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THE PROGRAM OF SOCIALISM

Extract From an Article Written for the Portland Oregonian by Charles M. Pye of Woodstock, Oregon, in Reply to a Previous Editorial Declaring That Socialism had no Program.

Having once fully recognized the fact of the class struggle, the next point to observe is the fact that sooner or later every class seeks to give its struggle a political expression, and every class struggle is therefore sooner or later transferred to the political field. In this respect the modern capitalist class is much in advance of the laboring class. They have been much quicker to see the advantage of capturing and using the political powers. They have been keenly conscious of their class interests in this respect. The laboring class has not. As a result of this extreme class-consciousness on the part of the capitalistic class they have captured the entire powers of the state. They control legislatures and courts, the President and the governors, the militia, the police and the sheriffs, and thus the government is simply the means by which the ruling classes maintain their privileges.

In order to accomplish this fact it has been necessary for them to control both political parties—the Republican, where the Republican party was in power, and the Democratic, where that party was in power. It was not necessary that they should absolutely dictate their platforms; only to prevent any measure being taken up and pushed that would seriously injure their economic interests. Both great political parties have thus been captured, and are today being controlled by capitalistic interests.

Whatever the pretenses that have been made, the bitter class spirit and merciless hostility of the power of capitalism has been displayed by the officials of both parties alike in every heroic struggle the laborers have made in defense of their interests. Republican and Democratic Presidents, governors, legislatures, judges, constables and sheriffs, all alike ruthlessly trample upon the rights of labor.

The eight-hour law and the income tax are "unconstitutional"; injunctions break strikes; "contempt of court" incarcerates their leaders; Democratic and Republican Presidents alike use the Federal Armies against labor, and in Idaho, a Republican President, at the invitation of a Democratic Governor, sends troops into the Coeur d'Alene district and actually sets aside the entire local government—county commissioners, sheriff and all, elected by labor votes—and then proceeds to enact the "bull pen" disgrace. More recently, in Colorado, the situation was, if possible, worse.

Republican capitalists of the North take advantage of the barbarous conditions of labor in Democratic states in the South to enslave thousands of little children in a merciless child slavery. The laboring people have even tried the experiment of electing some of their number to certain offices on old party tickets; but such men, when elected, find themselves powerless.

There were as many as 18 men with union labor cards in their pockets in the Colorado legislature at one time, and the labor problem is no nearer a solution in Colorado than elsewhere; and in the City of Pueblo a sheriff elected almost entirely by trade unionists put half of the officers of the union into jail for picketing an unfair restaurant.

What more is needed than these trying experiences to convince every one who knows of them that both old parties are owned absolutely, body and soul, platform and press, by the capitalistic class, who have been quicker and shrewder in the political field than the laboring class.

Now the only class that can finally be relied upon to supply the numerical and moral strength to win the victory for Socialism is the laboring class. Logically, therefore, Socialism must recruit its voting strength chiefly from this class.

What can be clearer than the logic of this situation? What can be clearer than if labor is ever to win its struggle for emancipation and justice, Socialism must be its program, and again, that if Socialism is ever to win its struggle for all humanity it must make the laboring class conscious of their common interest, and lead them to the struggle upon the political field where their power is invincible, because "we are many, they are few!" The futility and failure of every effort of the working class so long as the powers of the state are left in the hands of the class against whom they struggle, is apparent to all. So long as their political strength is divided between parties, neither of which can offer any relief, their votes count for nothing.

What remains? Only one thing—to rally their forces on the political field under the banners of a program distinct from and opposed to all capitalistic parties into an independent political party of their own, viz., the Socialist Party of America.

This is the one thing that capitalism has dreaded. Every resource of its press, its speakers, its pulpits and its henchmen among labor organizations has been, and will continue to be exhausted in the effort to prevent this one thing. It is the one safe, easy and absolutely sure method for labor to win its final victory.

There will be two devices to which the capitalist class will resort in their final efforts to prevent the laboring class from winning their political victory.

(a) The organization of fake "labor union parties," and "municipal or public ownership parties" and (b) the offering, an old party platform, of certain half-way "reform measures," which they will point out as "sensible and safe." But these are familiar tricks, and only the careless will long be deceived. With the Socialist party already casting 400,000 votes in America, with scores of weekly and monthly publicatians, with an organization in every state of the Union, indorsed by thousands of labor unionists all over the country, with 50 years of history in other countries as well as this in which it has shown a deathless devotion to the cause of labor, with a comradeship in every nation on the earth, embracing a voting membership of over 9,000,000, and above all, with the only real and logical program for the relief of labor—the attempt to start another labor party is sheer nonsense on the part of the designing.

This then is the Socialist program: 1—Convince the people; 2—Organize the Socialist party; 3—Capture the powers of government; 4—Transform the present system of private ownership of the material means of production into the collective ownership and thus as rapidly as possible inaugurate the co-operative commonwealth.

These are, in briefest outline, the principles and program of what is destined soon to become the mightiest movement for human betterment the world has ever seen. Already the songs of a triumphant hope, and faith in the cause are being heard throughout the land.

THE AMIGOS AWAKING.

CHILE.

In the middle of March the elections of parliament have been held and the workingmen not forgetful of the bourgeois lesson received recently from the ruling class, came to the ballot box with enthusiasm. They did not only intend to do their best to seat a comrade, but they wanted also to show the bloodthirsty bourgeoise of Chile that they were no more to be il,-treated like helpless lambs. To the great disappointment of the ruling class labor has been in the important salt mine district capable to seat several men. Thus Autofagasta Comrade Louis Recabarren has been elected, and in Valparaiso the first harbor of the country Comrade Bonifacio Beas has been chosen, both by great majorities. Recabarren, a typograph by profession, is not only known in Chile, but all over America, co-operating in many labor papers, being persecuted continuously by the bourgeoisie and for many years devoting his life to the propaganda of Socialism. The organization of labor in Chile is to a high degree his work. The mechanic comrade Beas is not to be counted amongst the men of high intellect of the type of Comrade Recgbarren, but he is an excellent and reliable comrade.—"Wahrheit," Milwaukee, Wis.

PUERTO RICO.

The fourth convention of labor will meet at Mayaguez on July 14th.

In the city of Mayaguez a Socialist party has been born which intends to become the faithful interpreter of the feelings of the working class. At the coming election they will have their own candidates in the field who are not afraid to suffer defeat instead of being the mere tail piece of some bourgeois party. We read that the party in the latter part of July will start publication of a Socialist daily, the name to be decided upon by the provisional committee of the Socialist party of labor of Puerto Rico.—From "Union Obrera," Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.

The farmers in the Southern Washington wheat belt are finding it difficult to obtain harvest hands, although offering the fabulous wages of $2 and $3 per day. In view of the fact that there are so many men who won't work, even for such fancy wages, many of the towns in that section have "rendered it possible to inflict double penalty for vagrancy, a fine and jail sentence of thirty days being imposed, and the prisoner being required to work on a specially provided rock pile in the broiling sun. The definition of the term "vagrancy" has been enlarged in its application in the wheat belt until it practically devolves upon the accused to show that he has some means of support involving some physical effort on his part, for, if it is not "visible" to the police magistrate, the prisoner will surely be held for vagrancy."

All capitalists are hereby warned to keep away from this dangerous neighborhood.

"RESERVE" ARMY'S EFFECT ON WAGES.

Competition Among Job-Holders and Job-Seekers—Not the Bosses—Determines Wages and Standard of Life.

The workingmen under capitalism being "free" and equal, there is no actual line of division between the active and reserve army of workingmen. On the contrary they are in continual flux, men on duty and reservists continually changing place, and the same men sometimes being half active and half reserve. The existence of the reserve army and this relation between the active and

RESERVE ARMIES

of the working class have the most deplorable effect on wages, and on the condition of the working class generally. Aside from the destitution caused by the introduction of new machinery among those workingmen who are thereby thrown out of employment and those directly dependent on them, the presence in the market of this superfluous mass of labor-power entering into competition with that part of the

WORKING CLASS

which does find employment, reduces the price of that labor-power which is employed without thereby gaining any employment for itself. While the value of labor-power is determined by the amount of labor necessary for its re-production, that is, the amount of necessaries consumed by the workingmen, this amount is by no means a fixed quantity. It depends on the standard of life of the working class as it has developed in the course of its historical existence in a given country. But this standard, being a product of historical forces, may be raised or lowered. The existence of the "reserve" army, the process of the accumulation of capital which produced it tends to

LOWER THIS STANDARD.

and it needs a lot of fighting to keep it up, not to speak of raising it. Besides, making, as it does the workingman the sport of every turn of the fortunes of capitalistic production, and absolutely insecure in whatever livelihood he does get by reason of the

FIERCE COMPETITION

of his fellow workers, and therefore dependent on the whim and caprice of his capitalistic employer, it tends to degrade his morale, break in him all manifestations of the spirit of independence, and to make of him a service tool of his capitalistic master.

But right here in its influence on its first requisite, a free working-class, we encounter the contradictory nature of capitalistic development. The very processes which tend to reduce the workingman's wages, and to lower and degrade him

BRING INTO BEING

those conditions which enable him to forge the weapons by which he cannot only successfully withstand the hurtful tendencies of capitalistic development, but which are destined to work the wonders of his salvation from wage-slavery,—the economic and political organization of the working class. The introduction of those very new machines which threw so many workingmen out of employment and so largely increased the "reserve" army, have laid the physical foundation for the organization of the working class by bringing great masses of workingmen together and by rubbing off all differences between them. It has also laid the mechanical foundation for the future greatness of the working class by changing the methods of production from their narrow individual foundation to a broad social base.—Extract from H. B. Boudin's article, "Economic Contradictions," in International Socialist Review.

CLEAN PRINCIPLES CLEAN METHODS.

Publicity of Some of Election Funds Given Only by the Socialist Party—Freedom of Ballot the First Consideration to Revolutionists.

The Socialist Party is the only political party in the world whose candidates and representatives in houses of legislation publish detailed statements of the source of their campaign fund.

For the old parties to do so, would be suicidal.

Even a wage-slave might get suspicious.

In any case the workers pay the bill.

To the Socialist Party they contribute voluntarily; to the others every day they work for wages.

Jim Hawthornthwaite's reduction of the election deposit in B. C. is worth more to the workers of this province than 40,000,000 acres of land.

With a sensible exercise of the privileges of the former the latter and all on top of it, and underneath it, can be acquired by the stroke of a pen—or, at any rate, acquired.

SNAP SHOTS AT DAILY EVENTS

Taken at Random by Wilfred McNabb for Socialist Review. --Fitting Comment Upon Matters Pertaining to the Daily Grind of Capitalism's Profit-Making Mill.

Forty thousand persons thronged a New York race track on "Independence" Day to witness an imitation railroad smash-up. That is nearly three-quarters of the number of workingmen killed and wounded in actual smashups on the railroad branch of the class war each year. The casualties would be greatly lessened in this field, we may be sure, if the railroad workers only knew they were in a fight. The policy of permitting wolves in sheep's clothing to lead them into the mental ambuscade of "identical interests" is alone responsible for the slaughter.

* * *

The other day Bryan said—but who in hell cares what Bryan said!

* * *

The coal operators (?) have figured that the miners lost $12,400,000 by their lay-off from April 1 to May 15. I was never good at "figgers," but I could be induced to gamble that if the miners worked from now until Gehenna becomes a glare of ice they won't have $12,000,000. My confidence is inspired by the fact that coal miners are purchased in the market just in the same manner as other cabbage heads are bought; and as the price paid for the commodity is, as a general rule, the cost of its production, I can't see how the miners can save money and keep alive.

* * *

After naming seventy insurance companies accused of swindling those whose business it is to swindle the working class generally and of San Francisco particularly, William Bombast Hearst's hired brains remarks: "It is high time that insurance companies ready to meet their obligations should take steps to force out of the business the swindlers and the 'welchers.'"—McTwen, you're kiddin'. You know success is what business men are after, and success is measured by dollars by dollars. The more dollars you cheat another out of the more successful you are. Permit me to quote (from memory) a couplet showing that business men have been guided by the same motives ever since wage slavery succeeded serfdom:

"Get place and wealth if possible by grace;
If not, by any means get wealth and place."

I presume the owner of your brain power possesses considerable property in San Francisco which was insured against loss by fire, and now that it has been destroyed by earthquake he'd like to collect. He doesn't care from whom, so long as he collects, and you must write editorials anent "swindlers." "On the dead," Arthur, wouldn't you like to see industry co-operatiely organized, so that you would not be compelled to sell your intellect to an unlettered possessor of his father's dirty dollars?

* * *

Even small railroads in this country and Canada report their "earnings" at approximately $6,500,000 for the last week in June. If those roads were owned co-operatively by the men who risk their limbs and lives in running them, the dividends returned to them would make considerable difference in their standard of living. But as their wages are not high enough to enable them to buy the railroads and as the likelihood of the stockholders giving them away is very slim, to say the least, I would suggest to those workers that if they vote the Socialist ticket, along with all other workers, laws will be passed making the roads social property and all the powers of government will be used to see that they get all they earn when they work.

* * *

The New York Herald is authority for the statement that in a speech before "practically the entire American colony" in France recently Ambassador McCormick pointed out that "American contributions to the industries in the lines of steam, electricity, the submarine cable, the air brake and the grain thresher and binder are not alone material achievements, but also spiritual, lightening the burden of labor and adding to the comforts of the poor" Now, that may appear to the man in France to be the case, but to the man up a tree it doesn't look just so While willing to admit that the introduction of machinery lightens the burden of labor, in that less laborers are required to do the necessary work; at the same time we can't quite see how it adds to the comforts of the poor As "the poor" are the laborers and the laborers are "the poor," we are convinced that the more their labor is lightened the less "comforts" they have The "spiritual achievements" alluded to by the ambassador undoubtedly are the "three fingers of wood alcohol" taken after work by those whose duty it is to run the machinery as a counterbalance to their nerve-destroying toil.

ECONOMICS OF AN OLD FOGEY

The Silly Maunderings on Economics of Prof. Goldwin Smith, a Bourgeois Sage, Calls Forth Interesting Comment and Reflection From one of the Common Herd.

The enthusiast who reports the doings of the British Labor M. P.'s for the Labor Leader says: "Labor still rules the roost at Westminster." Why, sure! We've all noticed it. M-yes.

* * *

That there is a great deal in this world amiss, and tnat the inequalities in the human lot are mysterious and terrible, is seen by everyone who can reflect and felt by everyone who can feel. The inequalities are not in wealth alone, but in health, strength, mental power, and circumstances of every kind. Does Socialism undertake to level them and to open a reign of perfect equality and justice? If it does, what are its means? How does it propose to set about the work? How will it prevent the natural differences in the qualities and powers of men from reasserting themselves and re-producing the present state of things? Is it proposed to abolish property? If property is abolished, what incentive to production and accumulation is hereafter to take place? What will become of progress? Will it continue without the stimulus of individual interest? If individual interest is to be replaced as a motive power by the authority of the state and all the means of production are to be concentrated in the hands of the government, what is that government to be? How are its perfect wisdom and integrity to be secured? What will become of political freedom? We may fairly ask for a clear and satisfactory answer to these questions without laying ourselves open to the suspicion of selfish repugnance to social reform. Dynamite is powerful in its way, but it is not constructive.

* * *

Thus that dear old fogey, Prof. Goldwin Smith. The silly maunderings on economics of this bourgeois sage would be beneath notice were it not that by some he is looked upon as a veritable god, whose words are to be received in awe-struck reverence without question. When he ventures out of his own field he but betrays his ignorance, even when his intention is the laudable one of making people believe that the present social structure is the best they can hope for. Every cobbler should stick to his last. Political economy is not the forte of the learned professor.

* * *

The inequalities in the human lot are terrible enough, but there is nothing whatever of mystery about them. The most important inequality is that of wealth. Given the ownership of the means of production and distribution of wealth by a class, and inequality of wealth is the logical result. Bad health is the result of bad canditions or ignorance, or both. Good health should be, and under a system where the environment will be of the best and ignorance a crime would be, the normal condition of man, and with good health would be found sufficient strength and a high average of mental power. Mental power above the average would then, as now, bring the possessor honor and friends, and to use this power would, as is the rule now, even where there is no pecuniary benefit, be a joy to the owner. Socialism undertakes to give everyone access to the means of wealth production—an equality sufficiently perfect to satisfy any reasonable being; it undertakes to tender to everyone the full social value of the product of his or her labor—perfect justice.

* * *

"How does it propose to set about the work?" Truly the college professor is a veritable Rip Van Winkle! Socialists have fought political campaign after campaign in the last quarter of a century, but Prof. Smith knows nothing of their intentions. He apparently has never read a book on Socialism, yet often denounces it, hoping that his reputation as a "publicist" will give weight and influence to his exceedingly asinine utterances on the subject. Socialists intend, dear Professor, to obtain political control and by thus having the power to pass and enact laws in their own interests, they will be enabled to and will convert capitalist property into collective property. Capitalist property, i.e. property that is used to exploit others, is the only kind of property that will be abolished. If the capitalists object so much the worse for the capitalists.

* * *

Why are individuals so anxious to obtain money? The reason is because money commands the service of others. Instead of being exploited the owner is enabled to exploit his fellows. In the Co-Operative Commonwealth no one will submit to exploitation because he or she can obtain access to the collectively owned means of production and obtain the full social value of the product. The present incentive to accumulation will no longer exist, and that is a matter for rejoicing and not for grief, as any one but a paid apologist for capitalism can see if he will think. Anyone preferring an empty belly and a bare back will be at full liberty to abstain from the work of production in the Co-Operative Commonwealth, for such individuals will hurt no one but themselves.

* * *

While the majority of men in the Co-Operative Commonwealth will be content to remain in the same rut as is the majority now, the brighter minds will be working for the betterment of themselves and their fellows and "progress" will result. Many of our brightest intellects today have a sufficiency of this world's goods and care nothing about them, but go on working along their chosen line, their reward being the consciousness of work well done and the praise of those able to appreciate it. So it will be in the Co-Operative Commonwealth, but the number of those able to appreciate the efforts of the men of science will be vastly greater than now owing to the fact that "higher" education will be general.

* * *

The state will consist of the whole people—a true democracy. A whole people will doubtless make mistakes, but when experience shows a mistake has been made it can be at once righted. None of us expect to find "perfect wisdom" in any human institution. The perfectly wise gentlemen of Professor Smith's class have made a pretty mess of affairs, the working class is not likely to mete out to itself the pverty and misery which is its lot today, and may be trusted to see that all have an equal chance with others to live and when that is done other things will soon be settled as they come up. Political freedom will still exist, though "politics" may easily become an obsolete word.

SPARTACUS.

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

Overthrow of Autocracy and Feudalism by Capitalism—The Proletarign Revolution for Industrial Freedom Yet to Come the World Over.

While editorially discussing the situation in Russia and Europe generally a few days ago, the local Daily Province concludes: "Should the Kaiser attempt to come to the relief of his hard-pressed friend with the German navy, there will be such a storm in Germany that William will wish he had been more prudent. The Socialists in his own land are too closely allied to the Russians, who have raised the red flag of revolution to allow the Kaiser to attempt to bolster up what is to them—and also to others—the last remnant of medieval tyranny. From the way events are shaping in the land of the Czar, it would gppear that the knell of the autocrat has already been sounded."

The present revolution in Russia is not a socialist revolution, but the overthrow of autocracy and feudalism by capitalism. True, the preletariat, as always, is doing the dirty work and shedding most of the blood. But the proletarian revolution in Russia, as in all other capitalist nations, is yet to come. Just as the present capitalist-ruled countries have passed through Russia's present experience, so will they in turn pass through the next revolution—the transformation of capitalist property into the property of the working class. If we have profited by past experience, and unnecessary shedding of blood will be probably avoided, but come it will.

The birth pangs of new civilization are coming closer and claser.

But the birth has yet to be accomplished.

The task ahead of the workers is a serious and responsible one.

To read and understand events now transpiring in the world's history is one of the grandest privileges ever accorded to man.

To feel the revolution in the air creates the loftiest aspirations and determination to free mankind ever implanted in the breast of labor.

In our poverty and toil,
Looking out upon the world,
We can see the gathering armies of the Cause;
And we feel ourselves a part of the new resistless power
That shall sweep away oppression and its laws.

It has been reported that the Socialist party of Colorado has nominated William D. Haywood, the imprisoned secretary of the Western Federation of Miners, as candidate for governor of that State. There is evidently some error in regard to this. At least a careful scrutiny of the columns of the New York "Peep," the only "party-owned" paper on earth, as well as the only one "fit for a workingman to read," fails to disclose any confirmation of the report.

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A DANGEROUS ATMOSPHERE.

The fear has been expressed among certain eastern "labor" men that the holding of the Dominion Trades Congress in Victoria, B. C., might result in the adopting of some radical socialist declaration. Of course it would be a calamity from the standpoint of these "labor" men, as it would portend the approaching end of that farce which has been the means of enabling a mediocre bunch of labor skates to pose as the infallible high priests of the labor movement and deftly steer it towards the, to them, succulent fields of Liberal favor.

These worthies may well scent danger to their precious old threadbare schemes of gaining political favors at the expense of the gullible rank and file, in the atmosphere of this province. The workers in this western end of the Dominion are becoming altogether too well informed as to the meaning of a genuine labor movement, to be longer bamboozled by a lot of cheap politicians into being used as a stepping-stone to assist these political scalawags to find favor in the eyes of the ruling class.

The labor movement of this province will henceforth have an altogether different purpose in view. It will hew to the line of class action for the purpose of capturing the reins of public power and using that power to overthrow the rule of capital and assert the economic independence of the only useful part of human society, the working class.

Those slippery creatures who acquire rotund bellies at the expense of duped wage-earners, by posing as shepherds of the flock, but who fulfil their trust by steering their charges through the political gates that lead to the economic shearing sheds of capitalist property, may as well give this province a wide berth. For that sort of reptile the atmosphere is poison. It is too completely surcharged with electricity of the coming revolutionary storm.

CAPITAL AND LABOR.

An enormous amount of lung power and barrels of ink are expended in proclaiming the "rights of capital" and the "rights of labor." This is all wasted. Neither possesses any rights that it has not the power to seize and hold. Neither has any right the other is bound to respect once that other secures the necessary power to successfully dispute the claim. All of the enactments setting forth the respective rights of each are but flimsy attempts to define the status of affairs existing between them at a given time, a status that is liable to be altered at any moment by the ever increasing power of production and the re-adjustments that in consequence follow in the industrial and commercial field.

Capital feeds upon Labor. It draws its sustenance from the exploitation of the laborers. The latter being without property in the means of wealth production are forced to offer their labor-power as a commodity for sale in the market. Without property rights in the means of production even the laborers' right to life becomes an unknown quantity. It is a thing he does not possess because he has no means of enforcing it. His continued existence depends solely upon the whim, caprice or condescension of the capitalists who own and control the sole means whereby it can be realized. In face of the cold fact that the wage-earner does not possess even the right to life it may be readily seen that whatever theoretical rights he may have in stock are valueless.

Capital has rights because it has the power to enforce them. It has the right to appropriate the entire product of the labor of the working class. It possesses this right because it holds control of the organized powers of the State, the only means by which such a right can be enforced. As strange as it may seem it holds control of the State, and by this means enforces its right to seize the products of the labor of the working class, solely by the consent of the workers themselves. As they outnumber the capitalists many to one this power could not be held by the latter without the consent of the former. The absurdity of this arrangement is emphasized by the further fact that the workers, in most civilized countries possess the franchise, a means whereby they may legally destroy the right of capital to rob them of their substance, by depriving the capitalists of their control of the powers of the State, the power by means of which they enforce their robbery.

The struggle between capital and Labor is a struggle to the death. There can be no peace between them. It is a fight to the finish. That finish will be in the victory of Labor and the enforcement of its right to life.

NOTHING SA D ABOUT IT.

"It is estimated," says the United States Department of Agriculture, "that of the world's population of 1,500,000,000, about 500,000,000 regularly wear clothes, about 750,000,000 are partially clothed, and 250,000,000 habitually go almost naked; and that to clothe the entire population of the world would require 42,000,000 bales of 500 pounds each." A writer in "The World's Work" points out with much satisfaction that cotton can not be successfully grown elsewhere than in the United States. This causes the gentleman to gloat over "our cotton monopoly," and speculate upon its future possibilities. It is a shame that half the population of the globe are but partially clad, while fully one-sixth are entirely naked. If all could be induced to wear clothes what a stimulus would be given "our" cotton industry. Large numbers of workers in the cotton fields would find steady employment. Wages would of course, be high, as they always are in the United States. "Our cotton monopoly" would enable "us" to become rich. More missionaries should be sent out among the naked heathen to convert them to the true religion of wearing clothes. As to the partially clothed they are chiefly inhabitants of so-called civilized countries. The most of them go half-clad because they are too poverty-stricken to do otherwise. A smaller number because it is fashionable. At any rate "we" are thankful that no other portion of the earth can successfully raise cotton. If the people of the earth want the goods let them come up with the "dough." "We" will make the most we can out of the opportunities Providence has confided to "our" keeping.

THE POLITICS OF LABOR.

Political movements express the material interests of classes in human society. They could not exist in a society that was not divided into factions or classes by reason of divergent interests. A political party may, or may not, express the material interests of a class in society that already possesses economic power. In the first instance such a party or movement becomes an instrument whereby a class already in possession of economic power seeks to maintain its position and perpetuate its power and if possible add to it. In the second instance it becomes a means whereby a class without economic power seeks to establish itself in a position where it can seize such power and enforce its own economic program.

The capitalist class of this and all other countries are in full control of economic power in consequence of their ownership of the chief means of wealth production. Their interests demand that they continue to wield this economic power by maintaining their ownership in the means of production. This can only be done by and through the organized power of the State, as this is the only power sufficient to define and defend property rights. In fact that is the purpose of the capitalist state. So long as it remains a capitalist state i.e., under the control of the capitalist class, it is bound to define and defend property rights in conformity with the needs and requirements of that particular section of the capitalist class that is in control of the dominant factors in wealth production, i.e., the great industrial, transportation and financial combines.

The working class, in so far as it is made up of small proprietors who till their own lands, or operate their own implements and tools, possess little economic power, that is command of wealth production, and what little they do possess is rendered of little value as their products must of necessity pass into the hands of the big combines already referred to. That portion of the working class that is forced to work for wages in order to exist, is without economic power. The wage-earners possess no control over the means of production either large or small. The only influence they have upon production is evidenced by an occasional balky fit, when by prearrangement a considerable number of them by quitting work, may cause production to be interfered with. This sort of interference is happily short-lived, however, from the fact that soon after the stoppage of work the balky ones begin to get hungry and are soon convinced by their stomachs that the only sensible thing to do is to resume their labors.

Having control of no economic power the political movement of labor under such circumstances cannot be the expression of an economic organization. It becomes the expression of a class in society, which, although without economic power, is determined to conquer the point of vantage from which property rights are established, defined and defended. By capturing the organized power of the capitalist state, the working class obtains control of the sole means whereby the capitalists assert their property rights in the means of production and thus maintain their economic dominion over the workers. By utilizing the power of the State for the purpose of establishing the system of property in the means of production which their material interests demand, i.e., collective property, the workers, for the first time since civilization was born, came into control of economic power, that is, into control of the means of wealth production. Thenceforth their every move becomes an expression of the economic organization of labor.

With the rise of the working class to the control of the State, and the use of its powers to assume command of wealth production, the State "dies out." Government resolves itself into a workers' administration of the affairs of a workers' commonwealth. There being no longer a class to rule and a class to be ruled, armies, navies, courts, sheriffs, deputies, marshals, constables, policemen, detectives, penitentiaries, gaols, prisons, chain gangs, poorhouses, reformatories and similar evidences of present class rule will melt away into oblivion which has already swallowed a host of similar hideous and unclean things.

On with the political movement of Labor, and the regeneration of human society, which is even now becoming so corrupt and rotten under the rule of capital as to stink in its own nostrils.

AN APOLOGY.

In the editorial column of "The Crisis" of Salt Lake City, Utah, under date of July 27, appeared an editorial entitled "Haywood for Governor," also about half a dozen editorial squiblets of no doubt exceptional value, which had already appeared in the editorial column of the "Western Clarion" under date of July 21. We desire to apologize for publishing the same without giving proper credit to "The Crisis." The only excuse we have to offer is that at the time of writing the matter in question, we were unaware that the editor of "The Crisis" intended to embody the same ideas in exactly the same words a week later.

ANOTHER DOSE OF FACTS.

The following from the "World" of this city, "the paper that prints the facts," will be read with interest by the hundreds of working men who have attended the meetings held throughout the Crows Nest, Kootenay and Boundary districts during the last few weeks by Comrade J. R. Hawthornthwaite.

"Mr. Hawthornthwaite's pilgrimage through the mining districts has not been attended with the results which he and his friends anticipated. In sections where it was hoped that he would be accorded the fanfare of trumpets, the boom of cannon, the waving of banners and the wild plaudits of the multitude, he has been received with coldness and indifference. At Fernie, Cranbrook, Greenwood, Rossland and other centers he was sharply questioned as to how, being an avowed socialist, he could vote for the monopolistic measures of the ministry, and in the same breath bitterly denounce capitalists and property owners as blood-suckers. At Rossland, where he met Mr. Macdonald, the leader of the opposition, he was severely handled and the reasons he advanced for voting on all occasions with the party whom he denounced as hoary-headed old tories" and unfit to legislate, were found to be purely fallacious. At one of the meetings the socialist leader left the platform without replying to several cogent queries from persons in the audience. We do not think we err when we say that the pilgrimage has resulted in conspicuous failure so far as gaining recruits for the socialist cause. Indeed, it is evident that the ranks of the "party" have been seriously depleted. Men who formerly believed in Mr. Hawthornthwaite and took stock in his utterances are deserting him. They cannot understand how a member can claim to be a socialist and an independent and still support the local ministry on every occasion. Another suspicious circumstance is the refusal of the government press to allude in any way to the leader and his mission. His friends comment on this unfavorably and claim that he has been deserted by the government organs, who are ashamed to identify themselves with him and his cause. During his absence from the coast, Mr. Hawthornthwaite has been subjected to a fire from the rear. At least two constituencies on the island are organizing against what they are pleased to term the "common enemy" and have taken steps to insure that there shall not be a three-cornered fight at the next election between the points of which a socialist candidate may again creep into the house."

The veracious "World" to the contrary notwithstanding the "pilgrimage" of Hawthornthwaite has been attended with far more satisfactory results than were anticipated by even the most sanguine among the Socialists. No one has been more agreeably surprised at the thorough grasp the workingmen of those districts have upon the labor problem from a revolutionary standpoint than Hawthornthwaite himself. That they are thoroughly alive to the "gold brick" swindles that have been practised on them during the past by the political confidence operators of capitalism, is clearly shown by the resolutions that have been adopted at the various meetings. Take it all around the above dose of "facts" taken from the "World's" columns, are about as devoid of truth as are most of the editorial political lucubrations of that valuable sheet.

There are, however, one or two real facts embodied in the otherwise absurd slush. The silence of the government organs in regard to Hawthornthwaite's "pilgrimage" is an undoubted fact. This is due to Conservative astuteness which prompts them to smother the "death rattle" in their throats, while the Liberals bawl their dying agony from the housetops.

That the political factions of capitalism will unite against the Socialists, the "common enemy," in some constitutencies is probably a fact. If it is not it ought to be at any rate. The sooner these two pretended enemies are driven to throw off the mask of pretense, and come together where they belong, the sooner will the workers realize the task before them and take energetic measures to accomplish it. So long as any appreciable number of workers are still lead to believe that there is any difference between Liberalism and Conservatism, so long will the agony of wage-slavery be prolonged. By all means let them come together as soon as possible against the "common enemy." The common enemy" will be pleased to crack both of their necks at once.

A good many workingmen are much disturbed for fear socialism will restrict their liberty. Careful research into the literature of the movement fails to disclose anything that would tend to deny them the liberty of chasing around for a job whenever they felt disposed. That is the chief liberty they enjoy at present; hence there is no cause for alarm.

It is reported that the Czar has purchased a villa in Denmark to which he may retire in case of emergency. He is having a tunnel dug from the basement of this villa through which he may escape in case of any suspicious knock at the front door. This personal ruler business is about played out. The care-free life of an American "hobo" is a sinecure in comparison.

Some capitalist papers refer to the red flag as the "flag of Anarchy," others speak of it as the flag of Socialism, and still others as the flag of both "Anarchy and Socialism." They all appear to recognize that by no stretch of even their elastic imagination can it be construed as a commercial "trade mark."

On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November next, the American Sovereign with "patches on his pants" will exercise the proud privilege of making a political ass of himself by granting to his master a two-years' extension of power to lay the economic lash upon his fool back.

An excellent program, both instructive and entertaining, has been arranged for the citizens of Vancouver for the week beginning with Sunday next. On Sunday evening Comrade J. H. Hawthornthwaite will speak in the Grand Theatre on "Revolutionary Socialism." During the balance of the week the local dailies will "throw fits," more or less violent.

PLATFORM

"Workers of the World Unite"

Socialist Party 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 supremacy, i. e., possession of the reins of government, and which necessitates the organisation 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... ...190..
... ... Chairman.
... ...Rec.-Sec.

PATENTS PROMPTLY SECURED

We solicit the business of Manufacturers, Engineers and others who realize the advisability of having their Patent business transacted by Experts. Preliminary advice free. Charges moderate. Our Inventor's Adviser sent upon request. Marion & Marion, New York Life Bldg, Montreal; and Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Union Directory

When They Meet; Where They Meet.

Every Labor Union in the province is invited to place a card under this head. $1.00 per month. Secretaries please note.

Phoenix Miners' Union, No. 8, W. F. M. Meets every Saturday evening at 7.30 o'clock in Miners' hall. V. Ingram, president; W. A. Pickard, secretary.

J. Edward Bird, A. C. Brydon-Jack, Geo. E. McCrossan.
BIRD, BRYDON-JACK & McCROSSAN
BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.
Tel. 829. P.O. Box, 932.
324 Hastings St. . . Vancouver, B.C.

Socialist Directory

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

British Columbia Provincial Executive Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Tuesday. D. G. McKenzie, Secretary, Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

Dominion Executive Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Tuesday. J. G. Morgan, Secretary, 551 Barnard Street, Vancouver, B. C.

Local Vancouver, No. 1, S. P. of Canada. Business meetings every Monday evening at headquarters, Ingleside Block, 313 Cambie Street, (room 1, second floor). Educational meetings every Sunday at 8 p. m., in Sullivan Hall, Cordova Street. Frederic Perry, Secretary, Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

Local Toronto, S. P. of C.—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays, Socialist Headquarters, 185½ Queen Street West. F. Dale, Secretary, 41 Henry Street. Jewish Branch meets every Sunday night, same hall.

Local Winnipeg, S. P. of C., meets every first and third Sunday in the Voice office building, 213 Rupert ave., at 10:30 a. m. J. Coxon, Secretary, 226 Princess Street, Winnipeg, Man.

Established 1894.
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The Oldest Labor Paper in Canada.
Always a fearless exponent of the cause of labor.
For one dollar the paper will be sent to any address for one year.
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PARTY MATTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

These columns have been placed at the disposal of the Party. Secretaries of Locals are requested to take advantage of them in, at intervals, reporting conditions in their respective localities. Communications under this head should be addressed to the Dominion or Provincial Secretaries. Local secretaries are further requested to look to these columns for announcements from the Executive Committees. By this means the business of the Party will be facilitated and the Dominion and Provincial secretaries relieved of a little of the increasing burden of correspondence.

TO STUDENTS OF SOCIALISM.

In order to afford comrades an easy access to standard works on Socialism, the committee has decided to lay in a stock of literature. The following are on hand and will be sent post-paid to any address at prices quoted. Two-cent stamps will be accepted for sums not exceeding 25 cents:

The Communist Manifesto, Karl Marx ..... 10 cents
Socialism, Utopian and Scientific, Marx & Engels... 10 cents
Wage, Labor and Capital, Karl Marx ..... 5 cents
The Mission of the Working Class, Chas. Vail ..... .05
Socialism and Farmers, A. M. Simons ..... 5 cents

Other works procured to order.

The committee being a stockholder in the co-operative publishing house of Chas. Kerr & Co., can procure literature for the locals at cost. Campaign fund receipt books are now ready and will be furnished to locals at 10 cents each.

FOR THE SINEWS OF WAR

As will be seen good use has been made of the moneys subscribed so far to the organizing funds. Further organizing tours are under contemplation if funds are available. Further subscriptions are therefore urgently solicited as, with the great interest that is at present being manifested in Socialism, no better time could be found for spreading the propaganda and building up the organization.

DOMINION ORGANIZING FUND.

The following sums have been received to date:

Balance on hand	$23.50
R. Wade, Port Harvey	5.00
Total	$28.50

J. G. MORGAN, Sec.,
551 Barnard St.
Vancouver, B. C.

PROVINCIAL ORGANIZING FUND.

The following amounts received up to date:

Previously acknowledged	$82.00
Per J. H. Hawthornthwaite	20.00
Total	$102.00

CAMPAIGN FUND.

It has been decided by the Provincial Executive to build up a central fund to be used in generally assisting in the coming campaign and more espceially for the purpose of printing and distributing campaign literature.

All comrades wishing to collect for this fund should at once apply to the provincial secretary for a receipt book. No effort should be spared in building up this fund.

The following amounts received up to date:

Previously acknowledged	$ 5.00
J. T. Mortimer	1.00
Two Clarion subs (D. Rogers and W Blake	1.00
Total	$ 7.00

D. G. MCKENZIE, Secretary.

VANCOUVER LOCAL, NO. 1

Regular business meeting, August 6th, Com. Morgan in the chair. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Warrants were ordered drawn for the following sums:

Rent of headquarters	$10.00
Sullivan Hall rent	3.50
Due Stamp	2.50
Literature	1.90
Cleaning Headquarters	.50
Electric light	1.15

Communication received from city council informing local that city hall was let on Sundays for religious or semi-religious meetings only. Comrades Pettipiece, Stephens and McKenzie appointed a committee to agitate the matter. Communication received from Com. Hawthornthwaite to the effect that he will be willing to speak here on Sunday.—Referred to program committee with instructions to engage the Grand Theatre.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Literature sales for week	$ 1.90
Collection Sunday's meeting	5.25
Dues	4.75
Total	$11.90

Report received and the meeting adjourned.

SOCIALIST PARTY CAMPAIGN FUND

Vancouver Local.

Previously acknowledged	$22.50
E. Huther	.50
J. R.	.50
M. V.	.50
P. Garrie	1.00
Mrs. J. Burke	.25
Headquarters Box	2.50
On Clarion Subscription	.50
Total	$28.25

Frederick Perry, Secretary.

REVOLUTIONARY SPARKS

Greenwood, B. C., Aug. 11, 1906.

Dear Comrade: Greenwood Comrades have gotten themselves together and have re-organized. Enclosed find ten dollars ($10.00) for which please forward that amount in due stamps. Also send one hundred membership cards. You might also send a few constitutions. Send the bill along and I will remit by return mail. The boys are going to work with a will and you will hear from us next election in no uncertain way.

Yours in the Revolution,
EDGAR M. DYNES,
Secretary.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

Editor Western Clarion, Vancouver, B. C.:

Dear Sir:—From reading the articles in the Vancouver and Victoria daily papers it would seem that "boquet throwing" and "hot air" discourse is the chief pastime of the capitalist editorial retainer. Very gently at first, but nevertheless certain, came the "hypnotic suggestion" that, "grave doubts are held as to whether scarcity of labor might not be a serious detriment to the railroad building which is contemplated in the west." Since that time hardly an issue of any paper in Winnipeg comes out without an allusion to, or a direct assertion regarding the scarcity of labor.

Now, I emphatically deny that any such scarcity exists, and can prove the assertion that no railroad in either Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta has ever suffered from a scarcity of labor. The fact that the average wage paid for such work is $1.75 per day is sufficient proof that no scarcity exists. On some roads $2.00 is paid for common laborers, and $2.25 for rockmen. $1.45 per day is the princely sum received by a C. P. R. section man in Alberta, with the magnificent advance of five cents per day if he is fool enough to stay for one year, and as a rule he reaches his limit at that figure, as if anybody is laid o it is generally the $1.50 man.

I am not in a position to say whether the C. P. R. is any worse than other roads in Alberta, but I do know that they manage to draw interest for about 23 days on every man's pay, so I presume that is the sentiment they have for the safe keeping of his money.

If I am not taking too much of your space I would like to request the readers of the "Clarion" not to tave any notice of this cry of "scarcity of labor," which is continually voiced by the prostitute press of Winnipeg and elsewhere. There are plenty of idle men in Winnipeg at the present time, enough, I should say, to fill every vacant job in this or any other province, and still they cry for more laborers and the dailies keep their "want" ads in print in order to make the gullible believe that the city is full ol jobs and cause them to wonder why the workers won't work when they get a chance. My idea is, that they are waiting for those twenty thousand Salvation Army slum refugees from the Old Country to do it for them. What a glorious free wood chopping exhibition it will be when the whole twenty thousand get into Winnipeg next winter.

W. H. STEBBINGS,
527 Ross Ave., Winnipeg, Man.
August 1, 1906.

PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS.

(From The Worker.)

For lack of good reasons why capitalism should exist, its supporters invent bad reasons why Socialism should not take its place.

The Chicago public library has debarred "The Judge" because the directors consider it "indecent." Funny, that's just what Mr. Armour said.

Getting shot for running after other men's wives is one more risk the capitalists seem willing to take for the good of society.

If that much-heralded anti-Socialist crusade doesn't get a move on itself there won't be any homes left for Socialism to break up.

Some people are hard to satisfy. A few years ago the capitalist papers and politicians declared that Socialism would never grow in this country. Now they are complaining because it is growing too fast.

The political boss is merely the industrial boss under another name.

The woman who doesn't like Socialism shouldn't grumble when her husband's wages won't go as far as she wants them to.

"Industrial accidents" resulted in the death of 4,375 work people in Great Britain during 1905, according to the "Labor Gazette." Happily, however, no interruption of industry occurred in consequence, although in some cases time was lost in washing blood stains from valuable machinery.

SOCIALISM GROWS.

The Robbery of Labor by the Wage-System the Same Under "Free Trade" as "Protection."

The diversity of opinion between the British and ourselves on the subjects of protection and socialism afford food for thought. Socialism is growing here rapidly; protection we have long had. The total vote cast at the election of 1904 was 13,528,879, of which the socialists cast 434,374, a percentage of the total vote of 3.217, as against .913 in 1900.—Excerpt from "Unionism in Politics," in July Type Journal, by J. E. Jennings, New York, N. Y.

"The politicians are always the last people to see what is going on under their noses. They will jeer at me when I prophesy, and prophesy with the utmost confidence, that at the next presidential election the Socialists will poll over a million votes. They (the politicians) do not realize that the masses have sickened of the buncombe and insincerities of the old parties or that they are coming to realize that politics as played in the United States is no more than a game between two sets of sharpers at the expense of a muddle-headed public. That public, I believe, is growing less and less muddle-headed. It is having a pretty severe training in actualities; it is getting to see things as they really are. It sees, for instance, that in America the scale dips down on the side of capital more heavily and waotonly than in any other country in the world; it believes—is it wrong in believing?—that the millionaire and the boss rule and own this land and everything that there is above and beneath it; that together they control all the functions of government; that the courts and the ballot box are merely instruments of their power; and the constitution a hand-maid of their iniquities; that all legislation is conceived in their interests, drafted and voted for by their henchmen; that there is one law for the rich and another for the poor; ten thousand dollars for the protection of property and only twenty dollars for the protection of human life; that under the forms of democracy the American system and the American ideas have been warped and perverted into a conspiracy of plutocrats and professional politicians against the common weal; that justice and equality—not only social equality but economic equality, equality of opportunity—have vanished from the American soil; and that many millions of Americans, women and children as well as men, fatuously calling themselves free, are held in the grip of a wage slavery more horrible and more remorseless than that of the new Congo or the old South."

The above is not taken from the rabid mouthings of a Socialist, or the extravagant utterances of some crazy "anarchist agitator." It is clipped from an article by Sydney Brooks, published in that staid, sober and eminently respectable journal, "Harper's Weekly," of July 14. The Socialist has been held up to ridicule and scorn because he has referred to the wage earning class as slaves. When such thoroughly reliable and well posted journals as "Harper's Weekly" publish, without adverse comment, articles which speak of the wage system as wage-slavery, it would appear that the opponents of Socialism are the ones entitled to ridicule and scorn.

A glorious vista is opening to the vision of the workingmen. Sixty employees of a wholesale grocery house in Chicago recently received an advance in wages of fifty cents per week. The millenium approaches. It is in fact, within easy reach.

The Los Angeles Times records the horrible fact that four hundred unskilled laborers in the employ of the united Railways of San Francisco were recently organized for the purpose of securing an advance in wages up to $2.25 per day. The stupendous sum of $2.25 per day. Just think of it. Why this is scandalous. What in the world could any working man want of all that money? It's altogether too much. They might by its possessionion be led into temptation and acquire the many bad habits to which the rich are as a rule addicted. They might contract the gout through high living. At any rate the Times is to be commended for protesting against such reckless greed.

The various labor organizations of Los Angeles are arranging for another mass meeting to protest against the arrest and imprisonment of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone. The interest in the welfare of these imprisoned men is evidently not dying out among their fellow workers who have not yet been honored with arrest.

The net earnings of the United States Steel Corporation for the year ending June 30 were $40,125,633. Unfilled orders on hand on June 30 were 6,809,589 tons. Over forty million dollars of profit taken out of the sweat of its slaves in one year is not a bad showing. It is good for the masters as well as good for the slaves. This is evidenced by the fact that both seem to enjoy it. The prospective profits to accrue from the filling of the orders on hand June 30 should also look good to the masters. The joy the slaves will get out of it will be a rich compensation for their services, to say nothing of the splendid wages they will earn. Great are the blessings bestowed upon humankind by the rule of King Capital. God save the king.

IN AID OF ALBION CHURCH.

F. B. Shearme, Financial Secretary of Britannia Miners' Union No. 216 of the W. F. of M. desires to acknowledge through these columns the receipt of the following sums in aid of Albion Church, who recently lost his eyesight in an explosion in the mine:

Britannia Mine	$274.50
Empress Mine	11.00
Britannia Hotel	10.00
Employees Britannia Beach	34.50
Total	$330.00

An eastern exchange says the net earnings of the United States Steel Corporation for the last quarter year was over $45,000,000. This is all bosh. The $45,000,000 represents the net earnings of its slaves, over and above their wages, and which they got euchred out of under the system they vote for. What's the use of lying about a measly little $45,000,000.

At one of the saw mills in the interior the bosses have posted a notice prohibiting the slaves from talking while at their meals. It was at first supposed this was done to prevent them from indulging in seditious discourse, but investigation shows that it was prompted by a very commendable consideration for their physical welfare instead. The grub provided is so abominably tough that articulation, mastication and deglutition cannot be carried on in conjunction, without grave danger of fatal results, and just at the present moment "lumber jacks" are none too plentiful.

The agricultural possibilities of British Columbia are, at least in one respect, greater than in any other part of the Dominion. As most of the land stands upon edge, both sides may be utilized.

For the Campaign Fund.

Having been authorized by the publishers of the Western Clarion to receive subs at the regular rate—$1.00 per year and apply one half of all money received to the Central Campaign Fund, you are earnestly requested to assist in swelling this fund by sending your subs direct to me. Either renewals or new subs. to be taken for a period of not less than one year.

Yours for a generous Campaign Fund which means a vigorous campaign.

D. G. McKENZIE,
Prov. Secy.
Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

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THE JUNGLE PUBLISHING CO.,
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TO "CLARION" READERS.

Many complaints are reaching this office from subscribers who fail to get their papers. In some instances there are several complaints from the same locality. As every subscriber's name and the number of paper with which his subscription expires are kept continually in type and the mailing list printed therefrom each week, after all corrections, alterations and additions are made up to date, the frequency of these complaints justifies the suspicion that postal employees are often guilty of reprehensible laxity in the performance of their duties, even if they be guilty of nothing worse.

The publishers of the Western Clarion earnestly request any subscriber who does not receive his paper to promptly notify this office. Missing copies will be supplied at once and necessary steps taken to locate the reason for such non-delivery and to avoid its repetition in the future.

The publication of periodicals of every description is a specialty with The "Clarion." Telephone or write for estimates. Every facility for such work, and promptness and satisfaction guaranteed.

Five Clarion sub. cards—$3.75.
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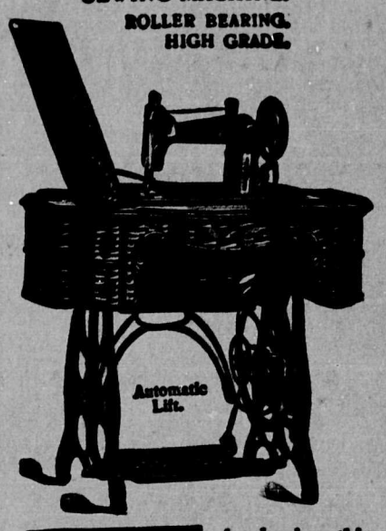

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NEWS AND VIEWS

AS GIVEN OR EXPRESSED BY SOCIALISTS THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION

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

IN THE THROES OF REVOLUTION.

The Fourth of a Series of Articlts Com. John Cloak, of Bellingham, Relating His Experiences, Observations and Conclusions as a Lifelong Factory Hand.

The word "improvement" has an ominous meaning to the being who must dispose of his or her physical powers by piece meal that the necessaries of life may be obtained, it is the means used to draft thousands and hundreds of thousands into the army of tramps through lack of employment.

The word "improvement" is never used in any case where cost is not reduced and every useless expenditure abolished.

All cost simply means labor, for there can be no other. All material was placed in the earth without the effort of man, but can only be abstracted by the expenditure of human strength. For material substances do not possess this attribute but must receive it from humgn beings. It is therefore necessary that the worker look well into every notice which appears in the papers where the word "improvement" is used. To illustrate: If a road is reported improved it means that a greater amount of goods can be carried in much shorter time. This means increased productive power and can take its place with the machine for displacement of labor. But the argument might be raised that it is a general benefit. Just so; and the same can also be said of every machine or organization of forces. But the good of all this, is absorbed by those who do no real necessary labor, while the opportunity to procure employment becomes less. Labor works the same hours as before the improvement. Once the workers become aroused to this fact they will see much in mine, factory and Farm, that enables them to correctly know the trend of events so far as the life of the worker is concerned, and will enable them to test the merits of all questions brought before the public, proclaimed to be in the interest of the workers. Having fortified themselves it will be an impossibility for them to be again led astray by any straw claim offered by any designing person. In the example I shall give I would like the reader to pause after each statement and ask themselves if the questions raised by their preacher or priest, or the principles held by the old political parties will remedy the unsatisfactory conditions. This being settled I next request the searcher to search and see that I have made no error, and I guarantee that he and I will have no differences of opinion regarding the proper remedy.

Now as to the iron industry. There have been wonderful changes in the collecting of our coal and stone used in making and refining of iron and steel. It has been estimated that it required 80 million tons of ingredients in the year of 1905, and the average distance these were conveyed by boat and rail was 450 miles.

With the aid of the machine every man, woman and child would be compelled to carry one ton over one mile each day in the year in the United States to simply get ingredients together to make iron. The unloading processes now in vogue have displaced thousands of workingmen. The lifting of weights by magnets charged by electricity is one of the wonders of this age. Tons of metal and ore are lifted up, carried to the proper place and dropped as easily as a child would handle a marble. This system has within the last year been extended to the storing department where large castings and heavy bars and pigs of crude metal are handled by this means. Thousands of men will look to other lines for employment, for 10 boys 15 to 16 years old with these great magnets will do the work of two thousand men with bars and rollers and the old style chain blocks. With a few turns of a switch, whole carloads are lifted and placed in their proper position as easily as a school boy would pick up a pin on his knife-blade that has been magnetized. The means of handling is not the only improvement but the making of metal has been multiplied a thousandfold during the decade just passed. In one year the number of men in one department was reduced from 17 to 3 and the wages cut from $91.00 to $8.75, while the product rose from 100 to 150 tons. Nor is this a rule that is applied only in isolated cases. It is a general law of capital, that all benefits of increased production shall belong to the owners of capital, and all misery to the workers. The claim of Thomas A. Edison that in the near future iron will be smelted and neatly piled up without the aid of human beings looks more reasonable with each passing day. His claim that there is no limit to which production can be made mechanical and the possibility of the worker being almost entirely relieved from labor in the near future grows brighter with the dawn of each day. The touch of the button means much today in iron production. It raises the rolls, directs the course of the metal, calls the men and closes the works.

JOHN CLOAK.

Bellingham, Wash., Aug. 3, 1906.

SOCIALISM THE HOPE OF THE WORLD

Surface Medications of Capitalism's Cess-pool of Vice, Crime and Iniquity Shows What a Seething Mass of Corruption Lies Beneath—Robbery of Wage-Labor For the Parent Crime.

It's not so many years since the capitalists of England introduced the opium traffic in China. It proved to be a profitable business, and as the victims were only Chinamen, what odds?

But society, like the individual, must pay the price of its violation of the laws of nature.

The profit-system is maintained at an awful cost.

MORALLY ROTTEN.

Speaking of the Thaw case last week, Rev. Joseph Loues, a Roman Catholic clergyman of Pittsburg, said:

"This is another evidence of the moral decline of the rich of this country. So-called fashionable society is so rotten now that it reminds one of the days of ancient Rome and Greece. And that is just what we are coming to. We are on the decline morally, and unless some great power makes itself felt in the near future, the United States will be as Rome was at the time of its fall."

He fully agreed with the views of Cardinal Gibbons and said that, although his home was in Pittsburg, he must pronounce the so-called upper society of that city "morally rotten."

"This debauchery and immorality exists almost entirely," he continued "among the millionaires—men who have come up from almost nothing. These men are really not Pittsburgers, although they are casting a blight upon the name of the city. Just as soon as they gain their wealth they go to New York, London and Paris to spend it in pleasure and debauchery. Pittsburg is too busy for them—too commercial."

SLAVES OF THE DOPE HABIT.

Another despatch from the same daily press which stands for the perpetuation of capitalism with all its insufferable iniquities and cess-pools of vice, says:

Opium, morphine and cocaine today have nearly 50,000 abject slaves in New York city. There must be several times as many more who are as yet comparatively beginners — those who are dallying with these drugs, taking their first steps along the poppy path that ends in the potter's field.

The "dope habit" has permeated every class of society, except, perhaps, that which earns its bread by manual labor, and it is beginning to make inroads on that. Brainworkers of all sorts, from the petty clerk in the office or factory up to statesmen, lawyers or great medical specialists, are victims. There is not a business or profession free from the taint, which is more awful because it can be so long concealed.

The habit is spreading rapidly among physicians, a large proportion of the layers of odds and bettors of all kinds—bookmakers, professional gamblers and racetrack touts are victims. There is hardly a fallen woman in New York who does not sniff cocaine or use opium in some form.

Socialism will destroy incentive, the home, individuality, etc., and liberty, often say our opponents.

The proletariat will have to hurry on the social revolution, or there'll be none left to destroy.

Capitalism is based upon the robbery of wage-labor.

Robbery is essentially a dirty business.

The mode of production largely determines the ethics or morality of any era.

LIKE BEGETS LIKE.

How could one expect anything else but the very kind of "society" dominant today knowing the means by which they acquire their wealth?

When an awakened working class seizes possession of the reins of government, and converts collectively-used property into collectively-owned property carries on production for use instead af profit; gives to the worker the product of his toil, it will be in the best interests of humanity.

For then men and women will be removed from the category of commodity-sellers.

The hours of labor will be "divided up."

Every able man or woman will be called upon to accept their share of the responsibility and work.

Competition—already supplanted by co-operation, except among the job-seekers—will cease; though competition among men and women, as such, will and should take its place.

To go into indeological suppositions as to what all will or will not take place under socialism, is not the purpose of the writer, but this much, at least, can be said: Socialism is based upon clean principles, and for the same reason that capitalism is what it is, and must fall of its own weight, socialism is the only hope of the world.

Socialists alone can look the world in the face, with a full knowledge and confidence of what is in store for the present rising question.

READS LIKE LAW OF MEDIEVAL AGES

Wage-Slavery as Exemplified by the Capitalist Governments of Alberta and Saskatchewan—Obligations of "Servants"—Sorry Need for a Labor Movement.

The last issue of the Liberal Governments' labor market barometer, labelled "The Labor Gazette," contains a good deal of statistical information pertaining to the wage-slave camps. Probably the coarsest bit of "law" ever enacted in modern days is reproduced as a warning to obstreperous, slaves in the newly-formed provinces to the east of B. C. It's so good it's really funny. Read it over; then pinch yourself; say "1906"; read it over again—and laugh! It should convulse even a slave. Here it is:

"Any person engaged, bound or hired in Saskatchewan and Alberta, who is guilty of drunkenness, or of absenting himself by day or night without leave from his employer, or of refusing or neglecting to perform his duties, ar to obey the lawful commands of his master, or of dissipating his employer's effects, is considered guilty of a violation of his contract, and is liable, upon summary conviction, for damages not exceeding $30, at the discretion of the justice or magistrate, together with the costs of prosecution. The alternative in default of payment is imprisonment for one month, in case the fine and all costs are not sooner paid."

GOVERNMENT ONLY MEANT FOR THE WORKERS

The Home That Postum Post Feared Socialism Would Destroy.

When a working man is found guilty of abusing his wife or of doing wrong, he is sent to the tall grass by his associates; but when a man (?) like C. W. Post is found guilty of "extreme cruelty" to the wife of his youth and a divorce is secured on that ground, the immoral wretch marries a fresh stenographer and is elected president of the American Industrial Association, as a moral model, we presume, for the youth of America to follow.—Western Laborer.

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J. H. Hawthornthwaite, M.P.P.

who has just returned from a six weeks' propaganda tour throughout the Province, will be the Speaker of the evening. His subject will be

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Platform open.—Seats will be provided for Ladies.—Collection to defray expenses. —Good Music.—Electric Fans.—Comfortable Seats.—Inform yourself as to what Socialism means to the Working Class.

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A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION

Ruling Class Executive at Ottawa Names Cannery Owners to Inspect Their Premises, With Desired Result—Trade Safe—All's Well.

Campbell Sweeney, as manager of the Bank of B. N. A., which holds the Cannery Trust in its grasp, made a fitting member of the recent commission, appointed by the Liberal Government, to enquire into the conditions around the salmon canneries of the Fraser river, and along the Canadian Pacific Coast. The interests of the western salmon profit—mongers demand that official sanction by the Canadian Government be given to the consumers of B. C.'s canned fish in the Old Country. With the appointment of Mr. Sweeney, who represents the men having the fish to sell, the decision was executed with neatness and despatch. Phil Armour could have made as good a report.

MORE SOCIALISTS.

The Lethbridge Trades and Labor Council, seeing the desirability of consolidating the labor movement of Alberta, with a view of making its power felt in the various legislatures of the country, requested the opinion of organized labor and their friends upon the advisability of going into independent labor politics. In other words becoming a part of the world-wide socialist movement, the only political expression of labor's cause upon this earth.

The editorial page of one of the local daily dailies [illegible] remarks that "what British Columbia needs to make her great, prosperous and populous, is development, and development cannot be gained without laborers." We had fondly believed that capital was the only thing needed and now it seems that prosperity can only be realized when there is an ample supply of laborers to be skinned. Thus is another of our cherished illusions knocked into a cocked hat.

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1st—We will supply a fire at any hour of the day or night, any day of the year—all you have to do is "strike a match."

2nd—We will [illegible] cooking, toasting, ironing and other requirements of household cooking than you can obtain from either coal or wood.

3rd—We will relieve you altogether of the drudgery of building fires, carrying coal or wood, handling ashes, and;

We will do all these things for an amount which is very small compared with the efficiency and comfort you will obtain.

Think this over and Phone 31. We will send our representative to give you details.

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