Library, Legislative Assembly
MAR 25 1905
VICTORIA, B. C.

THE WESTERN CLARION

Published in the Interests of the Working Class Alone.

THIS NUMBER 313. VANCOUVER, B. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1905. Subscription Price PER YEAR $1.00

D.. PLAY OF DRAGON'S TEETH

Coarse Exhibition of Vulgarity and Power at Roosevelt Inaugural

Ruling class display is nothing if ot vulgar. Without exception its ociety functions are vulgar to the oint of being disgusting. This is s pronouncedly so of the present rul- ng class as of any of its predeces- ors. The very fact of rule itself is ow, coarse, vulgar and indecent, be- ause it is but the expression of plun- er, rapine, pillage and outrage. The ell-known capitalist habit of gloat- g over its wealth, the result of its illage, the rolling from its tongue randiose, descriptions of the magni- ude of its thievery termed business; nd the profuse economiums bestowed pon its prodigious marauding ex- editions called commerce, marks the resent as the most disgustingly vul- ar ruling class that ever fastened s fangs in the vitals of human so- ety.

However shameless its display of ulgarity, it is equally shameless in splaying its brutal instincts upon ery occasion. Upon days of public remonial it takes particular delight parading before the hypnotized pulace the concrete manifestation its power to enforce its mandate d perpetuate its rule. This display hired assasins armed with rifle and nnon, may be likened to that of a vage beast displaying its fangs as threat of what may be expected ould its food be disturbed.

The United States is supposed to a democratic republic. This does t imply a ruling class. And yet in s republic where all men are sup- sed to be equal before the law, on 4th of the present month was ducted into office a president, a ser- nt of the people, the chief feature the ceremonies being the marching ough the streets of the nation's pital, 40,000 armed and uniformed lians. Such a spectacle should e been sufficient to force the God- s of Liberty to take in washing r a living and the shade of Demo- cy to give up the ghost business. ut of all the gaping multitude t lined the curb while this display barbaric power was passing, who cted the sinister meaning lurking eath the glitter of uniform, the n of bayonet and the rumble of non wheel?

ere the twentieth century disciples He who taught "Peace on Earth," hand to point it out and raise ir pious hands in protest against In so far as we have been able learn they were in evidence upon s auspicious occasion only for the pose of enjoying the edifying spec- le and with pious unction give it ine sanction. A Socialist who eed to be there took in the sig- cance of the display, which was te a remarkable thing for one of t dreamily destructive cult to do. Comrade Franklin H. Wentworth the Appeal to Reason, tell it in own way as follows:

Washington, D. C., March 5, 1905. Teddy's Big Stick; Souvenir of Inauguration!" cried the fakirs. was a short stick, sharpened at end and covered with colored pa- and the people bought them by thousand as mementoes of the

his, the symbol of brutality, con- ed in its psychological signifi- e the essence of yesterday's na- al function.

was military. Thousands and usands of men with guns. Three rs and a half of medievalism with eterogeneous tail of politicians school-boys.

here were nine workingmen—and y looked the frauds they were. workingmen out of forty thou- d. They wore dirty oilcloth capes caps with the miner's lamp as a r. They carried an oilcloth frame which were painted these words: We honor the man who settled strike."

his was labor's share and tribute he inauguration of the president the United States. There were of them, and they hung their ds in a conscious, cringing way they marched behind the "Tariff l." of Cleveland in silk hats and erness coats.

orty thousand soldiers, and nine kingmen, were out to do honor the president, a proportion of con- ers to producers that is radiant significance, and mirrors the s of our civilization.

ile after mile of men on horse- k; so sulendid in gold braid and hers that one wondered why the d in His wisdom had not brought r spirits into the world in the ies of roosters, that they might t out their lives in a society that bored no derision.

ile after mile of marching auto- a; men from the working class no minds save that of their ters. The soldier never thinks. If did there would be no soldiers. re would be no war. There would no capitalism.

s I stood and watched them file in interminable number I felt a b, helpless sense of rage, and I ked curiously into the faces of cheering crowd in an effort to de- the sources of their enthusiasm. were they cheering these men in orm, these men who carried the ruments of murder at their sides s and on their shoulders, and ged them behind them on wheels?

What was there in these men to cheer —these men who all down history have shouldered their pikes or their muskets and gone forth to kill other men; men whom they did not know; men who never did them any harm; men who were loved by women and children at home—as they were?

Was it the music? Was it because the music hunger of the human soul so transported the listening crowd that it could not see it was the fair shield of sound and glitter that covered collective assassination? Was it the rythm of marching feet—but another expression of music-hunger? Ah, then, the stupendous crime of human greed, which covers its lust for power and spoils with trumpet calls that set the spirit swaying till it slays and knows it not!

These marching men were my masters Let me see what light I may; let me have the most entrancing vision of a comrade world that ever came to man; the dead weight of their marching columns, the stupendous power of their ignorance, would crush my ideal in the mire.

We cannot get free alone. No man can be free until all men are free.

"Lordy, look at 'em, Miss Jennie! All a-learnin' how to fight!" said an old colored "auntie" at my elbow as the cadets from West Point marched by.

Twenty centuries of Christianity—and the flower of American youth trained to professional assassination in the "year of our Lord" 1905! Was there ever such stupendous, such stupefying hypocrisy? Theodore Roosevelt kissing the Bible in the hands of of the chief justice of the nation, surrounded by forty thousand muskets!

It was the soldier who made the parade of yesterday; the soldier's hour is on the dial of the American republic. The soldier is the millstone that may yet drag us under.

And yet, as the cavalry galloped by, and a stumbling horse threw his rider to the asphalt not twenty feet away, I was not the last to spring into the road, wave off the troop and drag his senseless body to the curb. He was my brother.

We pushed back the crowd and laid him on the soft earth of the park, till the ambulance might come. He had struck the asphalt with the back of his head. He lay there with a thin stream oozing from between his lips. It was blood—blood and tobacco.

Blood and tobacco! Somehow it seemed to symbolize the whole military tradition.

Blood mixed with poison, with dope—a stupefied manhood. A manhood not yet come to consciousness —mere body, in which the divine light of intelligence had not yet sprung into flame. A huge, collective, ignorant mass moved by strings of greed to crush and blight the budding human flower.

I have mingled much with the people in the last two days; the inauguration brings all sorts and conditions to the capital; but for foulness of utterance and habitual vileness of thought and metaphor, the soldier stands supreme. He seems to be actually the lowest of the human animals on the road towards civilization

I could not help but think, as I went among them, of the congregations of workingmen in which I have mingled during the past year—men with ideals of a better worlds; men of clean conversation, discussing principles; men whose moving motors are idealism and hope for the future. It is a far cry from such an atmosphere to the barracks of the regular army—like passing out of the serene starlight into a foul and noisome den.

You cannot herd men together like swine, without ideals, without principle, with nothing to do but drink, and gamble, and lust, and not get as a result the dregs of immorality.

Militarism is capitalism's most abhorrent crime; it steeps its victims in infamy, and it purchases their thoughtless collective obediance at the cost of all that is noble in man. A common soldier today is the carrying over into daylight of a creature of the night; the survival of a past of which he is the symbol of a human horror. He is the archtype of assassin, who, under the guise of false patriotism, keeps the thought of murder in the world. While governments kill individuals will kill. No life will be sacred until all life is sacred.

ANOTHER HORROR.

Shortly after work had begun in the R. B. Glover shoe factory at Brockton, Massachusetts, on the morning of March 20, a frightful explosion occurred in the boiler room, completely wrecking the building. Fire broke out and within an hour the entire plant was in ashes. At this writing, according to the dispatches, 250 out of the 400 employes have been accounted for, the charred remains of 44 having been taken from the ruins. This leaves 150 still to be accounted for, and to anyone familiar with such happenings the meaning of this will be clear. The list of injured numbers over 50. None of the owners are reporten as being among the killed or injured. Capital has suffered the loss of a few dollars' worth of property. Those dependent upon the labor of the employes killed have lost all that stood between them and starvation. The risks of capital are indeed great.

It appears that Adams, the Democrat, has been ousted from the gubernatorial chair of Colorado and Peabody declared entitled to the seat. This latter person held the office for one day and then resigned in favor of McDonald, the Lieutenant-Governor, another Republican. Thus is afforded an opportunity for the foolish workingmen of that state who boosted for Adams at the late election, to get themselves well in fettle for the time the next election comes round, to make another struggle to get the Republican tweedle-dee out and the Democratic tweedle-dum in. These splendid opportunities to make supreme asses of themselves should, and no doubt will, be made the most of by the wise guys of labor. While they are thus engaged in making asses of themselves the sacred rights of capitalist property are in no way threatened, which makes their action equivalent to "killing two birds with one stone."

Parker Williams' amendment to the Elections Act, reducing the deposit from $200 to $50 is still before the Provincial House.

WISEACRES WRESTLE WITH WIGS

Among the other weighty matters wrestled with by modern legislators we note the following recently introduced into the Provincial House:

"112. The wearing or use of the customary official wigs, or of robes of any color other than black, by Judges, Barristers or Registrars of this Court, during the sitting of the Court or in Chambers, is hereby prohibited.

"Any person violating any provision of the foregoing shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars and not less than ten donllars for each such offence."

A story is told of King George, of the cannibal islands, having secured possession of a battered plug hat in a cocoanut trade with the crew of a passing whaler, being led by the specious argument of those skilled in the art of successful trading, into the belief that it was a crown, without which no king could be reasonably certain of being able to impress his subjects with a proper respect for kingly dignity and authority. In order to produce the largest possible cocoanut return in exchange for the "plug," considerable pains was taken to impress upon him that each European King, and in fact every king of whatever clime, possessed such a crown and because of its peculiar virtues was enabled to maintain his kingship, and enforce due respect for his dignity. Later, another passing whaler brought to the most noble King an account of the Franco-German war which was then on. Within his authority as a king, and with true Kingly dignity, he bestreaked his naked body with various colored clays and pigments, dawned his "crown," gathered his faithful subjects about him and proclaimed in a loud voice and with due solemnity, that in this great struggle between two friendly powers it was his royal wish and purpose to remain strictly neutral. For a quantity of cocoanuts bananas and a fat dog or two, all of which in the exercise of his kingly authority he "swiped" from his subjects, he induced a sailor to place upon parchment his royal will in the form of a proclamation setting forth that which he had orally proclaimed. After this had been duly signed by the royal forefinger dubbed with yellow clay, and the royal seal affixed, the royal forefinger daubed with yelcoanut tree, so that all who passed, whether subject or alien, might read. The ceremony of affixing the royal seal was a most solemn and impressive one performed by swearing the top of the "plug hat" with colored clay and by gentle pressure of the royal hand from the inside, transferring it to the parchment in question.

That King George and his kingdom were thus happily safeguarded from taking sides in that fratricidal struggle between two friendly powers, is even unto this day attributed to the virtues of that battered "plug hat."

However ridiculous such conduct upon the part of savages might appear to us, it is not a whit more so than the flummery and nonsensical ceremonial by which our own ruling class endeavors to invest its acts with an impressive dignity. As there is nothing in rule itself to command the respect of those over whom it is exercised the civilized ruler is forced to resort to garb and ceremonial as absurd as that of the cannibal King George in order to impress his ignorant subjects with a proper respect for his authority, and dignity.

There should be no penalty attached to either the wearing of such official toggery, or the refusal to do so. The consciousness of making a spectacle and a laughing stock of oneself should be punishment enough in the first instance. The latter needs no punishment because it is dictated by common sense.

When the race shall have attained the stature of manhood it will have discarded all such medieval nonsence and ridiculous flummery.

SOME SOUND COMMON SENSE

From One Who is Not of the Class Which Must sell its Labor Power

The strike on the Subway-Elevated car lines in New York City week before last, although one of the most complete tie-ups in the history of strikes, completely collapsed within three or four days of its inauguration. Among the various reasons given for the collapse, one offered by the Literary Digest is possessed of merit. This reason may be summed up in the words: "the alacrity with which other men sought the vacant places." This "alacrity" affords an indisputable index to the condition of the labor market. It clearly indicates a large surplus of labor power available to those who desire to purchase. It shows, therefore, a condition of the labor market decidedly unfavorable to any betterment of prices or conditions of sale. Against such conditions and circumstances no combination of commodity sellers, however powerful they may fancy themselves can prevail. None but the most stupid will make the attempt, at least more than once. To men capable of reasoning one lesson is quite sufficient.

The New York World says: "To the success of any strike four conditions are necessary:

1. There must be a substantial grievance;
2. There must be competent leadership;
3. There must be a clear and strong public sympathy and support.
4. There must be a chance to win."

This lack of reasoning is quite on a par with some of that displayed in so-called labor journals. The fourth condition embodies the whole thing, and that "chance to win" is determined solely by the condition of the labor market. No amount of sophistical reasoning can conjure that "chance to win" out of a market conditioned as is the world's labor market today. The present condition of the labor market—overstocked—has become chronic and must remain so until the system whose child it is comes to an end. The World's conditions, one, two and three, under no circumstances have anything to do with the matter. They are as flat as stale beer.

Rival labor trusts will accuse the leaders of the one directly interested in this stupid affair with having betrayed the rank and file. This may or may not be true. If any betrayal has occurred it has been at the hands of those who have led the rank and file to believe there was a "chance to win," and in any manner encouraged or aided them in attempting the impossible task. In this the spokesmen of the rival labor trusts are equally guilty with the leaders directly concerned. One journal comes to hand which refers to the tie-up as a "magnificent exhibition of combined working class action." It appears to be true that all of the employes went out as one man, but that it was not working-class action is proven by the fact that others took their places almost immediately. The men left their posts in the face of an overstocked labor market, and their places were at once filled from the surplus stock available. It was a magnificent exhibition of folly but happily not "working-class" folly, as it was confined to a mere handful of workmen who were evidently misled by the cocksure volubility of those to whom they looked for wise counsel and safe guidance. With labor power as a commodity and more laborers than jobs the wage must inevitably tend towards the lowest possible life line. A large number of laborers cannot be fitted into a limited number of jobs, so long as the class that profits by the labor owns the jobs. That some workers may have jobs others must be idle. That some may draw wages others must go hungry. As the job and wages proposition cannot be made to apply to all workers, the factors necessary for class solidarity are wanting, the elements of cohesion are lacking among the workers, and the class action becomes both impossible and unthinkable. To refer to the part taken by workmen in these squabbles, that are merely incidental to the congested condition of the labor market of capitalism, is about as senseless as the babble of infants, or the whine of puppies not yet nine days old.

To hurl invictives at those who take the places made vacant by the strikers is equally senseless. That the surplus labor in the market will flow in wherever a vacancy occurs is reasonably certain. To expect it to do otherwise is equivalent to expecting the surrounding water to refrain from filling the hole made by dipping out a pailful.

The class interest of the workers demands the abolition of the wage system. It is a class interest because the benefits to come from its accomplishment are applicable to every member of the working class. It being a class interest it alone can weave the ties of class solidarity. Being a class interest it contains within itself the elements of cohesion to bind the workers together for class action. It alone can comprehend, develop, and wage to successful conclusion, the class struggle of the slaves of capital against the economic rule of their present conscienceless and unscrupulous masters.

THE SUBWAY-ELEVATED STRIKE

Some Reason Why it Collapsed Inside of a Week.

Rufus W. Weeks, of the class of 1863, Newark High School, actuary and second vice-president of the New York Life Insurance Company, delivered an address upon the topic, "The most enteresting Phenomena of the Twentieth Century," at the dinner of the Alumni Association on March 1. The speaker declared that the problem of Socialism would be the coming question to be dealt with and when he had finished his address most of his auditors apparently agreed with him. He developed his subject in the manner of a geometrical proposition. He said:

"That great movement of which we have seen the beginning in the nineteenth century, and of which the twentieth century is likely to see the consumation, is the uprising of the working class.

"Before speaking of this movement let me spend a few uninteresting moments in definitions. By the term working class is meant those people who work with their hands for wages; the term, therefore, does not include all workers, by any means, but only the largest section of the workers called the manual proletariat, whom the conditions of their employment force into a potentiality of common feeling and thought, of a common indignation, a sense of common needs, and a sense of power in common action.

"Other workers have not this potentiality of community consciousness; for instance, there are the farmers, the clerks, the professional workers. The farmers imagine themselves independent units, and do not know the trick of coalescing for common advance, the clerks all imagine themselves to be on the road to be head clerks or even corporation officials, and so cannot league together in comradeship; the professional worker is dominated by pride in his individual ability and training, and so he cannot grasp the notion of mutual help as the main hope.

"The working class then, the proletariat so-called, means those who are hired in herds, mostly by corporations, and mostly to work at machines of one kind or another; from the point of view of the corporation they are simply an extension of the machine. This very merging of these men into the machine throws them into a unity with each other; it is an education, it teaches the hopelessness of resistence except by the way of mutual help; and so from guerillas they are forced to become a phalanx. Slowly, slowly the lesson is ground into them; slowly the phalanxes themselves learn the trick of grouping into an army. An army of resistence, not essentially of aggression; for their effort is to resist that inexorable inevitable constant pressure which is inherent in the capitalist system of production—the pressure of the employing class to get the utmost product out of the worker for the least possible share in that product. It is this pressure and the answering resistence which are called the class struggle; the class struggle is hence a mathematical and economic fact, though so many of our pastors and masters unite in pious rebukes of the wicked agitator who points out that fact.

"Now what is the weapon with which, thus far, the working class has been fighting in this war? Only that poor, pathetic weapon—ceasing to work—comically miscalled "striking.' Their own starvation is their weapon, coupled, of course, with clumsy efforts to enforce the dictates of class ethics upon those weak-conscienced individuals who shirk the call to starvation.

"But now it is dawning upon the mind of the proletarian giant that there is another weapon handy; we of the 'better classes' created it for him when we established universal suffrage, and we put the responsibility of the use of it into his mind when we established universal education. Gifts, these (the suffrage and education) which having once given we can never take back. The new weapon is the ballot; and what will it mean when the working class awakes and takes this weapon in hand to work out their mind? The ballot means the whole power of the State courts, police, army, and what will happen when the working class takes in hand all these powers to establish and enforce the idea of justice innate in its mind?

"Even in this country the numerical preponderance of the working class grows apace. The successive censuses tell the story in such items as these: The rapidly diminishing ratio of farm owners to the entire population, the declination and reduction to powerlessness of the small independent business men, the deposition of the male clerk by his sister; and, greatest of all, the enormous increase of the factory population. The coming dominance of the working class even here is as sure as mathematics; in Europe it is already a numerical fact; and twenty years ago I heard James Bryce say that the drastic use of this power is only a matter of a few years, being a corollary of the universal suffrage. The ballot-armed proletariat, awake and aware, will then be able to work out its purpose; the grave question now is: What will that purpose be?

"There is in the world a group of thinkers who think they know the answer to this question. This group is international. Its members are most numerous in Germany, next in France, but increasing now in Great Britain and rapidly in this country. These men are unsparing analysts, and inexorable forecasters; they have sounded the depths of the self-unconscious proletarian mind, and they have announced what the will of the working class is to be, as fast as it comes to its sense of itself. Of course, there are critics aplenty in the cultured classes who handle the conclusions of this group with all shades of condemnation and contempt; but these critics themselves are of many and shifting schools, and amidst them all what alone remains unchanged is the terrible certitude of the Socialists, for by this name is known the group I mean. They alone feel they know the future; none of their critics dare speak with any confidence or an alternative outlook."—The Socialist.

PRODUCE TOO MUCH.

Nanaimo, March 22.—With every car full of coal and the big bunkers loaded to the top, the mines of the Wellington Colliery Company have closed down because there is nowhere to put the coal that is coming out of them. Oyster harbor is empty of shipping and no vessel is expected there for some little time. Under the circumstances, the miners will have an enforced holiday for the present.

In order to work Extension mines to best advantage the single-shift system which was introduced here by the Western Fuel Company is to be employed. This will necessitate the discharging of several hundred men; —Daily press.

Thus it is with the workers under capitalist production. They produce so much wealth that it cannot be disposed of. And yet there is a most crying need for this wealth among the very class that produces it. While the capitalists may boast of "our" wealth and express great satisfaction thereat, the satisfaction of having produced it all will come home to the workers in the shape of insecure tenure of employment, frequent enforced idleness and the pinching poverty incidental to it. The discharging of "several hundred men." by the Wellington Colliery Company, means that these men must seek employment elsewhere, only to be confronted by similar conditions. Still the merry game goes on, the country is safe, and capitalist property still rules.

As the more rapidly they produce wealth the sooner they are thrown out of employment, the workers ought to see the necessity of shirking at their work in order that their jobs might last the longer. As the only incentive a worker can have under the present system is to perpetuate his job, if the rule of shirking were followed out, it would no doubt prove a great relief to those who fear that "incentive" may in some way be destroyed.

SUSTAINED HIS REPUTATION.

W. W. B. McInnes, who is known in the British Columbia legislature as "the Honorable member for Alberni," recently visited Seattle and bought a sack of peanuts, or indulged in a "peanut bust" as it were, according to a Victoria exchange.

While under the mellowing influence of the intoxicating peanut he was interviewed by a reporter of the Seattle News, who wrote up a column of the taffy usually dished out by so much per week scribes of reportorial fancy and belly-crawling propensity.

The News man in his write-up, unconsciously perhaps, paid just tribute to those qualifications that McInnes is known to possess in no mean degree, and which has made him famous, in the following words:

"All the reporter could get from the dimunitive Canadian statesman were a few more peanuts.

"Mr. McInnes is an entertaining conversationalist. He talked freely, answered all questions and discussed fully matters of moment to his country. But when away from the influence of his personality and with only a coldly unsympathetic typewriter for inspiration, it becomes alarmingly apparent to the reporter that Mr. McInnes really said nothing at all."

For uttering the largest volume of nothing in the loudest voice, and using the most words in doing it, the alphabetical McInnes holds the championship of British Columbia. To know that his well-deserved provincial reputation in this respect is sustained when abroad, and even when under the intoxicating influence of the Seattle peanut is gratifying indeed, and tends to at least in a measure detract from the sting of the reporter's reference to him as a "diminutive statesman."

The pastors in New Brunswick, N. J. (N. J., no josh), have formed a union and are affiliated with the central labor body of that city. We shall henceforth accept no goods in that line that do not bear the union label.

Just why those who believe in and support the present profit-mongering system should object to the "Beef Trust" and Standard Oil magnates taking advantage of the opportunities it affords, passeth understanding. To say the least their squeals are illogical in the extreme.

The Western Clarion

Published every Saturday in the interests of the Working Class alone at the office of the Western Clarion, Flack block basement, 165 Hastings street, Vancouver, B. C.

SUBSCRIPTION: $1.00 PER ANNUM

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SATURDAY ... ... March 25, 1905

THE UNEMPLOYED PROBLEM.

That there are many unemployed men in Vancouver at present cannot be successfully denied. That this condition of unemployment is not voluntary upon the part of these idle men, is well known. That much privation and even suffering results from it is indisputably true. Similar conditions prevail in every centre of population of any size upon this western continent. The proportion of unemployed is greater, the larger the city, and the volume and intensity of the privation and suffering correspondingly more pronounced. It is difficult for those of us who have lived for years in the country districts or smaller towns, to conceive of the unspeakable miseries that must be the daily portion of the great sweltering mass of unemployed and starving wretches that are herded together within the confines of the great cities. To fully realize the dull, sodden, hopeless misery of great masses of workers in the cities—the very lowest strata of the working class—one must needs live their life, share their misery, experience the soul-crushing and hope-blasting torture of their miserable existence.

To have hunger ever gnawing at the vitals, to be scantily clad in the winter months, to wander aimlessly up and down the city's streets in search of work; to be forced to depend upon the scanty crumbs of the labor market; to be ever haunted by the fear of being turned into the street; to see wife and babe pine and fade for lack of things the father cannot find means to provide; to be forced to become the recipient of charity at the hands of pious frauds and humbugs; to be driven to do a thousand and one things against which every worthy instinct of manhood rises up in fierce rebellion; to be plunged over the precipiece into the sinkhole of perdition in which the jewel of womanhood is lost never to be regained; to suffer all of these horrors within the shadow of the warehouses filled to the bursting point with everything needful to human comfort and well-being; to find every avenue of escape from these horrors barred by the strong arm of the organized forces of modern society; these are indeed miseries and horrors beyond the power of language to describe. The most fervid imagination is unequal to the task. To picture it requires the tutorship of actual experience. Rarely does he who lives the life for any length of time retain the mental and moral stamina to wield the brush.

Stories, pitiful in the extreme, come to us of the enormous mass of unemployed, and the tremendous volume of consequent poverty and suffering in the large cities of England, more especially, London. Huge demonstrations have been held on Trafalgar square, and delegations have been sent to the House of Parliament to urge upon the government the necessity of adopting measures to relieve the unemployed and hungry men. The delegations have been coldly turned down and treated to contumely and insult, which to every one familiar with present-day governments was to be expected.

The working man is the most peculiar animal on earth. He will starve longer in sight of the very food he requires to satisfy the gnawings of his stomach, without making any serious effort to seize it, than any other animal in the category. But some day he will make a move towards getting it. There will be something doing then.

At a demonstration held in Trafalgar square, on Feb. 26, one of the speakers took occasion to remark that if the delegation sent to the House of Parliament was not strong enough to get in, it was time for them to "follow the Cromwell example and send one in sufficient number and force next time to clear the lot out," and added that, "It would be as good a clearance of corruption as when Hercules cleared the Augean stables."

Another speaker, a parson by the way, said that, "he recognized that until they did away with capitalism they would not have solved the unemployed problem." He then gave them a mild castigation which could easily be made to fit the backs of a lot of workingmen on this side of the pond, in the following words: "He was not going to advise them to be shot down, as he did not think they had sufficient spirit to revolt; they were a pack of curs, blind to their own interests, and always voting for Liberals and Tories." All of which was not bad for a parson.

The key to the situation is the House of Parliament, in England or any other country. It must be captured by the working class as a first step towards the abolition of the present system of property under which the workers suffer such intense and overwhelming misery, alongside of the most gigantic wealth production the world has ever known.

The workers of England should capture the House of Parliament at the hustings if possible. Should they fail there it were well to study up on the Cromwell method.

STATE CAPITALISM.

The state of Kansas has decided to build and operate an oil refinery, the building of which will necessitate an initial outlay of $400,000. It is to be operated with convict labor. Ostensibly this move has been made in order to relieve the independent producers of the so-called terrible exactions of the Standard Oil Co., whose offending seems to be in a refusal to pay the price for crude oil which the pockets of the "independents" deem a suitable one. In their fight against the Standard, the "independents" have been assisted by the consumers whose pockets have told them that the Standard has been charging them too much for the refined product. We say their respective pockets have told them of these alleged unfair practices upon the part of the Standard, advisedly, for it is such a well-known fact as to be almost an axiom, that the present buying and selling, profit-mongering civilization thinks only with its pocket book. As the brain of the profit-mongering tribe lies in its pocket book, the pocket becomes its think tank and its every move is determined by that which the convolutions of its wad may dictate.

Whether the Standard has or has not been guilty of arbitrarily and unfairly fixing the price of crude oil, as well as that of the refined product is of little consequence. The fact remains that this concern is the logical result of the competitive system. It represents a huge volume of capital, expressed in its refineries, pipe lines and distributing facilities, and it is closely allied with the railroads and other great industries, by virtue of the fact that the same men (big capitalists) practically own them all. With its enormous and powerful equipment it is enabled to marshal and effectively organize in oil production, a huge army of wage laborers, against whose onslaughts lesser capitalists cannot stand up in competition. As these lesser capitals are crushed to the wall their owners cry out in agony and rush wildly around in search of means with which to defend themselves. In their desperation they appeal to the State for relief. Anti-trust, anti-discrimination and anti-all-kinds of laws are passed, only to prove of no avail. It is needless to say that all of these efforts to check the development of capital, by trying to compel it to refrain from exercising its legitimate privileges, are purely reactionary.

The United States is in the very vanguard of capitalist development. It furnishes the most fruitful field for a study of that development of any country on earth. As capitalism there had no feudalism to overthrow, and its struggle with chattel slavery arose under such conditions and surrounded by such circumstances as to render it easy to overthrow it and whip its votaries into submission, it may be said to have had a practically clear field in which to develop its power. In consequence of this, that which has taken centuries to bring about in other countries, has been accomplished in the United States almost within the memory of men now living. From comparatively humble beginnings has grown up the mightiest capitalism on earth.

Practically unhampered in its development this western capitalism has become especially skillful in the application of the basic principle from which all capital comes, and upon the continuation of which depends its stability. That principle is the skinning of wage labor. In the United States especially has this been reduced to a fine art. It has been left for the state of Kansas to introduce a new departure in the art of labor-skinning, that may well cause every wage laborer to bend his brow in thought. The action taken by Kansas and being approved of and taken up by Texas, Oklahoma, California and other states, has a more sinister significance to the wage slave than anything that has occurred since that class came into existence upon American soil. Let us see what has taken place.

The "small fry" in the profit-mongering world find themselves unable to withstand the onslaughts of the Standard with its huge capital and well-organized labor force. These "small fry" fall back upon the State for assistance, and the state is at the present in their hands. With the cold, brutal and calculating cunning of the reactionary driven into a corner, the State legislature comes to their assistance by establishing state oil refineries to be "operated by convict labor." The Standard buys labor in the open market, of course being compelled to pay the market rate or wage. The Kansas "small fry" are to be furnished a labor that costs nothing but prison fare. As the expense of this prison fare would have to be met whether the convicts worked or not it practically means that the "small fry" are to get their labor for nothing. A more cunning and artful scheme could not well be concocted.

If this Kansas scheme be promptly followed up by a number of other states, it will keep the Standard guessing as to how to offset it, unless it can enlist the aid of the federal power. As that power is in the hands of the big capitalists it may be possible for them to frustrate the scheme, but it is a matter of a short time only until they will be compelled to resort to enforced labor themselves. If the "small fry" succeed in their state oil refinery venture it is not a far cry until other industries will be taken up in a similar manner until the present freedom to chase a job will have become a legend.

It may be suggested that the schemes of these "small fry" would not carry to any great extent because of a lack of sufficient convicts to man the industries.. To any one at all familiar with the easy manner in which the ruling class always adapts itself to circumstances, such a suggestion would not be worth considering. The stretching out of the penal code and the selection of a few qualified judges and police officials is an easy matter and could be made to meet all requirements. It is safe to say that the Vancouver chain-gang could at this moment be stretched out by 500 men, should it be deemed necessary by the ruliag class, and that, too, without altering the penal code or unduly stretching the conscience of either police or judiciary. Like everything else it is only a question of power.

While careless babblers may refer to the Kansas episode as a Socialist move, let every workingman understand it for what it really is—a move toward state capitalism, which if allowed to go unchecked must result eventually in the loss to the workers of even the miserable privileges they now enjoy. A state capitalism builded upon convict labor means a disfranchised working class reduced to the lowest depths of slavery; a working class that to obtain its freedom must resort to the club and bludgeon.

Whatever move is made by the profit-mongering tribe, whether big capitalists or "small fry," should, upon general principles, be looked upon with suspicion by the workers. It cannot be otherwise than fraught with sinister meaning to them. "Straws show which way the wind blows." The Kansas move is a straw well worth watching.

The readers attention is especially called to the words of Rufus W. Weeks, vice-president of the New York Life Insurance Company, as found upon the first page of this issue. No additional weight should be given them because of Mr. Week's position. His statements should be weighed and judged upon their merits. If he is able to so clearly see the drift of things, how much more readily should he who lives the daily life of the wage slave see it.

It is indeed a cheering sign when the students and thinkers of today are being forced to acknowledge the correctness of the Socialists' conclusions. Especially trite and to the point is Mr. Week's criticism of the strike as a weapon. Our fanatical trade union friends might ponder over it without losing anything worth saving.

The machinery of wealth production is the great organizer of labor in the economic field. Under capitalist ownership the purpose of the organization is to produce surplus value for the owners. Let the ownership be transferred to the working class and the purpose becomes changed to that of producing useful things for the owners. As the organizer of labor its power remains unchanged.

A GROWING TENDENCY.

The student of affairs in the United States has of late years been more or less disturbed over the growing tendency of the executive branch of government to usurp power and authority which was supposed to be vested in Congress. We notice that writers upon the other side of the Atlantic are becoming disturbed over a similar tendency in evidence there. Complaint is made of the decadence of the British House of Commons, the revival of the House of Lords as a blocking power, and the increased influence of the Crown. This phenomena should in no way disturb he who is informed as to the economic development of human society, and the influence it exerts in the shaping of all social institutions. In the infancy of capitalism, while the common people still had a voice in the conduct of industrial affairs, government must of necessity have confined itself to those things which might properly be termed matters relating to the public welfare. Whether the common people did or did not actively participate in government, there was little motive for those who conducted its affairs to go outside their authority and break down the traditional customs and usages in vogue. With the growth and development of capitalist property the working people gradually lost all voice and influence in the conduct of industrial affairs, the control passing over entirely into the hands of capital. Government is an unthinkable proposition separate and apart from property. As capital slowly but surely forged ahead and capitalist property thus raised itself to the position of being the dominant form of property in industry, it logically followed that to sustain its dominance industrially, it was a matter of necessity that it likewise control the machinery of government. Without such support no form of property which divides society into warring economic classes, could long survive. To whatever extent the British House of Commons, or the United States House of Representatives, may have been the forum and safeguard of the rights of the common people, it is as plain as a pikestaff that this has been lost in like ration to their (the common people) loss of influence in or control of industrial affairs. As capital has developed in power and forged to the front by usurping control of industry, in like ratio has it forged ahead in its usurpation of the powers of government. Government, the expression of property, is of necessity the instrument of that form of property which is master in the field of industry. Government must conserve the needs of that property, even if it becomes necessary to violate and outrage the customs and traditions of the ages.

It is a well-known fact that the industries of the United States are practically owned by a mere handful of the people. A few giant corporations, because of their ownership of the vast capital required to successfully operate the great industries, actually dominate the entire industrial field. The government is their instrument and must do their bidding. There is no more warrant for the assumption that the so-called common people have anything to say in affairs of government, than there would be in assuming that they have anything to say in the affairs of industry. As the common people lose control of industry, likewise does their control of government vanish into thin air and become a myth.

Little use to complain of the usurpation of power by the executive. It is not only logical that it should occur, but absolutely imperative from the stand-point of capitalist property. It will continue in spite of our feeble protests and wailings.

Houses of Parliament have already become little short of a farce, Their farcical character will continue until the workers shall have gained sufficient knowledge and developed enough stamina, to take hold of the power of government in toto, and wield those powers in defence of a system of property in conformity with public needs and the public welfare.

The so-called strike in the economic field in no manner threatens the ending of class rule. It can at most but temporarily disturb it, and call forth the exercise of its harsher features, as was the case recently in Colorado.

It is an utter impossibility to fit a large number of wage slaves into a smaller number of jobs. Because of this all combinations of workers for the purpose of bettering conditions under capitalism, sooner or later float helpless derelicts upon the sea of the labor market, without course, compass, rudder or steerageway. It neither adds to, nor detracts from, their sea-going qualities, to dub them either "pure and simple" or industrialists.

The vision of the social revolutionist is bounded solely by the working class and its emancipation from wage bondage. He cannot be led aside to participate in the petty squabbles that occur within the confines of the slave camp, the labor market. All workers look alike to him, and in his vocabulary there is no such word as scab, as the term is all too frequently applied.

In the saying, "Man, know thyself," lieth much wisdom, which might be applied with equal force to economic classes in human society. The volume of misery suffered by the working class is the price it pays for not knowing itself, its position, its mission and its strength.

Modern civilization is a huge cauldron in which the flesh, blood, bone and muscle of the working class is cooked into a hideous stew termed profit. The odor arising from this horrible cauldron is a stench in the nostrils of Man, but a sweet-smelling incense in the nostrils of Capital.

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The Economics of Labor

A Lecture Delivered by H. QUELCH.

wealth is produced by labor and ts object, not its source, which lines whether wealth is or is pital. Capital, then, is simply ult of past labor used to assist labour in producing wealth er to produce profit for its It is clear, then, that capi- es its existence to labor and have been preceeded by labor. the mischevious results of re- the proper order of these two s is that economists repre- bor as dependent upon capital. , they say, is the result of nd abstinence on the part of pitalist, who makes advances thriftless workman while he king. Profit and interest are ard which the capitalist re- or his thrift and abstinence— ural, economic reward receiv- ough making these advances. l this is entirely fallacious. does not make any advance r. Generally speaking, labor advances to capital. The n, as a rule, works a week rnight before he receives any s at all, and during that increases the value of his r's capital by far more than ves in wages. The capitalist ot subsist him during that e pays him the cost of his nce after he has done his ot before. And even then the t does not really give him beyond an order on other to supply him with a cer- antity of food, clothing and all of which, bear in mind, en produced, not by the capi- but by these other wage la- A man's wages are only so far as they enable him old of these various commo- produced by other laborers. y, then, he merely exchanges lt of his labor with that of borers, all of which must ne- be produced before it can nged. All that the capital- is to act as a go-between himself well for performing t somewhat badly.

profit and interest are the of abstinence is not less fal- than that capital subsists r that capital is the result ence. The natural economic f abstinence is the result of re. If two of us have ten each, and one spends his while the other saves his, t is that on the morrow one shillings and the other has he. The reward for the ab- one is the possession of ten and freedom from headache. continued abstinence from the ten shillings will not ten shillings grow, and the his abstinence becomes no om long-continued contem- According to the orthodox this ten shillings should d grow, so long as its own- ined from using it. But if left alone it is quite certain would not increase at all, s necessary to seek for an- urce than mere abstinence return to capital represented st and profit.

and interest have their s all wealth, in the labor of kers, applied to natural ob- What we are immediately d with is the consideration w, if they are the result of ey go to others than the Nobody, except the econo- elieve profits to be the re- thrift and abstinence—and it doubtful if the economists es believe it. They appear put this forward as a jus- for what is morally unjus- s an ethical basis for what lly unsound. But the ma- people are not troubled by tions of abstract ethics in of business. They do not, consider if profit is the re- the practice of any virtue; profit is the reward of as- in business, of the practice t of buying cheap and sell- which art is the perfection ercialism. Yet this theory llacious as the other, and ses in consequence of the which I have before referred, oduction today—capitalist n—is not carried on for the of supplying human needs, the production of profit. ntly you have, not the pro- f articles of utility, per se, production of commodities t upon the market to sell. he characteristic feature of alist system which distingu- from preceding stages of development. Whereas un- r economic conditions pro- was carried on primarily for only superfluities were sold nged, production today is n primarily for exchange.

daeval times, with all the serfdom, there was this ad- that people used to grow eat, make clothes to wear, houses to live in. Now, s it may seem, we do not d to eat, make clothes to build houses to live in. All ngs are made to sell at a th the result that we have ed food, shoddy clothing, -built houses. The sooner e destroyed or tumble to better for everybody, ex- unfortunate purchaser. With ge in economic conditions come a change in the po- e religious, and the social the life of the community. val times the feudal chief- absolute master—land was nant economic factor. But growth of manufacture, of n for sale, the rise of the e meant the downfall of The plutocrat supplanted , capitalism became king. nobility" of England to- successful brewers, bankers rs, and the Nonconformist e dominates in the place of Holy Mother Church. These facts go to illustrate what I have already incidentally pointed out, that the economic conditions dominate all other conditions. Economic dominance is bound to secure political and religious dominance, the owner of capital being master in the material field of economics, dominates in all other departments of life. On the other hand, attempts to secure political power without economic freedom meet with but sorry success. The political atmosphere is probably more corrupt in America than in any other country in the world, because there you have a sham political democracy on top of a real economic plutocracy. There capitalism is unrestricted by any of the old feudal traditions which still have some influence in other countries, it is absolute monarch, and the pretended freedom of the American people only serves to gild the chains that enslave them.

This, then, is the economic system of today, the production of commodities to be put upon the market to sell, for profit. From this arises the very general impression that it is on the market, and in the process of exchange, that profit is made; that people make their profit by buying cheap and selling dear. This, I say, is the general view, and yet a very little consideration should be sufficient to demonstrate that it is impossible for everybody to be buying cheap and selling dear. If one buys cheap somebody has to sell cheap, and if one sells dear someone has to buy dear, and although sometimes here and there one goes under, and some here and there make fortunes, they are all, generally speaking, daily and yearly getting richer. Now to suggest that they are getting rich at each other's expense is as absurd as the statement that the inhabitants of the Scilly Isles make a precarious living by taking in each others' washing. "Dog doesn't eat dog," and capitalist does not exploit capitalist. He cannot. The higgling of the market is simply a gambling with the products of other men's labor, but it produces no more than gambling does as a rule. If you in this room had a hundred pounds and started gambling with it, and kept it up till tomorrow this time, some of you woulh probable be richer and some poorer than when you started, but your hundred pounds would not aave increased by a red cent. But, as I have said, apart from these individual losses and gains, the whole capitalist class grow richer, and apparently in this process of gambling among themselves. Yet, as you must see, this is only apparent, not real. It is not here that gains are made. All that the process does eventually is to determine the proportion of the surulus value each partner in the long firm shall take. What would you have? "Honor among thieves. And the capitalist cannot keep all his gains for himself, but must share them out with his hangers-on and assistants, the landlord, the lawyer, the parson, the prince.

Just now, however, the question we are concerned with is how he comes by his gains rather than how he apportions them. We have seen that they are not really the reward of abstinence, and that they are not created in the process of exchange—seeing that neither abstinence nor exchange, can of themselves create anything.

If, however, we pursue our investigation of this process of exchange we may discover the actual source of the surplus value which is gambled with therein. If we conclude that there is no ultimate gain made simply by the exchange of commodities we arrive at this, that over the whole area of exchange there is a general average, that taking the whole mass of exchanges, all commodities exchange at equal values. The price of one commodity may rise above, that of another fall below, its normal value, but the two exchanges cancel this difference, and falls or rises in individual instances make no more difference in the rule as to the exchange of equal values than the rise and fall of the waves of the sea make to the sea level. But what is this value which must be equal in any two commodities which exchange for each other? So many pairs of shoes, for instance will exchange for a watch; but what is there in common between the boots and the watch? Nothing but this, that they are both the embodiment of a certain amount of human labor. The amount of socially necessary human labor that is expended on a commodity determines its value in exchange with any other commodity. This is simply an exemplification of the theory of the older economists—Adam Smith and others—that the cost of production was the basis of value. Karl Marx has taken this theory and given it a scientific value by amplification and limitation.

We say, for instance, socially necessary human labor. If it takes as much labor to produce a watch as would produce two pairs of boots, then, generally speaking, two pairs of boots are of equal value with one watch and the boots and watch will exchange for each other. If a man took twice as long as was ordinarily necessary to make a pair of boots, that would not make his one pair of boots equal a watch as a value in exchange. If, however, by some improved method of production watches could be produced with one-half the usual amount of labor, while the cost in labor of producing boots remained the same, the result would be that the value of watches in exchange with boots would fall to one-half, and whereas formerly one watch equalled two pairs of boots it would now only exchange for one pair. It is sometimes attempted to disprove this theory on the ground that it is the utility of a thing and not its cost of production which determines its value. But a coat as an article of utility remains the same, although its exchange value may fall considerably as the result of improved methods of production. The utility of a loaf of bread, as compared with a gold watch, to a starving man may be incalculable, but it makes no difference to their relative values in exchange. Objectors to this theory will point to a picture which will fetch a fabulous price, or to a man dying of thirst in a desert, who would give all his possessions for a cup of water, as facts that tell against it. Let me point out that we are dealing with the production of commodities, commodities the production of which is practically unlimited and which are produced to sell on the market, to exchange for profit. The picture and the cup of water are both monopolies which are outside the sphere of our present enquiry

It appears to me so obvious that the exchange of commodities must be the exchange of articles of equal value, and that value based upon the cost of production, that I would not weary you by laboring this point, but that such constant attempts are made to disprove this by dragging in monopolies of one kind or another, which have absolutely no bearing on the point at issne. Now it must be clear that if by any means the price of any commodity could be forced up beyond its normal value the result would be that labor and capital would be directed in increased measure to the production of that commodity until the increased supply reduced the price to the normal level. If, on the other hand, the price fell below the value of a commodity, production would shrink until the increased supply reduced the price to the normal level, and, so far from disproving, actually prove, beyond the shadow of question, the absolute truth of the theory of the basis of value.

(Concluded next issue.)

TURBULENT FELLOWS.

A Jersey City Cigar Firm advertised "Girls Wanted." About 400 men and boys blocked the factory entrance, and rudely clamored for work. They even had the impudence to assert that they could do the work as well as girls. The only redeeming feature of their conduct was that they offered to work just as cheap as the girls. A force of police had to be summoned to drive the turbulent fellows away, and thus secure to the girls the "sacred right to work."

A bomb was thrown from the window of a house on Volsk street, Warsaw, Poland, on the evening of Mar. 21, into a passing patrol of police and infantry. Six soldiers and two policemen were seriously injured. The bomb was totally destroyed.

For the conversion of his money into capital, the owner of money must meet in the market with the free laborer; free in the double sense, that as a free man he can dispose of his labor power as his own commodity, and that on the other hand he has no other commodity for sale, is short of everything necessary for the realization of his labor power.—Marx.

Turn and twist then as we may, the fact remains unaltered. If equivalents are exchanged, no surplus value results, and if non-equivalents are exchanged, still no surplus value. —Marx.

MRS. SMITH'S TOUR.

Tacoma, Wash., March 18, 1905.

To Clarion Readers:

Have just returned from a short lecture trip through the coast cities of British Columbia, stopping at Port Angeles, Wash., on return.

My first stopping place was Victoria, where I was met by several local comrades, and after exchanging greetings we repaired to the House of Parliament. Here we had the pleasure of seeing and hearing two of our comrades, Williams and Hawthornthwaite, endeavoring to uphold the working class interests. They at least succeed in keeping the capitalist hirelings, who constitute the balance of the House, informed of the fact that there is a working class in British Columbia. I hope to live to see the day when we shall have a majority in the government houses of the land, that we may do something for our class besides notifying the capitalists that we are on earth.

We had three splendid meetings at Victoria. From there I went to Ladysmith, where I spoke on Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. A large number of the comrades that I met a year and a half ago were conspicuous by their absence, having gone to other parts in search of a master. They took too active a part in the campaign of 1903.

The next stop was at Nanaimo, where I spoke on Sunday at 8 p.m. Again I missed the faces of many of the old comrades, but was greeted with a large and enthusiastic audience of several hundred people.

The next morning at six o'clock I took the steamer for Vancouver, where I was welcomed by a number of the old comrades, among whom was our faithful friend and worker, Bertha Merrill Burns. Later in the day I had the pleasure of meeting many of the old comrades, English, Pettipiece, Burns, Cameron, Stebbings, Pritchard and others. I tell you, comrades, when your brain grows weary, and you feel life weakening under the strain of work, it seems to put new vigor into you, and renew your inspiration, to meet those noble workers who toil on year in and year out, with no reward except the thought that some day the race will enjoy a better environment, as the result of their work. When the day dawns that shall see the revolution carry the working class to victory the comrades of British Columbia will be found in the front ranks.

The largest meeting of my trip was held in Vancouver, there being 1,000 present at the City Hall on the evening of March 6. From Vancouver I returned to Victoria, where I spoke tuesday evening and Wednesday afternoon. We had a large meeting of women with the object in view of organizing a Socialist Sunday school. From Victoria I went to Port Angeles, Washington. Arriving on Thursday morning I was met by a delegation of about forty comrades. Stayed four days, and during that time held four meetings, had a rousing social and dance, and organized a Socialist Sunday school with forty members, men, women and chilhren. The Local cleared several dollars which is to be the beginning of a Socialist library which is something much needed in all small towns. Arrived home on Monday night tired in mind and body, but glad at heart for I can see the social revolution drawing nearer.

Irene Smith.

The circulation of commodities is the starting point of capital. The production of commodities, their circulation, and that more developed form of their circulation called commerce, these form the historic ground work from which it arises. The modern history of capital dates from the creation in the 16th century of a world-embracing commerce and a world-embracing market.—Marx.

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any day you are hungry. Just around the corner from the Socialist headquarters.

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So peculiar, complex, and wonderful is this web of life, that our very blunders, weaknesses and mistakes are woven in and make the fabric stronger.

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.

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.

DOMINION EXECUTIVE MEETING

Vancouver, March 19, 1905.—(Room 10, Masonic block.)—Present: J. M. Cameron, (chairman), A. J. Wilkinson, C. Peters, John E. Dubberly, W.H.Flowers, Alf. Leah, Organizer Kingsley and the secretary.

Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

The following communications were read:

From F. J. Peel, Toronto, enclosing $5 and application for charter and supplies, with 14 signatures attached.

Peters-Wilkinson—That charter be granted and forwarded as soon as out of lithographer's hands. Secretary to mail such supplies as are on hand at once. Carried.

Leah-Flowers—That C. Peters be added to the printing committee, and with the secretary to see that a suitable design for charter is selected from several already suggested and submitted, and secure same without delay. Carried.

The secretary handed in his resignation, explaining that owing to the nature of his work—night shift—he could not be present at future meetings, nor could he give correspondence the attention required. Accepted. New B. C. Provincial Executive secretary to take the office.

Considerable discussion took place with regard to raising funds to meet initiatory expenses, necessarily heavier than will be the case later on.

Upon the suggestion of Comrade Leah a Dominion Executive Committee organizing fund will be opened, and all monies received will be acknowledged in the Western Clarion, and expended only in organization work outside the jurisdiction of the Provincial Executive Committee in British Columbia.

The secretary was instructed to negotiate a loan of $100 if possible, with the assistance of members of the committee, repayable in three and six months.

Pettipiece-Peters — That hereafter this committee meet here the fourth Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m., beginning March 28th.

Wilkinson-Leah—That warrants be drawn for the following accounts:

No. 1—Vancouver Rackett Minute book	80
No. 2—Postage stamps	$ 1 00
No. 3—Angell-Puomphrey Engraving Co.	$ 3 50
No. 4—Kingsley & English on printing account	6 00
Total	$11 30

Receipts:

No. 1—B. C. Prov. Ex., 100 due stamps	$ 5 00
No. 2—F. J. Peel, application for charter and supplies	5 00
No. 3—B. C. Prov. Ex., 80 due stamps	4 00
Total	$14 00
Bal. cash on hand	$2 70

Adjournment.

DOMINION ORGANIZATION FUND.

Contributions to this fund will be devoted wholly and only to organization work throughout Canada, outside the jurisdiction of the B. C. Provincial Executive Committee. Contributors not desiring their names given publicity will please notify secretary.

Who will be the first?

B.C. Provincial Executive

Socialist Party of Canada.

Vancouver, B. C., March 19.—(Room 10, Masonic block.)—Present: C. Peters (chairman), A. J. Wilkinson, John E. Dubberley, Alf. Leah, W. H. Flowers and the secretary.

Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

The following communications were read:

From Organizer O'Brien (2) dated at Nelson and Eholt B. C., re progress being made in Boundary district. Filed.

From Mrs. Irene Smith, per A. J. Wilkinson, receipts for various monies received from Locals during recent tour.

From recording-secretary Revelstoke Local, expressing keen disappointment in the substitution of Comrade O'Brien for Comrade Kingsley on organization tour. As change could not be avoided, the committee will attempt to soothe Revelstoke comrades' feelings by sending Comrades Hawthornthwaite and Kingsley over that way as soon as the House adjourns.

From Nanaimo Local announcing receipt of ballot forms and letter dated Jan. 20th from Provincial secretary on the 28th day of February—too late to vote on same, and asking committee to see post office inspector re same. Secretary to go into the matter and locate responsibility for over five weeks' delay in delivery of mail matter.

From Rossland Local re organizer's tour, and $1 from secretary McLeod for subscription to the Clarion.

From Victoria Local enclosing $5 for due stamps; statement re Mrs. Smith's three lectures, showing deficit of 60c. (Total receipts $55.80.) Also re letter from organizer and secretary who were appointed to draft same. And a further request for the names of secretaries of Locals throughout B. C. February report showing increase of 6 members, 36 in all. Organizer to reply, and Comrade Cameron to further explain upon his return to Victoria.

From R. J. Burger, secretary of Revelstoke Local, enclosing $1.00 for due stamps.

From a comrade at Enderby, B. C., enclosing $1 for organizing tour.

From David P. Mills, Vancouver Local, No. 1 order for due stamps, a statement and receipt for rent of headquarters to date.

From R. P. Pettipiece, tendering his resignation as secretary and member of the executive committee owing to his inability to attend the meetings—working night shift—and lack of time to devote to correspondence, etc.; and suggesting Com. J. P. Morgan as a successor, he having had wide experience in such work.

Leah-Wilkinson—That secretary's resignation be accepted and that Vancouver Local be notified of the vacancy and suggesting only the name of Com. Morgan as one eminently fitted for the position of secretary, there being no member of the present committee with time enough at their disposal to accept the office. Carried.

Leah — Dubberly — That hereafter members of this committee must produce their party membership cards at each meeting, so that the secretary can determine whether they are in "good standing" or not. Carried.

Cameron—Dubberly—That this committee select two comrades to go to New Westminster next Sunday to address a propaganda meeting arranged by Comrade Cameron, at 3 p.m., in Eagle hall. Carried. Comrades Kingsley and Pettipiece will fill date.

Leah—Wilkinson—That a B. C. organizing fund be opened in the "Clarion," the receipts to be acknowledged weekly; and expended in B. C. organization work alone. Secretary to arrange.

Dubberly—Cameron—That Organizer Kingsley be elected as auditor to go through the secretary's books prior to handing same over to new secretary. Carried.

RECEIPTS.

No. 32 Revelstoke Local No. 7, for 10 due stamps,	$ 1 00
No. 33 "A Comrade," Enderby, B.C., for organizing fund	1 00
No. 34 Vancouver Local, No. 1, for 50 due stamps	5 00
No. 35 Vancouver Local No. 1, for 100 copies "Wage-Labor and Capital"	2 50
No. 36 Vancouver Local, No. 1 for old assessment account in full	18 00
No. 37 Vancouver Local, No. 1, for organizing fund	15 00
No. 38 Victoria Local, No. 2, for 50 due stamps	5 00
No. 39 Geo. Holbrook, Vancouver, for organizing fund	1 00
Total	$48 50

EXPENDITURES.

Warrant No. 21, Rent in full for old headquarters, one year	$24 00
No. 22 Rent for executive headquarters to April 1st	2 00
No. 23 Organizer O'Brien, on account	26 00
No. 24 Secretary's salary to March 15	2 50
No. 25—Dom. Executive, 80 due stamps	4 00
Total	$58 50
Balance on hand last report	$10 25
Balance on hand this week	25

Adjournment.

B. C ORGANIZING FUND.

Contributions to this fund will be devoted wholly and only to organization work in British Columbia. Persons not wishing their names mentioned will please notify Party secretary at time of sending same.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Feb. 4, Vananda Local	$ 9 50
Feb. 11, Ladysmith Local	5 00
Feb. 12, R. P. Pettipiece, Vancouver	1 15
March 5, H. Elliott, Vancouver	1 00
March 10, "A Comrade" Enderby, B. C.	1 00
March 13, Vancouver Local	15 00
March 19, Geo. Holbrooke, Vancouver	1 00
March 22, Nanaimo Local	10 00

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

What the Dominion Executive Committee needs now is "the sinews of war. The initiatory cost of printing, etc., is necessarily heavy—over $50 already—and unless we can raise a loan of $100, or receive a sort of spontaneous response from new affiliations very soon, it will be up-hill work for a month or two.

The Provincial Executive Committee met last Sunday week, March 12, but as the secretary was unavoidably absent and there was no access to the correspondence, etc., very little could be done. As the business transacted is embodied in the minutes of last meeting no separate report is given. Comrades Leah, Peters, Dubberley, Cameron, Wilkinson and Kingsley were present.

WE WOO

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131 HASTINGS ST. WEST.

BECOMING CIVILIZED.

That Japan is rapidly forging to the front according to the standard already established by the western world is shown by the following clipped from our exchange, The Chokugen, which is the sole organ of the Japanese Socialists. The meaning of Chokugen is "speaking straightforwardly."

Sympathy Between Capitalist Governments.

As reported already, we have received many socialistic pamphlets from Russian comrades in America and Switzerland for distribution among the Russian War prisoners in this country. Our Military Department also had received the pamphlets of the same kind from the revolutionary socialists in Switzerland, but the department is reported to have refused to distribute them among the prisoners. It is clear that the patriotic officials thought that it was not right for a government to help the movement of the conspirators, even though they are of a hostile country. The capitalist government, it seems to us, has more sympathy for a fellow capitalistic government than for the proletarians of its own country, even while making war against it.

Chinese Students and Japanese Police.

Of late revolutionary ideas have prevailed among the Chinese students in this country. Although most of them do not come to the socialistic idea, still they have been well imbued with the democratic tendency, through which they mean to regenerate the old Empire. The Japanese police authorities, who are said to have been requested by the Chinese Minister to Japan, watch over not infrequently the meetings of these aspiring young men, interfering with them in many ways or sometimes even dispersing them. It reminds us of the fussy German police, who, in compliance with the request from the Muscovite government, make strenuous endeavor in suppressing every movement of the Russian revolutionists in Germany.

Government Spies in the Army Arsenal.

It is needless to say that the Army Arsenal is one of the largest factories in Japan and the grievances of the laboring class are mostly raised from this corner of the community, while the socialistic idea is also fast gaining ground there. Since the news of the big strikes in Russia, the authorities appear to have been so greatly troubled that they at once ordered hundreds of government spies to work in disguise in the institute together with the workmen, by way of cautioning against.

Apropos, it may be stated, the workmen of the Uraga dockyard, 300 in number, went on strike some time aga demanding the increase of their wages. The revolutionary idea as well as strike sentiment seems to be traversing through the world from one corner to another.

Commodities exchange with each other according to the relative amount of human labor time embodied in their production. Labor power being a commodity exchanges by the same rule. If two hours social labor time is sufficient to produce enough food, clothing, etc., to generate one day's labor power, the price of that one day's labor power (wages) will be the same as the price of the given quantity of food, etc., necessary to generate it.

When labor power is sold in the market it is merely exchanged for an equivalent value in other commodities. If one day of social labor is sufficient to produce enough food, etc, to generate two days' labor power, the extra quantity will remain in the hands of he who purchased the labor power. At the cost of one day's labor power he has come into possession of enough food, etc., to generate two. The next day he could purchase two days' labor power and at night he would have four, and so on ad libitum, ad infinitum.

As ridiculous at it may appear that sort of a process is the key note of capitalist property. That is exactly the trick that is turned upon the workers under the guise of wages only the rate of skinning is much greater than two for one. In dividing up the plunder thus taken from labor that Marx terms surplus value, the entire capitalist fraternity, landlords, lendlords, profit-mongers big, profit-mongers little, and all of the leeches and hangers-on of capitalism have a regular "monkey and parrot" time. This is called Business, Trade and Commerce.

IT'S ALL IN THE CLOTHES

"No Charge for the Name, the Cost is all in the Clothes."

Most makers lay great stress on the name. We devote our attention to the Clothes. We realize that when we "deliver the goods" the name will take care of itself.

"Stilenfit" Ready-for-Service Suits, $12. and $15. up to $30.

Special line of Trousers for $3.00

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Samples and blank measurements sent on application.

In so far as machinery dispenses with muscular power, it becomes a means of employing laborers of slight muscular strength, and those whose bodily development is incomplete, but whose limbs are all the more supple. The labor of women and children was therefore the first thing sought for by capitalists who used machinery. That mighty substitute for labor and laborers was forthwith changed into a means for increasing the number of wage laborers by enrolling, under the direct sway of capital, every member of the workman's family, without distinction of age or sex.—Marx.

It requires neither more nor less power to produce any given article today than at any previous time in history. That much of this power is now supplied by water, steam and electricity, however, makes the burden of toil no lighter to the working class. The benefit of this increased power of wealth production resulting from the harnessing of the forces of nature, accrues only to those who own the mechanical factors by which such power has been applied. The ownership of the machinery of production gives to them absolute control of the entire product of labor.

Workingmen Are Always Welcome at

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

29-31 Cordova St. Vancouver, B.C.

A great hulabaloo arises in some quarters over the declaration of Dr. Osler that men have outlived their usefulness at 40, and should be chloroformed out of existence at 60 years of age. From the standpoint of capitalist wealth production there is no doubt a measure of justification for the Doctor's opinion, as it is becoming quite the rule to refuse employment in industry to men of 40 years or over because they are no longer up to the mark of industrial efficiency. That is, there is no looger a sufficient quantum of the juice of surplus value in their bones. Such being the case there is no logical reason why such useless junk should be allowed to accumulate on the capitalist premises.

It would perhaps be as well not to pursue investigations along this line too far, however, as we know a considerable number of men who outlived their day of usefulness upon the day of their birth. Dr. Osler may belong to that category for aught we know.

A bill is now pending in the U. S. Congress to increase the President's salary to $100,000 per annum, and place ex-Presidents on the pension roll at $25,000 per year. This should be a valuable tip to silly work people who wish to get a raise in their wages, to first get control of the reins of government. After that it seems dead easy. So easy, in fact, that even hired men can make it work. We know that congressmen and the Teddy chap are only servants. At least we are told so by the people who ought to know.

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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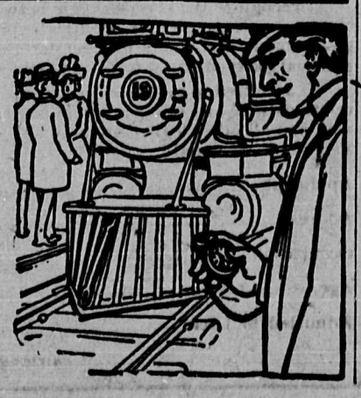

THE RIGHT TO WORK.

If every human being has the right to life so must he have the right to work, far once the edict went forth "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread" none can honestly live without work. So whenever a system of government is found under which this right to work is denied it is certain there is a government ready to be altered or removed.

Abraham Lincoln long ago declared that "Any people anywhere have the right to rise up and shake off the existing government and form one that suits them better. This is a sacred right—a right we believe is to liberate the world.

Socialists declare that under our present capitalist system men do not have a chance to work whenever they wish to, and that they can have that chance only by the substitution of a new form of government which abolishes the private ownership of all means of producing goods for profit, and puts that ownership in the hands of all the people.

United States statistics tell us that an average of one million men are out of work every day in the year. Canada, no doubt, tells a like story. Only a small percentage are actual tramps who enjoy living from hand to mouth. It is a trite statement in the industrial world that there are two men for every job. Laborers who go on strike but do not molest or influence the men who take their places never cause their employers a single worry. No trouble at all to fill the vacant places an hour after the men have stepped out. An army of unemployed constantly haunt the gates of all our large industries—the largest standing army in the world. They stand waiting for a chance to work. Every advertisement in the daily papers is answered by a score or more men wanting that one job.

Why are they not given a chance to work? Is it because we have all the clothes, food, houses and fuel, to say nothing of luxuries, that we desire? Far from it! Then the puzzle remains—why don't we set the 1,000,000 men to work producing things we need? Aye, and why don't we set 10,000,000 more useless workers at useful labor till we do have all we want? There are a good ten million men and women who under capitalism must spend their time at labor which produces no really useful thing—advertising one firm's goods in competition with another's; trying to sell goods to people who can't or don't want to buy; printing, publishing and distributing advertisements; decorating windows and adulterating goods to sell; artists, duplicate clerks and officials galore who under a sane system where there was no competition would be not needed and might be making useful things.

Why are all these millions not allowed to work? Because men are allowed to own land, railroads, ships, machines and tools—not to use themselves but to put other men to work on. By paying each man much less than the value he produces they make a profit. If harvesters were manufactured without a profit to the factory owners we know we would not have to pay $165 each for them. And the employes in these factories would not receive only $3 per day and would not need to be thankful for their Thanksgiving turkey presented by their kind (?) employer.

That is what Socialism proposes to do—abolish profit, for thus only can the worker receive the full value of his labor product.

Now the worker produces say $600 worth of wheat in a year. The railroad commission merchant, mill owner and baker get $400, the farmer receives the $200. The worker in the woolen mill in the same way produces $10 worth of goods clear of all expenses, per day, and receives $2. How, tell me how, can the workers who thus produce four or five times as much goods as their kind come, every buy it all back? Must there not of necessity be overproduction so-called, panics, crisises, shutting down of mines and mills and factories? The idlers among the capitalists can not soon use up the surplus.

The workers it seems, must be content to work, only part of the year and that at such wages as their lot allows. In order to make big profits they must go without things that they would gladly make had they only the right to use the machines, the divine right to work.

If they cannot they must join the army already 6,000,000 strong and will never rest till they own the means of life themselves—the Socialist army.

Sula Lowrie

Claresholm, Alta., March 13, 1905.

The task confronting the Russian working people in throwing off the galling yoke of Czarism is staggering in its magnitude. The courage manifested by these oppressed toilers in tackling it is unbounded. Some idea of the energy they are putting into its accomplishment may be gleaned from the following:

In the course of the last two months, over 100,000,000 leaflets each consisting of one sheet, 50,000,000 four-page pamphlets, 10,000,000 revolutionary newspapers, and 000,000 political tracts and books were printed abroad, smuggled into Russia, and circulated among the Czar's subjects from Archangel to Tiflis and from Warsaw to Vladivostock.

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Exclusive patterns are now here—some of the choice ones will be sold early, and some of the designs we cannot duplicate. If you appreciate unusual styles it will interest you to come promptly.

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The Smartest Soft Hat of the Season

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