laborers who are employed in this branch of industry will be skilled, and, indeed, even educated laborers.

Ever since the year 1840 this contention, which even before that time was only half true, has lost all its specious color. For the machines which are employed in the manufacture of machinery have been quite as numerous as those used in the manufacture of cotton; and the laborers who are employed in the producing machines, instead of being highly educated, have only been able to play the part of utterly unskilled machines themselves.

But in the place of the man who has been dismissed by the machine perhaps three children and one woman are employed to work it. And was it not necessary before that the man's wages should suffice for the support of his wife and his children? Was not the minimum of wages necessarily sufficient for the maintenance and propagation of the race of laborers? There is no difference, except that now the lives of four times as many laborers as before are used up in order to secure the support of one laborer's family.

To repeat our deductions—the faster productive capital increases the more does the division of labor and the employment of machinery extend. The more the division of labor and the employment of machinery extend, so much the more does competition increase among the laborers, and so much more do their average wages dwindle.

And, besides, the laboring class is recruited from the higher strata of society, or else there falls headlong into it a crowd of small manufacturers and small proprietors, who thenceforth have nothing better to do than to stretch out their arms by the side of those of the laborers. And thus the forest of arms outstretched by those who are entreating for work becomes denser and the arms themselves become ever leaner.

That the small manufacturer cannot survive in a contest whose first condition is production on a continually increasing scale—that is, that he cannot be at once both a large and a small manufacturer—is self-evident.

That the interest on capital declines in the same proportion as the amount of capital increases and extends, and that therefore the small capitalist can no longer live on his interest, but must join the ranks of the workers and increase the number of the proletariat—all this requires no further exemplification.

Finally, in the proportion in which the capitalists are compelled by the causes here sketched out, to exploit on an ever increasing scale yet more gigantic means of production, and with that object to set in motion the mainsprings of credit, in the same proportion is there an increase of those earthquakes wherein the business world can only secure its own existence by a sacrifice of a portion of its wealth, its products, and even its powers of production to the gods of the world below—in a word crises increase. They become at once more frequent and more violent; because in the same proportion which the amount of production, and therefore the demand for the extension of the market, increases, the market of the world continually contracts, and ever fewer markets remain to be exploited: since every previous crisis has added to the commerce of the world a market which was not known before, or had before been only superficially exploited by commerce. But capital not only LIVES upon labor. Like the lord, at once distinguished and barbarous, it drags with it to the grave the corpses of its slaves and whole hecatombs of laborers who perish in the crisis. Thus we see that if capital increases fast, competition among the laborers increases still faster; that is, the means of employment and subsistence decline in proportion at a still more rapid rate; and yet, none the less, the most fortunate conditions for wage-labor lie in the speedy increase of capital.

(The End.)

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The economic pressure brought to bear upon the white laborers of the Transvaal as a result of the introduction of Chinese coolies into the mines, is bearing fruit. 15,000 men and women attended a meeting not long since in the market square of Johannesburg to listen to Socialist speakers. A Social-Democratic Labor Party of the Transvaal has been formed as a result of this agitation.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

PLATFORM.

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.

"Labor and capital are allies. The laborer needs the employer, and the employer needs the laborer."—Bishop Spalding.

As capital merely feeds upon labor, the good Bishop's pronouncement is equivalent to saying that the potato needs the potato bug, and the potato bug needs the potato. There is a well-developed need among both workers and capitalists for a few more fat bishops to crack such delightful jokes.

—o—

When sending in subs. please state whether each one is a renewal or a new one. The mail list is already a long one, and thanks to the friends and comrades who are interested in pushing its circulation, is rapidly growing larger. By stating whether a sub. is a renewal or a new one it will save us a lot of work in searching the list.

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"We are a practical people, and this practical bent, based on common sense, will enable us to settle the labor question. * * * Employers have their hard times. Almost 100 per cent. of enterprises fail."—Bishop Spalding.

A "practical people" and "almost 100 per cent. of their enterprises fail." Oh! Bishop, you are too funny. Don't do it again, please. Spare our buttons. Kindly stick to speculative philosophy and theological dogma, that can neither be proven nor disproven, and that no one cares anything about, any way. For heaven's sake, don't become addicted to such humor or we shall die of laughter.

—o—

The Marxian League, of San Francisco California, sends in an order for a weekly bundle of 150. The league doubles the Western Clarion up with one or two other Socialist papers selling the combination for five cents. A good idea, and one that might be profitably followed by other organizations.

COMRADES

Strike at the ballot box on election day but be sure to strike the

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

The Western Clarion

165 HASTINGS STREET

P.O. BOX 836 VANCOUVER, B. C.

Socialist Party of Canada

DOMINION EXECUTIVE HEADQUARTERS.

R. P. Pettipiece, secretary. Vancouver, B. C.

Vancouver, B. C., March 5.—Present: A. R. Stebbings, chairman; Jno. Cameron, W. H. Flowers, C. O'Brien, C. Peters, Organizer Kingsley and the secretary.

Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

Correspondence: From H. H. Stuart, Harcourt, N. B., re preparation for organization and affiliation with party.

From Ben. W. Bakes, Vancouver, interpretation of letter from the Bureau Socialiste International, Maison due Peuple, Bruxelles, notifying committee of change in secretary. "Citizen" Victor Serwy has been succeeded by "Citizen" Camile Huysmans. The letter is signed by Comrades Anseele and Vandervelde, on behalf of the International Executive Committee.

From H. R. Siemon, Winnipeg, re application for affiliation.

From Chas. F. Lowrie, Claresholm, Alta., re application for affiliation and further information re organization, etc. Sec to reply.

From G. W. Wrigley, Toronto, re application for affiliation.

From British Columbia Executive Committee: $5 for due stamps.

After considerable discussion upon the subject the following motion was passed:

Flowers-Cameron—That hereafter this committee will purchase, print and handle such party literature as it deems fit and in line with the party's policy, and that all Locals in Canada be requested to place their orders with this committee, with a view to building up a literature fund of such proportions as will enable the Committee to supply "Canadian" educational matter at the lowest possible cost.

Accounts for printing laid over till next meeting. Adjournment.

B.C. Provincial Executive

Socialist Party of Canada.

Address all communications re Party affairs to the secretary, R. P. Pettipiece, 25 Tenth avenue, east, Vancouver, B. C.

Vancouver, B. C., March 5.—(Room 10, Masonic Block)—Present: A. R. Stebbings, chairman; W. H. Flowers, Chas. O'Brien, C. Peters, Organizer Kingsley and the secretary.

Communications: From Victoria Local, No. 2—Credentials for J. M. Cameron during his sojourn in the city, as per Art. iv., sec. 2 of the constitution.

Upon motion of Comrades Flowers and O'Brien, Comrade Cameron was seated as a member of the Executive.

From Greenwood Local, No. 9, re organizer's tour and change of secretaryship. Organizer to note same and "entertain" the Greenwood comrades accordingly.

From H. Elliott, per Western Clarion, enclosing $1.00 for organizing fund.

From Revelstoke Local, No. 7, re organizer's tour, and report for February.

From Nelson Local No. 4, re organizer's tour, co-operating with Rossland and Greenwood as to dates, etc.

From Nanaimo Local, No. 3, enclosing $5 for due stamps, and in re Mrs. Smith's tour.

From Chas. H. Kerr & Co., receipt for $10 for copies of Marx's capital.

From Earl Prather, Penticton, B. C., enclosing signed application for membership as member-at-large in party; also 25c for first month's dues. Received and accepted. Secretary to issue card, etc.

From Vancouver Local re rent account, and order for $5 worth of literature. Secretary to send counter account, and arrange settlement forthwith. Literature to be supplied as requested.

From Rossland Local, No. 25, re Organizer's tour. Organizer to note contents.

Accounts: From secretary for 80 cents duty on six copies of Marx's Capital. Flowers-O'Brien—That warrant be drawn for same, but that secretary be instructed to write the Customs department, Ottawa, protesting against the payment of duty on scientific works, when same are legally "duty free."

Organizer Kingsley reported his inability because of Clarion business to go into the interior as scheduled, but promised that he and Comrade Hawthornthwaite would go together as soon as the House adjourned.

After some little discussion, upon motion of Comrades Peters and Cameron, it was decided that Chas. O'Brien be sent to fill party organizer's dates in upper country. A warrant for $50 was ordered drawn towards expenses. Failing receipt of sufficient monies by March 8th to cover same, secretary to arrange for loan.

Secretary to advise Locals concerned re change.

Cameron on behalf of Victoria Local, No. 2, presented a list of suggestions to Executive Committee which received due attention.

Re International Labor Day celebration, May 1st While Executive is not in position to undertake a joint celebration at some central point this year, it urges upon all locals to do their utmost to locally celebrate the workers' real international Labor Day, May 1st, to the end that we may be able to join hands in the revolutionary display at some future date.

Re furnishing names of secretaries of Locals' Flowers-Peters—That Victoria Local be notified that if they have any proposition, amendments etc., to place before the members of this party, the Committee is prepared to fulfil its function as an Executive.

Re coreespondence: Pettipiece-Flowers—That Comrade Cameron, on behalf of Victoria Local be given access to all correspondence.

Re publishing all party correspondence and proceedings; a motion stands upon the records instructing secretary to publish only a synopsis of party proceedings. No money to pay for paper large enough to handle same in full.

Receipts.

Vananda Local, Due stamps...	$ 2 50
Vananda Local, organizing fund...	3 00
Nanaimo Local, due stamps...	5 00
Earl Prather, Penticton, dues	25
Vancouver Local, membership cards	25
Vancouver Local, due stamps	1 00
H Elliott, per Western Clarion, organizing fund	1 00
Total...	$13 00

Paid over to Treasurer:

Expenditure:

Warrant No. 18, Secretary's salary February	$ 5 00
Warrant No. 19, 100 due stamps from Dominion Executive ...	5 00
Warrant No. 20, Customs duty on six copies "Capital"...	80
Total	$10 80
Balance on hand last week...	$ 8 05
Balance on hand this week...	$10 25

Total receipts for February, $39.40

Adjournment.

NOTES BY SECRETARY.

E. Dynes, secretary Greenwood Local, has gone to Trail, B. C., to take a job in the pastoral art, an ambiguity unexplainable. Robt. Hallow is his successor.

Some weeks ago Locals were requested by the Executive to elect a press correspondent to see that reports of meetings, etc., were promptly sent to the Clarion, so that we can better keep in touch with each other and the Canadian movement generally.

The eastern revolutionists are falling into line. Watch 'er grow!

All propaganda literature will hereafter be purchased, published or handled by the Dominion Executive Committee. Send in your orders.

2,000 copies of "Wage-Labor and Capital" 5-cent pamphlets, issued by the Dominion Executive, will be ready for mailing shortly. To Locals, 2½ cents each. See that your Local places an order next meeting.

Hail, Toronto! The first to get their money down for affiliation with the Socialist Party of Canada. A fine list of signatures to the application, too. The workers' slogan in the cent-belt, like that in British Columbia, will be "We must write the law."

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NEW YORK AND CHICAGO.

300 laborers on strike at the Republic Iron and Steel Works, East Chicago, may lead up to an entire shut-down of the plant. The men had been receiving as much for seven hours' work on Sunday, as for the ordinary week day of ten hours. When the pay for Sunday work was reduced the men made a demand for an increase of fifteen cents per day which upon being refused, they went on strike. The increase demanded would have brought the wage up to the princely sum of $1.50 per day. The usual scenes of violence occurred at once and a large part of the factory windows were broken.

A big strike is on in the city of New York affecting the entire street railway system. An army of seven hundred strike breakers has been requisitioned by the companies to aid in breaking the strike. One serious accident in which 29 persons were injured, as well as several minor casualities have already occurred. An ultimatum has been issued to the company officials that if they do not come to terms in twenty-four hours the engineers and firemen will be called out. It is a waste of time to predict the utter failure of the strikers in either case, to attain their demands. That they will be whipped is a foregone conclusion. The propensity of workingmen to repeat such performances, time and time again, in the face of defeat that is absolutely certain, must be left among the unexplained psychological phenomena.

MORTIMER STILL IN IT.

The many friends of John T. Mortimer will be pleased to know that even the chill of a Manitoba winter has not succeeded in destroying his interest in questions affecting the welfare of his class, nor his vigor in expressing himself in relation thereto.

A discussion pro and con has been going on of late through the columns of the Winnipeg Voice in which John T. has taken an occasional hand. The following reply to an adversary appeared in the voice of March 3.

To the Editor of the Voice:

Sir—Mr. Allan Thompson is great on assumptions. Indeed, in his reply to my letter of Feb. 7 he wishes those assumptions in every case to have the weight of a proven fact. He says "it is one of the weaknesses of Socialists to deny that there is such a thing as natural law in the distribution of wealth." Now, sir, I for one do not acknowledge such weakness. There is a natural law in the distribution of wealth. The worker produces it and the capitalist absorbs it. That is all the law there is at present. The same kind of law that obtains among other animals than men. The jackal runs down the prey and the lion eats it. He says again. "That the Socialists while they admit that the Creator ordained laws for the government of matter which every raindrop, etc, must obey, they deny that in the moral sphere—for the distribution of wealth is a matter of morals—there is any such thing as natural law, and so seek by their puny wisdom to supply the oversight of the Omniscient." Now, again I must deny the soft impeachment. I don't know—emphasis on the know—that the Creator ordained any kind of law, moral or otherwise; neither for that matter does Mr. Thompson know. He assumes and believes, that is all. So not being guilty on the first count, I am exempt from all that follows and depends on it. But not so Mr. Thompson. He believes the Creator fixed natural laws for the distribution of wealth, and yet don't have sense enough to enforce them until several thousand million years elapsed and Henry George and Mr. Thompson got around with single tax to "supply the oversight of the "Omniscient." As to this being a moral universe, I for one fail to perceive the morality of it. Where is the morality of the wolf preying on the defenceless sheep and the Christian capitalist exploiting child labor? All down the centuries it is one black record of cruelty and wrong, and if there is a time when morals shall govern, methinks 'tis in the distant future. Mr. Thompson is also an adept at changing his ground. In his letter which inspired my attack he distinctly wrote that under single tax "competition would force wages up." I proved that if every worker had a job and "all he earned" the law of competition would cease to operate as far as fixing wages was concerned. Now, he says that the competition would be to see who could become "mentally, morally, spiritually and physically greatest." Now—excepting possibly "spiritually" as I don't know what that means—I never denied that emulation in this respect would continue to exist in any change in the mode of wealth production, but I still insist that the "law of competition would have absolutely nothing to do with fixing wages in the ideal state referred to. Mr. Thompson recognizes, however, that I have put my finger on the weak spot of Single Tax—the justification of interest taxing! But he contents himself with the vague hope that it will not continue. He says, "if it is unjust it will not long survive land monopoly." Why not, Mr. Thompson? Things that are unjust have survived a good many economic changes and maybe interest would live on. He again says, "in this case of interest it will cease with conditions of freedom." Well, sir, I am in accord with that statement, but I deny that single tax will mean freedom for the worker so long as the essential tools of wealth production belong to another and he himself remains an article of merchandise, and so far Mr. Thompson has not made good on this point. In fact, single tax has a meaning and an interest for landlords versus capitalists, and them only. If the capitalists did not have to pay the landlord for the use of land the entire amount would remain in his pocket, the worker would be no better and no worse off than at present. In conclusion I wish to refer to a statement which you quote from Tolstoi as setting forth the Socialist position. He (Tolstoi) says "the Socialists advise workingmen to abandon the land and take possession of factories, etc." I should like to see anybody dig up a statement like that from any Socialist text book. It would be worth looking at. No, sir, the socialist says: get hold of the public power, get possession of the reins of government, then work your sweet will as the capitalists do now; as the feudal lords once did. Take land, take factories, and all you need to suit your own interest. We are not so illogical as the single taxer, who would have us content ourselves with a shovel, when both pick and shovel are necessary.

Yours truly,

John T. Mortimer.

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

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

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

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Special line of Trousers for $3.00

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SPECIAL NOTICE

To Those Who Are Not on the Voters' List.

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

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

R. P. PETTIPIECE.

The wail of the Liberals as they look hungerily towards the treasury benches hath a sound peculiarly like that of an infant squalling for a sugar-tit. Presumably it is prompted by the same motive.

Workingmen Are Always Welcome at

New Fountain Hotel

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Beds, 25 cents per night.
Rooms $1.50 per week and up.

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LOCALS TAKE NOTICE.

We would esteem it an especial favor if a report were sent in for publication of all propaganda meetings held. Also of such occurrences as in any way touch upon the labor question or have any bearing, adversely or otherwise, upon the interests of the men and women who toil.

Matter thus sent in can be made use of in the Clarion columns, although we reserve the privilege of re-writing if necessary. The fourth page of the paper will be given over to party reports, and news matter, and if locals will send in reports and write-ups it can be made of interest to all and of value to the movement in general.

Locals are also invited to insert a notice under "Socialist Directory" head at the rate of one dollar per month.

The militia is never called out to suppress the enemies of the working class, but always for the purpose of strengthening the capitalist's hold upon his wage slaves.—Voice of Labor.

Will the industrial unionism advocated by the Voice of Labor alter the situation?

The Labour Gazette for February says "the month of January was remarkably free from industrial accidents." This is shown by small list of killed and injured during that period. The former numbered but 44 and the latter 104. There were no capitalists included in the list.

IN WATCH REPAIRING

GREAT CARE IS EXERCISED, AS WE ENTRUST THE REPAIR TO EXPERIRNCED WORKMEN ONLY, AND NOT TO APPRENTICES OR AMATEURS.

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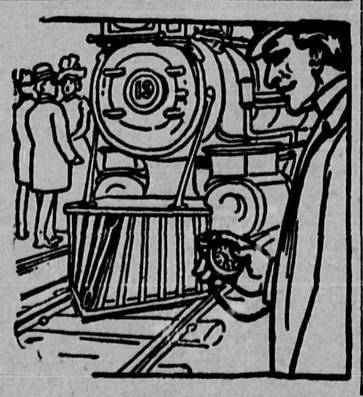

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The Smartest Soft Hat of the Season

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BUSINESS NOTES.

"Wage-Labor and Capital" will come from the Clarion press next week in neat and attractive form. It is one of the best pamphlets issued and should be in the possession of every working man in Canada or elsewhere. With its contents carefully read and thoroughly studied the workers will be well on the way to a complete understanding of himself and his position under the rule of capital and its wage system. Such an understanding cannot be too complete and thorough in order to safely guide him along the line of correct action in the irrepressible conflict between capital and labor which even now is shaping itself, and must reach its culmination in the near future. To acquire this necessitates reading and study. It is a duty every worker not only owes himself but his class.

The publication of "Wage-Labor and Capital" will be followed with other pamphlets of a similar character.

"Wage-Labor and Capital," single copy 5 cents;
6 copies 25 cents;
15 copies 50 cents;
40 copies 50 cents;
40 copies $1.00;
100 copies and over, 2 cents per copy.

These rates include postage to any part of Canada or United States.

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

Lawrence Iverson, of Nelson, B.C. sends $3.75 in payment of five subs gathered at that point. He also promises more to follow. This is the sort of assistance that counts in the long run. Quite needless to say that it is highly appreciated in this office.

We acknowledge quite a list of subs. from Weston Wrigley, of Toronto, Ont. Those who are acquainted with Wrigley know him for a hustler and can therefore understand why the subs.

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