WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE

The WESTERN CLARION

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X Legislative Library

IN THE ROBBER BURG

Final and Unsuccessful attempts by the Socialists to Amend the Companies Act and the Public Schools Act in the Interest of Wage-earners and their Dependents—Two Important Labor Bills Introduced.

Companies Act.—P. W. moved to strike out the words in Clause 131 (e) which gave a mining company power "to buy, sell, manufacture and deal in all kinds of goods, stores, implements, provisions, chattels and effects required by the company, its workmen, or servants," on the ground that it gave the companies a more complete hold over their employees. The prices were often much higher than in stores a few miles away, and an employee who dealt elsewhere very often lost his job. Although he had no particular sympathy with the class, there were thousands of small business men struggling for a living, and it was not necessary for the companies to take up this line of business.

After objections from Bowser and McPhillips, Parker Williams said that the companies had all the powers necessary. While at present the practice was not illegal and was permitted, the clause they were discussing gave a legal sanction to it.

The amendment was lost

He also objected to clause 169, which gives the Lieut.-Governor-in-Council the power to remit penalties for a company or agent carrying on unlicensed or unregistered business.

The Attorney General replied that there might be cases where only a technical fault was found, and the Lieut. Governor might see fit to remit the fine.

Williams replied that he could see a very happy time for some people! He sometimes thought that the Lieut. Governor-in-Council and the Attorney General were one and the same. If the old man who died of hunger in Vancouver recently had stolen something to keep himself alive, he would not have received any remission of sentence from the Attorney General.

The clause passed without amendment.

The discussion of the Bill was resumed on Tuesday and Parker Williams objected to clause 247 (which states the debts which have to be paid first when a company is insolvent) as putting wages and taxes on the same level. He contended that wages should have precedence over all other claims.

Bowser characterized the proposal as "class legislation." As a lawyer, if he was selfish, he could, with equal justice, demand that lawyers be paid first.

Williams replied that the loss of taxes would be spread over the municipality, but when the wages were not forthcoming it was the worker and his family who bore the burden. As to lawyers, when a company wound up, the lawyers took the workers' wages for legal exepnses, so they got theirs anyhow, as well as those of the workers.

The Act as it stands provides that an employee of an insolvent company cannot claim more than three months' arrears of wages, or, if he or his dependents have secured a verdict against the company under the Workmen's Compensation Act, they can, in this case, only claim $500.

An Important Amendment.

Hawthornthwaite moved to amend sub clause (b) by striking out "during three months" and "not exceeding $250," also to amend subsection (c) by striking out "during three months," and subsection (d) by substituting a new subsection as follows: "All amounts due in respect of compensation under the "Workman's Compensation Act, 1902' before the said date."

Speaking to his amendment the member for Nanaimo said that the section as it stood limited the amount a worker who had obtained a judgment under the Compensation Act against a company that was winding up could claim as not to exceed $250. His amendment would make the amount unlimited. The section applied to workmen and limited his claim for wages due to three months only. Why that distinction between wage-earners in that manner? It was the old game of divide and rule. The government could then rely on one section of the workers to fight the others in the interests of their masters.

The member for the Islands could not say that these people did not produce the wealth. What corporation could continue without human labor? Last year the member for Alberni had introduced a Bill dealing with the protection of quartz miners' wages. The Attorney General had voted against it. Parker Williams had endeavored to make the companies pay their employees every fortnight, and if that had become law, there would have been no necessity for his present action. The workers had absolutely no protection as to their wages. After having worked for a company for many months and the company failed, they received no pay, and that condition should be stopped. The Attorney General had voted against both those bills. Now he raised a wail about the small grocery man. How could the grocery man be paid if the worker was not paid first?

Bowser replied that the House was there to legislate for all classes, and could not take into consideration the needs of any special class. If the workers knew that they could only claim three months' back wages, they would not let them run on. He had voted against the Bill brought in by the member for Alberni because it went to an extreme, and would not work, and would have been a bad precedent. So far as the Government was concerned, they were going to show before the session was over that they were better friends of the workers than the member for Nanaimo.

Hawthornthwaite.—Any more muzzles for inspectors?

The Attorney General.—They would bring down an amendment to the Act to protect the workers in mines. Would the member for Nanaimo give credit then to the Government for introducing labor legislation? The workers knew that the Government was their friend, always looking after their interests, and that it was safer for them to leave their interests in the hands of the Government than in those of the member for Nanaimo.

Hawthornthwaite replying said that the Attorney General now found it necessary to abandon the plea for the groceryman. He now said that the amendment was no good to the worker. The amendment provided that the amount of wages due to a worker should not be limited, but should be paid first before everything else. The blundering of the Attorney General or the misleading arguments of the member for the Islands would not delude the workers of the Province. The Conservative Government had voted down every amendment introduced in the interests of labor. The Attorney General had characterized his (Hawthornthwaite's) remarks as "claptrap," and then as "class legislation," introduced for political purposes. He would give the Government credit for being absolutely conscientious in the amendments they were bringing down to the Companies Act. They would have taken an incorrect and insincere stand if they had done any different. All legislation was class legislation, and the Government stood for capitalist production. The Socialist Party was different. They were the representatives of the revolutionary working class of the Province, of the same movement that polled nearly 4,000,000 votes in Germany, and they looked forward to the time, rapidly approaching, when this farce would be at an end, when the workers would not send to Parliament men opposed to their own interests. All legislation was class legislation, and the Socialist Party would be dishonest and insincere if they denied it, or acted differently. The Attorney General's charge against him of using "clap-trap" was false, but it could be applied to the Attorney General's attack on the Dominion Government. That was "claptrap," with the purpose of attacking the Liberal party.

The workers of the Province were without protection, as the Attorney General had admitted, and there could be no misrepresentation.

They would be able to judge the good intentions of the Government by their actions in the past, and that was well known. The Attorney General had said that they would protect the quartz miners, but they were only a small section of the workers. When the Factory Act was passed, the Attorney General proceeded to muzzle the inspectors. He (Hawthornthwaite) had absolutely no faith in him. He could not dangle that kind of bait before the Socialist Party. Some legislation would have to be brought down dealing with the protection of workmen's wages.

McPhillips, in the course of his remarks, said that the clauses sought to be amended fully protected the rights of all employees, clerks or workmen.

Hawthornthwaite pointed out that the member for the Islands and the Attorney General disagreed. The Attorney General should give his position to the member for the Islands. (Laughter.)

Brewster said he would compliment the Attorney General on the coming legislation for mine workers. He had strangled his (Brewster's) bill for protecting mine workers, but that principle was now to be adopted in the promised legislation, and he hoped it would have some result. It was two or three session since he (Brewster) had brought the matter up, and unless the Attorney General had more knowledge now than then, workmen who had been grievously wronged would have very little hope of redress from that House.

Hawthornthwaite said that the Workmen's Compensation Act gave the injured $1,500, a small sum enough for a widow and children. In Great Britain they got £300, which was a larger sum there than $1,500 was here. It was the duty of the Government to protect the workers' wages, but even before that they should protect his widow and orphans, there could be no decent argument against that. The Attorney General now sought to reduce it to $500. This was the kindness and generosity so much lauded by McPhillips. The honourable member for the Islands had some truly noble and grand conceptions. The Socialists demanded that the amounts be paid in full, and first of all.

Brewster supported the amendment. He considered that the worker should have all that was coming to him, and get the preference over ordinary creditors, when disabled.

McPhillips, during his reply stated that if a workman got a lump sum of $1,500 he might lose it in bad investments.

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THE DECLARATION OF THE WOULD-BE FREE

(Apologies to Robt. Ingersoll.)

"The mission of the Socialist Party is not to further the efforts of the commodity labor power to obtain better prices for itself, but to realize the aspirations of enslaved labor to break the galling chains of wage servitude and stand forth free."

(From Charter of Socialist Party of Canada).

Our lives are short at best, our day
 Is swiftly flown;
We know but once we pass this way
 And then we're gone
Back to the Earth from which we
 came,
We leave behind us but a name.

And life is sweet to us, for we
 Full well employ
Our lives to strive for liberty,
 And we enjoy,
We in anticipation taste
The freedom that we strive to haste.

We have no time for useless grief
 At social woe;
Too short our lives for vague belief
 We aim to know;
And then we strive to boldly do,
Expose the false, uphold the true.

We venture not on prophesy,
 To guess is vain;
Presumptiously predicting, we
 No end attain;
It is by effort work is done,
It is by fighting victory's won.

We do not seek to right defects
 In tyrants laws;
We do not dabble with effects,
 We know the cause;
And so we move from strength to
 strength
To right the giant wrong at length.

We strive to rouse our suffering class
 To right the wrong;
We look for slavery to pass,
 And that ere long;
When workers realize their worth,
And use their power to own the earth.

Too long we've argued abstract right,
 (An empty thing;)
We realize that concrete might
 New rights must bring.
Reformers may of justice prate,
We will a justice new create.

We have no nation but the mass
 Of those who toil;
Our only enemy the class
 Of those who spoil.
We draw no lines of language, race,
No boundaries but those of space.

Too long we've hoped for "better
 things"
 From higher powers;
We've placed our faith in lords and
 kings—
 The work is ours,
No more to masters we appeal,
Their ears are deaf, their hearts are
 steel.

Between us and our lords shall be
 Nought else but strife;
And this the prize of victory—
 The means of life;
For slavery's terms we'll not discuss
With those who own those means, and
 us.

'Tis not for us to cry, "Peace, peace,"
 When there is none;
We know the conflict cannot cease
 Till it is won,
And slavery dealt the final blow
By the last slave-class earth shall
 know.

We do not seek to patch a truce,
 At truce we scoff;
We do not strive our chains to loose,
 But strike them off;
For it shall ne'er of us be said,
We showed the white flag—our is Red.

We strive our class' chains to break.
 We do our best;
We try the most of life to make,
 And, for the rest—
We hope that in our time we'll see
The perfect day of liberty,

Though that hope be not satisfied,
 (Longs' been the night.)
We see—inmeasure satisfied—
 A gleam of light.
We see the slowly redd'ning sky,
Which shows the night is passing by.

We are impatient for its end,
 But steadfast still;
Be that end near or far, we bend
 With heart and will.
Our powers to our accepted task,
Applause, reward, we do not ask.

For "better terms" we make no plea
 As slaves, we spend
Our precious time and energy
 To just one end—
The mission of our lives shall be
To break our chains and stand forth
 free.

WILFRED GRIBBLE. —

LAWS OF EVOLUTION

Address on the Manner in Which Changing Environment Affects Actions, Ideas, and "Truths," Delivered by Phillips Thomson at a Public Meeting held by Toronto Local No. 24.

On Sunday, February 13th, at the regular propaganda meeting of Local Toronto, No. 24 at the Labor Temple in that city, Comrade J. Stewart presiding, an address was given by Comrade Phillips Thompson on "The Laws of Social Evolution."

The speaker began by pointing out how necessary it was in any undertaking to have a thorough understanding of the laws and principles relating to that sphere of effort. What would be thought of a farmer who should ignore the laws of the seasons and plant his crops in the winter or an architect or engineer ignorant of the principles of gravitation? Yet social reforms were undertaken in a hap-hazard way without reference to the laws of social evolution, resulting in disappointed hopes and wasted efforts.

All progress and advancement was due to the struggle in the first place for existence, and secondly for better economic conditions. The great outstanding fact that the strongest motive governing men's actions was the economic motives embodied in the common proverbs of the language "Self-preservation is the first law of nature." Necessity is the mother of invention."

The popular histories and biographies were written on the theory that social and political changes were brought about by great men. This was altogether false and misleading. Great men were merely the products of their environment, and the movements attributed to them were due to economic conditions.

In early days the struggle for existence took the form of migrations to new lands, or to contests for supremacy with neighboring tribes and nations. Afterwards came the struggle between classes, those who possessed the largest share of the good things of life striving to keep and the others striving to get. This war between classes, intensified by modren conditions, was natural an inevitable. It was, as Secretary Seward had said of the struggle between the slave-holders and the abolitionists of the United States an

"Irrepressible Conflict."

And must go on until one side or the other was utterly vanquished. The advances which had taken place in civilization and the changes wrought in the Social organization were the results of this struggle.

The rise and rapid spread of Christianity was due to economic conditions and the class struggle. The early teachers of Christianity appealed specially to the poor, to the downtrodden and the oppressed. It was essentially a class movement, recognizing the slave and the outcast as brethren and establishing a community of goods. No wonder that in an age of tyranny and oppression it spread rapidly among the common people, whose condition it promised to improve in this world as well as the next. The old Paganism was an aristocratic religion and represented wealth and privilege.

As Christianity became popular the ruling class saw in it the means of supporting the empire and holding the people in subjection, so they captured it. When Constantine made it the state religion the ruling class was converted wholesale. Of course their conversion was nothing more than skin-deep—and it has been nothing more ever since. And orthodox Christianity has ever since been the ally and the instrument of despotic rulers and the privileged class everywhere.

Development of Class Consciouness.

The speaker briefly indicated some features of modern industrial development which tended to intensify class consciouness. The line between classes was more sharply drawn owing to the concentration of capital and the employment of wage earners in large numbers. In the earlier days the employer was personaly known to his men, often worked side by side with them and frequently was not much better off than they were. Nowadays the real employer was simply a dividend drawer. He might be in London, Paris or New York, while the work of management was done by a hired man. There was a clear and wide distinction—an obvious antagonism of interests which even the dullest could not fail to recognize.

The speaker recalled the story of a Yorkshire workingman who, though very ignorant so far as book-learning went, took a keen interest in politics. Somebody asked him how he knew whom to vote for seeing he couldn't read. "Oh, that's easy," he replied, "I just wait and see who the gaffer is voting for and then I vote t'other way. I knaw that what be good for him, be bad for I."

Ignorant as he was, he knew a good deal more than Sam Gompers—a good deal more than some learnedly-ignorant college profesors and journalists who talked about labor and capitalism having common interests. He knew that it was no use to expect legislation to benefit the worker from men elected to do the will of the capitalist and that Labor must capture political power to be used in its own interests.

The Capitalist class had always been thoroughly class-conscious. Its object had invariably been to retain control of the powers of the government as well as of all those instrumentalities and agencies by which public opinion is made including the church, college, press, etc. Hence all laws, institutions and habits of thought were simply expressions of the views and interests of the capitalist class. All social reforms were the result of

Economic Determinism.

That is to say, they were occasioned by the pressure of the most powerful economic interests. Take the Protestant Reformation for instance. The history books said that it was a revolt against the abuses of the Church of Rome and credited Luther, Knox and others with having stirred up the people to demand reform. The real fact was that the nobles and ruling classes coveted the enormous wealth amassed by the clergy, and were jealous of the power and influence of the hierarchy. The interests of the ruling class were back of the agitation and so it proved successful, and the aristocracy got possession of the property that had formerly been owned by the cardinals and the abbots. If the Lords and barons hadn't seen a chance for plunder in the business, Luther, Calvin and Knox would have been burned or hanged, and the Reformation crushed out, as many previous attempts in the same direction were.

The abolition of chattel slavery again was another instance in which a great social reform was acomplished simply because it coincided with the interests of the Capitalist class. Wendell Phillips and Lloyd Garrison devoted their lives to it with the purest philanthropic motives, but they would have preached to deaf ears but for the fact that the shrewd Yankee capitalist saw that slavery was a huge economic blunder, that it didn't pay, because it was cheaper to buy labor of a wage-slave than to own a chattel slave. As a matter of fact, slavery existed at one time in the Northen States and in Canada, but it soon died out, without any agitation or trouble, simply because it wasn't suited to the prevailing economic conditions.

The Prohibition Movement.

Just now a great movement for prohibiting the Liquor traffic is sweeping the country. From large areas of territory the bar-room had been banished and it appeared more than likely that in a few years prohibition would become general.

Economic determinism again! Moral reformers had preached temperance and prohibition for generations to little effect. The movement was necessary now because of changed economic conditions. The business inter-

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THE PEASANTRY.

Heavens, the term is quite obsolete, and the peasant himself must be as extinct as the Megantosaur, whatever that might have been. 'Tis a pity, too, for they were a fine jovial bunch, the peasantry; they quaffed their ale and played the pipe and tripped it merrily on the green. (See the "Deserted Village, Opera, grand and light, and other eminent and veracious authorities.)

It is surprising how well they seemed to get along, considering the disadvantages they had to contend with. Despite the exactions of the landlords, they seemed to get a living out of cultivating the soil and even had time to indulge in a bit of horseplay once in awhile, which is astonishing, since they had no binders and threshers and seeders and sulky plows to do their work with. Of course their fare was very rude, consisting mainly of bread and cheese or porridge or potatoes. Their dwellings, too, were mere cottages of brick or stone, their beds common straw mattresses and their clothing homespun. Nevertheless, reconsidering their disadvantages, the lack of up-to-date machinery and the absence of even passable transportation facilities, it is surprising that they contrived to live at all.

It really seems a pity that these fine people did not have our modern advantages but should have been compelled for generations to drag out their frugal existences in such an unsatisfactory manner.

How much happier their lot would have been if they had only been more progressive like our western farmers, who have labor-saving machinery to do their plowing and seeding and haying and harvesting for them, and are thus enabled to raise the millions of bushels of grain and millions of dollars worth of beef and pork and other produce, and have elevators and transcontinental railways and transatlantic steamers to transport their products to the markets. Why, they might have been rolling in wealth; wearing the latest fashions, joy riding in automobiles, eating six-course dinners with caviare entrees and cream-puff exits. They might have sent their daughters to finishing schools and married them to marquises and "lived happily ever afterwards."

We love our wage-mule. His father was an ass and he shows it. But, oh, you farmers. They call you hard-headed folk. Guess you are, granite-headed. Don't you ever see anything wrong? Where is all that millions of dollars worth of wealth you dug out of the mud? Did you get it? Or who got it? And why?

And then, when the politician is particularly hard pressed for your vote, he buys it—with a railroad. Is it because you were put on the straw stack at an early age that you are so fond of chaff? A railroad, of all things to give you for candy. Is it because you were raised among sheep that you are muttonheaded? Don't you know what a railroad is? It is a tentacle of the cuttlefish Capital and every depot is a sucker. Its function is to suck the juice out of everything in sight and to leave the dry rind to us, the wage mules and farm plugs.

What better are you off than the peasant? You with your greasy old near-fur cap pulled down over your ears, your goat-skin coat and dingy overalls, your frost-bitten nose, your whiskers full of icicles and your kelly full of "Strong Bakers." Picturesque and properous, aren't you? They will sure write poetry and opera about you. How much above the peasants have the transcontinentals and transatlantics and McCormicks and Massey-Harrises raised you? If there is anything to choose, it is us for the peasantry.

Modern machinery and "facilities" have made a big difference, but not to you. To whom? Look at your masters. They have millions where the peasants' masters had thousands. The better the machinery the greater your output and your master's wealth. The better the transportation, the harder you have to rustle.

You and we are in the same boat. Together we produce the world's wealth for our common masters, the owners of the mines and mills and railways and steamers. All either of us gets is our hay and oats while we are needed, and when we are not, we can go pasture on a slag-pile or a fence-post.

Isn't it time we jarred loose and got together?

MONEY MAD.

Maybe the millionaries the money mad, but they are not in the same class with the cuss who has currency on the brain. We had a severe wide-spread outbreak of this malady about the time the last comet blew along, and perhaps that has something to do with it, for it seems to be breaking into print again, a few of the possessed having survived the perpetuate the hoary delusion that "our" monetary system is rotten.

Before going further, we wish it clearly understood that we hold no brief for the banks. They do not see fit to advertise in the Clarion despite the fact that it circulates mainly among those properous proletarians who, according to "Gourock," defray the cost of the Dreadnoughts and who, acording to Untermann, are the fat prey of those who enhance prices to the consumer.

Nevertheless we avow our unfaltering confidence in the monetary system, and will, without hesitation, take paper money at its face value. "Gold is Catholic," says Marx, "and credit is Protestant." And we were raised in the Protestant faith, whatever it was.

We don't care whether the currency is inflated, contracted, elastic or prehensile. What bothers us is that it is cursed scarce. What if a five-spot is actually worth only fifteen cents? Provided the landlady will accept it as a modest contribution towards the board bill.

The currency system is fine. It enables the banks to do business, and that is what it is intended for. If reformers would devote their energies to devising a currency system that would enable the banks to do more business, there might be some sense in it. But they will persist in wanting to fix it so that it will be better for the "common people" and worse for the banks, which is not only absurd but impracticable. The common people don't care and the banks do, and that comes pretty near settling it.

It is asserted that the currency system enables the banks to get more than their fair share, but this we unconditionally deny. The banks' fair share is all they can get. Can they get more? Besides it doesn't make any difference to us wage mules who gets it. We wont'.

And that is our trouble. Until we insist on getting it all, every last bit of it, we will continue to be compelled to pass up everything but bed and board to somebody. And it might as well be a bank among the rest.

A bank is no worse than a saloon or a sawmill.

ONE ON GRAND FORKS.

As we have pointed out before, when there is any law-making to be done, the fit and proper person to do it is a lawyer.

For instance, Grand Forks riding was, in the last Legislature represented by a common miner, John McInnis. He brought down a number of Bills and fought them through to the bitter end commonly, and befittingly, predestined to Labor measures by the Gods of Capitalism. If any technical flaws could have been discovered in these Bills to furnish an excuse for killing them they would certainly have been made use of, but not even the eagle eye of the Napoleonic Bowser could detect any such and the Bills had to be killed on general principles.

Nevertheless, at the last elections, the collective intelligence of the electorate of Grand Forks, assisted by a lavish Conservative campaign fund, saw fit to replace the miner by a lawyer, Mr. Miller, to wit, passing in Grand Forks as a smart and able lawyer by virtue of his intimate knowledge of the Law of Grand Forks, the will of the Granby Company.

Arrived in the Legislature this legal luminary, who, by common report aspires to succeed Bowser in the Attorney-Generalship, brings forth his maiden effort in the way of law-making. Immediately various members of the legislature proceed to display their assinine ignorance of Grand Forks Law. Mr. Miller's Bill is found to be out of form and out of order in as many ways as it very well could be. It outrages all legislative niceties, violates all available precendents, and trespasses on sundry sacred prerogatives. The chairman of the committee allows even the notorious Hawthornthwaite's point of order that Mr. Miller not being a "Minister to the Crown," could not even introduce the Bill, and at present the Bill is hung up in order to allow the Speaker to evolve some method of letting Mr. Miller down without totally ruining his professional standing.

From all of which it will appear that the measure must have been one of most intricate complexity and far-reaching importance, and it certainly was, for it proposed to do no less than to change the name of the Great West Permanent Loan & Savings Co., to the Great West Permanent Loan Co.

Come again, Grand Forks. The wisdom of your electorate is no less than the legal knowledge of your representative.

LAWS OF SOCIAL EVOLUTION.

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ests of the country realized that the drinking habit was bad for them. The capitalist saw that he could get more work and bigger profits out of sober than drunken wage-slaves, therefore the bar must go.

There was a story told of a Yankee who was running to catch a steamer, which left the wharf just as he arrived. He took a jump and fell on the deck. Getting up slowly he looked back, the steamer having by this time got a hundred feet or so out, and exclaimed in amazement,

"Jehosaphat, What a Jump!"

Temperance reformers who boast of the progress made by their "great moral reform" are just about as logical. The capitalist would see to it that liquor was supressed if all the temperance agitators retired from the field. The same might be said concerning the agitation against bookmaking on the races. That would also be put down, not as the result of a moral reform crusade, but because the capitalist wanted honest instead of dishonest wage-slaves.

The Imperialist Wave.

The speaker dealt at some length with the wave of Imperialist sentiment, which found expression in the demand for Dreadnoughts and increased military preparations. It was perfectly natural that the capitalist class should favor militarism for several reasons. The military forces were always at the command of capitalists in case of labor troubles. The building of navies and forts afforded great opportunities for graft, and put money in circulation, and the demand for officers opened positions for the dissolute and worthless sons of the plutocracy, who were fit for nothing else.

Nearly all wars were caused by the need of finding new markets to absorb surplus products. It was no wonder therefore that capitalists were imperialists to a man. But working men who had everything to lose and nothing to gain by war should let them do their own fighting. They were apt to be led away by appeals to their loyalty and patriotism. The henchmen and hirelings of the capitalists were never tired of talking loyalty. It was assumed that everyone ought to be patriotic, and men were so much under the influence of a phrase that most of them were ashamed to be otherwise. They were hypnotized by a word. When you hear a thing repeated over and over again you are apt to accept it as a truth.

The Virtue of Repetition.

Meunier, the French capitalist, built up his fortune on the disposition of the public to take a thing for granted on the head of frequent re-iteration. He was a chocolate-maker in a small way, and one day his foreman came and told him that a batch of chocolate was spoiled and unsaleable. It had all turned white, whereupon Meunier inserted ads. in all the Paris papers. "Buy Meunier's Chocolate—the only chocolate that turns white in two months." The fool public read and bought and kept on buying until they made Mons. Meunier a millionaire. It never occurred to them to stop and reflect as to why white chocolate should be better than any other kind. They were simply hypnotized by repetition.

Just so, the fool Canadian public had had the exhortation "Be loyal; be patriotic; defend the Empire!" dinned into their ears so persistently that they accepted it without pausing to enquire "Why?" The loyalty-spouters and patriots for revenue would have some trouble in giving a satisfactory answer. It was easy to understand why Mackenzie & Mann should be loyal, why Senators Cox and Jaffray should be patriots, why Sir Wilfred Laurier, Sir James Whitney and the whole crowd of grafters and tax-eaters should support the Empire—but why should the wage-earner? What had he to gain by it, either individually or as a class?

Class Antagonism.

"Class-hatred," said the speaker, "while some might deplore it, was the natural and inevitable result of class-antagonism and the clashing of interests. The capitalist was merely the product of his environment. We do not blame him any more than we blame a wolf or a tiger. Neither can help being what he is. All the same, it is necessary to fight him to a finish. Neither were his allies and instruments, the politicians and judges, to be blamed. In upholding capitalism they simply did their duty to the class they represented. Judges gave harsh decisions in labor cases and were always biased in favor of employees. Well why not? That was just exactly what they were appointed to do—to protect property rights and maintain the rule of capitalism. If anyone was blameworthy it was the workingman who supported the system by their votes.

All "reform" movements based on appeals to the class who profit by existing conditions were certain to fail. No class ever voluntarily gave up its privileges. Socialists were called "utopian" and "visionaries," but they were not utopian enough to imagine as did the single-taxers and other Social reformers that the men in possession were going to be moved by appeals to their sense of justice or desire to do right. They were not sufficiently "visionary" to suppose as some people did, that you could elect a capitalist or capitalist heeler to parliament and then expect him to vote contrary to his own interests. Socialists were not dreamers enough to expect to cure the evil of a bad system by electing "good" men.

Futility of Civic Reform.

Down in Montreal they had been complaining of graft and were now rejoicing because they had elected a new set of civic rulers—"good men" in the bourgeois sense of the word. Well probably before the year was up the complaints would be louder than ever. The only difference between a "good" man and a "bad" one in capitalist politics was that it cost considerably more to buy the good man—if you need to buy him. Generally, however, the good man didn't have to be bought. He was usually a wealthy and prominent citizen, closely associated in his business with corporations, and would do their work quite naturally and spontaneously without having to be bribed. If not, he could generally be got at in some roundabout fashion.

The only remedy was Socialism and that could not come until the workers were ready for it and could only be won by themselves. To this end a thorough grasp of the Socialist philosophy and a knowledge of the laws of social evolution was the first essential.

DOWN IN DEVON.

Comrade:—

I have been visiting the land of my birth (Devonshire) during the British elections, and I must admit, whatever else the English people might be slow about it is certainly not at electioneering. In "Old Devon" it has been simply terrific.

The Liberals here are subjected to every kind of abuse that the Socialists of Canda are subjected to; the clergy of the established Church go around acting as advocates for the Tory landlords; Primrose Dames go into the homes of the farm laborers and try and ferret out from their wives or children how the men are going to vote. Some of these Primrose Dames are the most conscienceless, vindictive specimens of humanity the world has ever produced, it is wonderful that the agricultural districts have done so well for the Liberals.

We Socialists of Western Canada have a very easy time of it in comparison to the proletariat of the rural districts of England. The intimidation, bribery and other abuses in vogue here is something unknown in Western Canada. Some landowners have as high as twenty-five votes. The elections are held so that these men can go around in motor cars and vote in the different constituencies all over the United Kingdom. In the Tavistock Division of Devonshire, there are over 1,000 out-voters, yet that constituency returned an uncompromising Radical, a better man than Kier Hardie in my opinion.

These fighting Liberals of Devon, descendents of the old sea dogs, refuse to be intimidated by the clergy, landlords, whiskey-sellers or brewers. The men and women are here with strength and stamina, fit for any ordeal, Oh, for a Hawthornthwaite, a Kingsley, John Harrington, Charlie O'Brien and the rest of our B. C. giants to educate these men and women in the cause of International Socialism so as to remove from their minds the eternal fear of war, poverty, murder and every other crime that capitalism creates.

Old Booth is still acting as scavenger for the exploiting classes and Canada can look forward to a never failing supply of Booth's undesirables, as the capitalists are grinding down the workers to a lower level than ever before, even the Non-conformist preachers seem to have ceased to preach hope for any betterment here but just preach a salvation to escape a worse fate in the world to come.

The landlords here have raised the rents to such a pitch that the women have got to work worse than chattel slaves, also every child just as soon as it is old enough.

SID. J. HAMBLY.

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Socialist Directory

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

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Monday. D. G. McKenzie, Secretary, Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL Executive Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Monday. D. G. McKenzie, Secretary, Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Monday in Labor Hall, Eighth Ave. East, opposite postoffice. Secretary will be pleased to answer any communications regarding the movement in the province. F. Oxtoby, Sec., Box 647 Calgary, Alta.

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee. Meets first and third Mondays of every month, Jubilee Hall, corner of King and Alexander. The Secretary will be pleased to furnish any information and answer any correspondence relative to the movement. S. Cummings, Organizer; W. H Stebbings, Sec, Suite 7 Lydia Court, Winnipeg, man

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee. Meets in Labor Temple, 167 Church St., Toronto, on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Organizer, W. Gribble, 134 Hogarth Ave., Toronto. P. C. Young, Secretary, 940 Pape Ave.

MARITIME PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every second and fourth Sunday at Comrade McKinnon's, Cottage Lane. Dan Cochrane, Secretary, Box 13, Glace Bay, N. S.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, NO. 1, S. P. OF Canada. Business meetings every Tuesday evening at headquarters, over Edgett's Store, 151 Hastings St. W. F. Perry, Secretary, Box 836.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, B. C., NO. 45, Finnish. Meets every second and fourth Thursdays in the month at 151 Hastings St. W. Secretary, Wm. Myntti

LOCAL VICTORIA, NO. 2, S. P. OF C. Headquarters and Reading Room, Room 1, Eagle Building, 1319 Government St. Business meeting every Tuesday evening, 8 p.m. Propoganda meetings every Sunday at Grand Theatre. R. Thomas, Secretary.

LOCAL NANAIMO, NO. 2, S. P. of C., meets every alternate Sunday evening in Foresters Hall. Business meeting at 7:00 o'clock sharp. Propaganda meeting commences at 8:00 o'clock. Jack Place, Rec. Secy., Box 826.

LOCAL FERNIE, S. P. of C, HOLDS educational meetings in the Miners' Union Hall, Victoria Ave., Fernie, every Sunday evening at 7:45. Business meeting first Sunday in each month, same place at 2:30 p m David Paton, Secy, Box 101

LOCAL GREENWOOD NO. 9, S. P. OF C., meets every Sunday in Miners' Union Hall at 7:30 p.m. Business meetings, 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. Geo Hatherton, Organizer; R. J. Campbell, Secretary, Box 124.

LOCAL VERNON, B. C., NO. 33, S. P. OF C., meets every second and last Friday in each month. Chas. Chaney, Secretary, Box 127, Vernon, B. C.

LOCAL PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., NO. 53, S. P. of C.—Meets every Sunday in hall in Empress Theatre Block at 8:00 p. m. Angus McIver, Secretary.

LOCAL MARA, B. C., NO. 34, S. P. of C. Meets first Sunday in every month in Socialist Hall, Mara, 2:30 p.m. Cyril Rosoman, Recording Secretary.

LOCAL REVELSTOKE, B.C.S.P.C.—Propaganda and business meetings at 8 p.m. every Sunday evening in the Edison Parlor Theatre. Speakers passing through Revelstoke are invited to attend. B. F. Gayman, Secretary. W. W. Lefeaux, Organizer.

LOCAL LADYSMITH NO. 10, S. P. OF C. Business meetings every Saturday 7 p.m. in headquarters on First Ave. Peter Williams, Sec., Ladysmith, B. C

LOCAL MOYIE, B. C., NO. 30—MEETS every Sunday 7:30 p.m. in McGregor Hall (Miner's Hall), Mrs. Thornley, Secretary.

LOCAL ROSSLAND, No. 25, S. P. OF C., meets in Miners' Hall every Sunday at 7:30 p. m. E. Campbell, Secy., P. O. Box 674. Rossland Finnish Branch meets in Finlanders' Hall, Sundays at 7:30 p. m. A. Sebbie, Secy., P. O. Box 765 Rossland, B. C.

LOCAL NELSON, S. P. OF C., MEETS every Friday evening at 8 p.m., in Miners' Hall, Nelson, B. C. C. A Organizer; I. A. Austin, Secy

LOCAL PHOENIX, NO. 8, S. P. OF C., meets every Sunday at 8:30 p.m., in Miners' Hall. Matt Halliday, Organizer. H. K. Macinnis, Secretary.

LOCAL CALGARY, ALTA., NO. 4, S. P. of C. Meetings every Sunday at 8 p.m. in the Labor Hall, Barber Block, Eighth Ave. E. (near postoffice). Club and Reading Room, Labor Hall, D. A. McLean, Box 647. Secretary, A. Macdonald, Organizer, Box 647.

LOCAL BELLEVUE, ALTA., NO. 12, S. P of C., meets every first and third Sunday evenings, Bellevue Town Hall. J. Oliphant, Secretary.

LOCAL COLEMAN, ALTA., NO. 8. Meets every Sunday night in the Miners' Hall and Opera House at 8 p.m. Everybody welcome. Socialist speakers are invited to call. H. J. Smith, Secy.

LOCAL EDMONTON, ALTA., NO. 1, S. P. of C. Headquarters 622 First St., Business and propaganda meetings every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. sharp. Our Reading Room is open to the public free, from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. F. Blake 649 Athabasca Ave., Secretary-Treasurer, T. Bissett, 322 Fourth St., Organizer.

LOCAL WINNIPEG, S. P. OF C. HEADquarters, Kerr's Hall, 120 1-2 Adelaide Stree opp. Roblin Hotel. Business meeting every Sunday morning 11 a. m. Propaganda meeting Sunday evening 8 p.m. Everybody welcome. Secretary, J. W. Hilling, 270 Young St; Organizer, D. McDougall, 424 Jarvis St

LOCAL TORONTO, ONT., NO. 34, S. P. of C.—Business meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in the month, at the Labor Temple, Church St. Propaganda meetings every Sunday at 3:30 o'clock at the Labor Temple. Speakers' class every Thursday at 8:00 o'clock at Labor Temple. J. Stewart, Secretary, 62 Seaton St.

LOCAL OTTAWA, NO. 8, S. P. OF C. Business meeting 1st Sunday in month, and propaganda meetings following Sundays at 8 p.m. in Roberts-Allan Hall, 78 Rideau St. A. G. McCollum, 68 Slater St., Secretary.

LOCAL COBALT, NO. 9, S. P. OF C. Propaganda and business meetings every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Miners' Hall. Everybody invited to attend. Arthur L. Botley, Secy., Box. 446.

LOCAL BERLIN, ONT., NO. 4, S. P. of C., meets every second and fourth Wednesday evenings, at 8 p.m. 55 King St. E., opposite Market Hotel. V. A. Hintz, Sec., 98 West Lancaster Street.

LOCAL GLACE BAY NO. 1, OF N. S.—Business and Propaganda meeting every Thursday at 8 p.m. in Macdonald's hall, Union Street. All are welcome. Alfred Nash, Corresponding Secretary, Glace Bay; Wm. Sutherland, Organizer, New Aberdeen; H. G. Ross, Financial Secretary, office in D. N. Brodie Printing Co. building, Union Street.

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THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

This Page Is Devoted to Reports of Executive Committees, Locals and General Party Matters—Address All Communications to D. G. McKenzie, Sec., Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

PROPOSITION FOR REFERENDUM.

It has been regularly moved by Local Sydney Mines, N. S. No. 7, through the Maritime Executive committee that a referendum be taken on the advisability of affiliation with the International Socialist Bureau. Locals favoring the same should therefore so notify their Provincial Executive Committees before March 23rd. Should a majority of the Provincial Executives be instructed to endorse the proposition, a general vote of the Party will be taken. In accordance with Article IV, Section 1 (d).

Provincial Executive Committees when so instructed by a majority of the Locals within their jurisdiction, should notify the Dominion Eecutive Committee before April 1st.

DOMINION EXECUTIVE.

Meeting held February 28th, 1910.

Present, Comrades Morgan (chairman), Karme, Mengel, Mackenzie, Peterson, Stebbings and the Secretary.

Minutes of previous meeting approved

Correspondence dealt with from Ontario, Alberta and Maritime Eecutives; Locals Toronto and Galt, Ont.; Dauphin, Man.; Innisfail and Bellevue (Finnish), Alta.; Fennel Hall and New Finnland, Sask.; Organizers O'Brien, Gribble and Tomashavsky.

Receipts.

Alberta Executive	$25.00
Ontario Executive per Local Sault Ste. Marie	5.00
Local Bellevue Finnish Branch Charter	1.00
Local New Finnland, Sask, Supplies	1.50
Total	$32.50

Warrants authorized for Postage $3; Secretary's February Salary, $15.00; February Card in Clarion, $1.00.

B. C. PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE.

Meeting, February 28th, 1910.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

Correspondence dealt with from Locals Victoria, South Wellington, Ladysmith (Finnish) Nanaimo, Sointula, Salmon Arm, Mara, Sandon, Phoenix, and from Com. J. Staples, Cloverdale, B. C.

E. W. Blackstone, Roger's Pass, B. C. admitted a member at large.

Resolution from Local Vancouver re Comrade Hawthornthwaite's position in the Legislature referred to Local Nanaimo.

Warants authorized for February card in Clarion $1.00, Secretary's February Salary $15.00.

Receipts.

Local Prince Rupert, supplies	$ 5.50
Local Nanaimo, stamps	10.00
Local South Wellington, stamps	5.00
Local Salmon Arm, stamps	5.00
Local Phoenix, stamps	5.00
Local Phoenix (Ukrainian), stamps	5.00
Local Ladysmith (Finnish) stamps	10.00
Local Sointula, stamps	5.00
Local Sandon, stamps and buttons	9.80
Local Mara, Due Cards	1.00
J. Staples, Organizing Fund	6.00
Blackstone, member at large, dues 2.00	2.00
Total	$69.30

ROSEWATER AND VINEGAR.

What is the most important part of propaganda activity? Is it speech-making, discussion, or in a library. I have no intention of belittling any one of these methods of spreading the light but I cannot help but think that the library has the palm. Speech-making presents difficulties which some of us never overcome, only a few are good debaters, but all can buy books. Books are great or little men's minds condensed and bound between board covers. They are the voices of the past and of the present. Marx, living in squalid misery in his Soho tenement, sends out his message of hope and enlightenment to the proletarians of all countries, crying, Unite, Unite. Blatchford from his Worship street offices spins his thoughts on paper and lo! in a few days they are being discussed from pole to pole. Here and forever in printed type, are these men's thoughts encased, yours is the opportunity, Oh slaves, an opportunity never open to any other slave class in history. For a few cents you may revel in knowledge, in a few years you may walk side by side with your intellectual college professor and in a year or so more, if you study closely, your college professor will find himself outclassed by a filthy, dirty, beast in overalls. All the speeches in the world cannot bring you to this pitch and you must study before you can discuss; hence, the case for the library is made out and I think it really is the most important of all. Every Local in the Dominion should have a small library and a large one if you can afford it, at any rate a library of some sort.

Now comes the rub, one cannot be too careful of the books bought for lending to outsiders, all sorts and conditions of books find their way to the Comrades from the press of C. H. Kerr and other publishers, which are not and cannot begin to be considered by library committees. In places where young Locals are being formed there is considerable danger of good money being thrown away on trash. Most Comrades come to the movement in a sentimental state of mind and hence not being very clear upon the cold and bitter class struggle are inclined to purchase sloppy dope, works deficient in economics, unsound in logic, almost devoid of reason, in a word that may be termed the novelettes of Socialism. Such books are very largely advertised and catch many suckers.

I may say that in its infancy, Local North Battleford was induced by, seductive advertising to throw away a small sum, but we have since grown wiser. Beware of Solar Plexus combinations, look not upon "The Message of Socialism to the Church" with kindly eyes; beware of "Socialism and Smokers" or "Jottings from Above" by Marx Middleman, Esq.

Sound Comrades should read everything that comes along critically and carefully and reject all that bear the hal mark of reform. Make sure that all books going out amongst the "nerd" are hard and fast RED. Keep always in your mind the conditions of Britain and the U.S.A., 'ware Blatchfords and Kier Hardie's. Keep your eyes on Stitt Wilson's and Vail's; fire all leaders and keep a close eye on your executives; make sure that you yourself are fit to discuss and explain what Socialism really is. This can only be done by reading and thinking. Our existence as a revolutionary party depends upon how much the rank and file know, and you can never know enough. Some Comrades having read one or two standard works sit down and say that they know all there is to know, they do not and never can.

Again, don't patronize every paper but the Party organ, I know that the Western Clarion is disliked and its up to us to keep it so, its up to us to make it boom and not to buy any old rag that comes along with the word Socialism printed all over it and not one ounce of real Socialism in its pages. Let us make our paper strong so that we may, in a short while establish a publishing house of our own, where only revolutionary books may be turned out and where reformism shall withere and die like sheep in a waterless desert.

And now for another word upon another subject. Far be it from me to dictate how this and that shall be done or to assume superior airs because the editor has spared one or two of screeds from the total oblivion of the wast paper basket. It is with a humanitarian aim then, that I venture upon the following. A notion that the editor might be spared some unnecessary work possesses me, if prospective contributors will only follow out the following instructions:

First, if your article is of an argumentative type begin by informing your opponent that you are telling him and not arguing with him, it will absolutely prove everything else you have to say.

Next, if you cannot understand Marx, say that he is dead long ago and buried under his own rubbish pile, or that he was bughouse or dippy, which position will utterly destroy any remarks he may have made in his casual and brief writings, tnen again, to clinch the matter chuck in a few French words or a little Latin, you will find heaps at the end of any dictionary, which will show your intellectual standing to your wage slave readers and is sure to convince them you are right, more so if they cannot understand them.

If you get the better of an opponent thank heaven that he will not travel in Canada on his reputation anymore. If you are writing of a person, who in all sincerity calls himself a Socialist and is not, because he is not class conscious, call him a backslider, scamp, villain, Judas or anything that comes handiest; it cannot fail to tell upon him, more so if he is none of these.

If you have any small troubles in your Local try and introduce them into the Clarion, they will take up some valuable space and will prove entertaining if you make them venomous with personalities.

But the cream of article writing, the real high water-mark which you can only reach with much practice is to damn and swear like a Bargee. If the editor in his haste lets a good honest damn escape into print, improve upon it, variegate it, use the word hellcracker as often as you can, it's so convincing, you know, absolutely proves everything you have to say. An article interspersed with dam-rot, hell-cracker—oh hell, and the like has been known to do more good than all the Socialist books ever printed. Besides it shows you have an original mind, such sayings have never been heard before and probably wil never be again when you are dead, so make the most of them while you can. It makes the Clarion look better, serves the same purpose as a picture.

Once more, never try to cultivate a clear style of writing, foam is what is wanted and in a weak case, invective is invaluable. Call everyone who washes his hands and sports a boiled shirt, a useless parasite or a pink tea Socialist, you might be right, certain you can never be wrong.

As I have said before, these ideas are only thrown out for beginners, I fear if they cannot follow them they will never find a place amongst the galaxy of polished contributors of the Clarion.

A. BUDDEN.

WORK OR PAY.

Dear Comrades:—

Are you willing to help in the coming election in Manitoba, if so I ask you to send a dollar to the Clarion office and have a bundle sent to me for three months, or send what you can spare in cash to Comrade Stebbing, City Comptroller's office, Winnipeg, and all Comrades in Winnipeg to come to our business meetings every Sunday 3:30 and help us in our propaganda.

We are likely to put up two candidates in Winnipeg and we intend to make things go some, I appeal to every Socialist to have a bundle sent, the more the merrier, we've got to make a showing in Manitoba.

I might also draw attention to the other towns in Manitoba, such as Brandon, Portage La Prairie, Dauphin, etc, I am sure the Comrades in these towns would be only too pleased to accept a bundle of Clarions.

Get busy Comrades and don't forget that by helping us you are helping yourselves. Send us that bundle right away, we are eager to put a Clarion in the hands of every resident in Winipeg. I remain,

Yours of the revolution,
Wm. WATTS.
522 Bannatyne Ave, Winnipeg.

THE LIBERAL-LABOR DEAL.

While the Liberal majority of 124 in the new English parliament is said on the one hand to be inadequate to deal effectively with the Lords, on the other hand it is shown to be quite sufficient for that purpose. As H. W. Massingham, a prominent Liberal journalist, states:

"Only four times has this majority been exceeded since 1832, the starting point of modern politics. It is far above the normal. It is well-known that Gladstone calculated that if he had obtained such a majority in 1892 Home Rule would have been absolutely safe. Nor can there be any doubt as to the main purpose for which this majority exists, nor as to its solid attachment to that purpose."

The Liberal government has, therefore, no excuse. Yet, although it is impossible at the time of writing to say what procedure will be adopted, it is evident, even to the bulk of the Liberals, that an evasion is being prepared. Whatever the government does, however, it is certain that the House of Lords will not suffer; for the proposals for "reform" of the upper chamber chamber put forward by Liberals and Tories alike, are not directed against what are called "the legitimate functions of the second chamber." "Anomalies" may, or may not, be lopped off, but the net result of any change made by the capitalist party will only strengthen the House of Lords.

There are purtubations among the rank and file in the Liberal camp. It is being pointed out by many Liberals that "to pass the budget before settling matters with the Lords would be to surrender the only weapon by which the privileges of the Commons can be maintained." And this is true. Moreover, ministers are solemnly and unequivocally pledged "to deal with the House of Lords at once, and not to hold office, no not for an hour, unless they can secure the safeguards which experience shows us to be necessary." Minister after Minister made a similar declaration. The Lord Chancellor made it at the outset of the debate on the budget in the House of Lords; the Chancellor of the Exchequer made it at the National Liberal Club; the Prime Minister made it at the Albert Hall. But Mr. Asquith also said in the House of Commons on December 2: "We have advised the Crown to dissolve. * * * If we are fortunate enough to enjoy the confidence of the new House of Commons, then our first act will be to reimpose from this week all the taxes and duties which were embodied in the Finance Bill." This is facing both ways with a vengeance in the Liberal way, and we are waiting with a cynical curiosity to see what dodge the government will resort to in order to escape from their engagements.

It is suggested that they will send the budget through first, and then put forward a measure for "reforming" the Lords, and, on this being rejected by the upper chamber, dissolve parliament and appeal once more to Caesar; this time, of course, "definitely" upon the question of the Lords! It is considered certain that upon such a further appeal the Liberals will be defeated, and doubtless this is part of the program. It seems probable that this is the precedure that will be adopted, for the leading London Liberal organ, "The Daily Chronicle," says:

"Therefore what has to be regarded "as a possible contingency is a further "appeal to the constituencies before "many months are past, upon the one "clear and sharp issue of the House "of Lords as submitted in a definite "series of legislative proposals."

And so the game will go on. Surely the humbug of it must be plain to all.

No Socialist, and indeed, few politicians, had any doubt regarding the worthlessness of the Liberal pledges. But the Labor Party—and the Social Democratic Party—have deliberately traded on the Liberal humbug. The S. D. P. frantically endeavored to come to an arrangement with the Liberals. They wanted the Liberal candidates withheld at Burnley, Haggerston, and Northampton, so that the S. D. P. candidates should have what they call "a straight fight," with the Tories, and a chance of getting elected with the aid of the Liberal vote. Repeated appeals were made in their official organs for the "unity of the progressive forces" against the Tories. Even the Labor Party are laughing at them, and C. A. Glyde of the I. L. P. gave (in the Bradford "Socialist Vanguard") a number of telling extracts from recent S. D. P. writings and speeches, under the caption of "The Northampton Socialist Wriggle." He concludes by saying: "All the extracts that have been given are from the December issue of the 'Pioneer" the official organ of the Northampton Social-Democrats. Their appeal for the unity of the progressive forces (sic); their threats at the Liberal Party if they refuse to combine with them, have been ignored by that party, who have adopted a second candidate, and not till then did the Social-Democrats adopt a second second candidate. What a comedy, what a tangle, what a spectacle for those who think that the National Labor Party have compromised with the Liberals. Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones."

When it became obvious that the capitalist Liberals were not going to help them, their piteous whine (in their organ "Justice"), for a united front gave place to yells of rage and abuse. But the Liberals ignored the S. D. P. because it had no following worth noting. Its political trickery, from Camborne downwards, had caused it to become discredited, and so it had nothing to sell.

And from their point of view the Liberals were justified by the events. At Burnley, where the S. D. P. had its largest vote, Hyndman(who had a "strong navy," and a "citizen army of the whole people," among the numerous items in his election address) had only about the same number of votes as last time in spite of a much increased electorate. Elsewhere, also, on a bigger register, they had a smaller vote. At Haggerston, the vote for Burrows dropped from 986 to 701. At Northampton the poll decreased by 1500, and at Bradford it also fell enormously.

The Labor Party, on the other hand, happens for the time being to have a following, and consequently something to sell; yet in spite of—or is it because of?—its alliance with the Liberals, its number is smaller in the present parliament than in the last. Not counting the defeat at Colne Valley, seven of the seats formerly held have been lost, while including Derby as a gain (where a Labor man who has signed the "constitution" replaced one who had not), three seats were gained. Thus the Labor M. P.s. including the Miners) now number but 40.

In not one of the constituencies where the official Liberals opposed them did the Labor candidates win, indeed in nearly every such case the Labor man was at the bottom of the poll, and in ten cases where the Liberals stood down for them, Labor men nevertheless lost. It is, moreover, very significant that in most cases where the Labor Party have put a lot of work into a constituency it is the Liberal who has reaped the chief benefit in votes; this is particularly noticeable in the "double-barrelled constituencies.

The Executive of the Labor Party, although they have caused a number of candidates to be withdrawn in favor of the Liberals, were not successful in doing so in every case, and they are using this wholesale failure to point the old moral "I told you so," to the malcontents. It is worth noting that Ramsay Macdonald, the prince of wire-pullers, says in the "Labor Leader" of February 4th: "If from ten to fifteen of the three-cornered fights had been cancelled, the Labor Party in the House of Commons would have had half-a-dozen seats which it has not to-day." The simple-minded may wonder why! A determined stand is at the same time being made to avoid splitting the Liberal vote at the probably not-far-distant general election, and Macdonald concludes by urging that they "should contest only those seats which they hold," and those where victory is practically certain. Indeed the complete failure of this "independent" party where the Liberals has opposed them, demonstrated that the Labor Party is entirely at the mercy of the Liberals. Hence this discretion.

The Miners' M. Ps. who are now included in the Labor Party, were for the most part, avowedly Liberals before, and are so now, although they have signed the pledge of "independence," and in the coming conference of the Party, they will for the first time take part in its deliberations—only to cement more firmly the Liberal-Labor coalition.

Some of the reasons given by successful candidates for their victories make instructive and interesting reading. They show how innocent the Labor Party is of any vestiges of Socialism or class-consciousness. In the "Labor-Leader" for Jan 21, P. Snowden, M. P., speaks of Blackburn (where, as in nearly all cases where they united with the Liberals in two-member districts, the Liberals topped the poll). "There were 11,239 'splits' between myself and the Liberal. This is explained by the fact that in view of the record of the two unionists, the Trades Council and Labor representation committee issued appeals to the electors to vote for the Liberal as well as mysif. This course was very generally followed."

J. Pointer, M. P. said, "The Liberal Party, after deciding not to nominate a candidate against me followed up with a manifesto and declaration that since, on three very important points The Budget, the Lords and Tariff Reform—they and we were in agreement, it would serve the general interest best, if they supported me by work and vote. This they did most loyally."

A. H. Gill, M. P., said, "I won Bolton by keeping the House of Lords and the Land taxes to the front." In the "Labor-Leader," of Jan. 28th, Ramsey Macdonald, M. P., said, "The issues were mainly the Budget and the House of Lords, but unemployment was not forgotten. Both Liberal and Labor electors used their second votes and so Leicester was kept."

D. J. Shackleton, M. P. said, "The Clitheroe victory was won on the three question of the House of Lords, the Budget, and Free Trade. We had also the active support of many leading Liberals, and it may be said that the Progressives all pulled together."

Will Thorne M. P. said: "The Local Free Church Council helped by passing a unanimous resolution of support, and Free Church members spoke and worked enthusiastically with other friends in support of my candidature."

W. T. Wilson, M. P. said: "Our victory in Westboroughton was won by the forces of organized labor and progression uniting with the object of resisting the attack of the Lords upon the Rights and Liberties of the People."

H. Twist, M. P. said: "After forty years of unbroken possession by the Conservative Party, Wigan fell before the attack of a combination of Progressive forces, such as the town had not witnessed in the whole of its previous political history," And so on, ad nauseum.

Arthur Peters, J. P., National Agent of the Labor Party, unconsciously gives the whole thing away when he says in the official organ of the I. L. P. February 4th, that "the writer agrees heartily with the views expressed by Mr. Phillip Snowden, M. P., when he recently pointed out that the questions of the Lords' veto and the Budget were almost identical with those of the Liberal Party; or to put the point in another way, it was rather too much to expect the ordinary man in the street to pick out the distinction."

But what distinction is there? The Labor Party has indeed a separate organization—at least on paper—but no distinct policy and no political independence, for its pretence of independence is too transparent to deceive any but the wilfully blind. The present "Labor" Representation movement has gone the way of the earlier movements of some years back—and for the same reason. It has been practically absorbed into the Liberal Party. Already a Coalition Ministry is being spoken of by Macdonald and the rest. In so far as there was any aspiration for Socialism behind the recent demand for "Labor Representation," it has been corralled by labor leaders and carefully herded back to the capitalist party.

That is the service the Labor Party has rendered the working class. It has blighted the immature beginnings of class-consciousness, at least for a time, and has delayed by so much the ultimate emancipation of the workers. Yet continental parties sometimes hail the pro-capitalist English Labor Party as a portion of the International Socialist Movement, and commend it for it "practical" politics!

F. C. WATTS.
London, Eng.

Here and Now

By "LEEDS."

Is your local growing as it should? Is the revolutionary spirit predominant in your local? Are your members workers or merely dead weights? If you are progressing as you should, don't get grumpy—maybe it's your own fault. Plan a campaign of sub. rustling, push the circulation of the Clarion, keep at it, to-day, tomorrow and all the time, keep pounding away—don't expect results too soon, don't wait for things to come your way—make them come your way. Push the circulation of the Clarion for all you are worth and keep ever at it. The results will amply repay you. The best propaganda you can do, the best and most lasting results will follow an ever-increasing circulation of the Clarion in your midst. Are you ready?

* * *

Comrade F. D. Hardy, Trail, B. C., sends in a list of 24 names to be put on the Clarion list for three months in acordance with the action of the Miners' Convention.

* * *

Grand Forks, per Comrade W. E. Hadden, also sends its allotment of 20 names for three months' subs. Making a Total of 44 names for the two places. We ask all new readers to carefully study the Clarion and trust they will be interested enough to renew for more information at the expiration of their subs.

* * *

Comrade Mrs. Thornley, Moyie, renews sub. and doubles up by sending a new yearly in addition.

* * *

Two new subs. for Ottawa and one for Westboro, Ont., the result of a stunt by Comrade E. S. Oldiam, Westboro. That's the way to do it Comrade. Come again.

* * *

Com. Mrs. Wm. Davidson, New Denver, B. C. helps along the revolution with a list of five subs.

* * *

Two yearlies from Com. Wm. Craig, Riondel, B. C., to hand. Am expecting more from the same spot soon.

* * *

We are always particularly pleased to hear from the far eastern boys and here comes Comrade M. Wayman, Montreal, Que., with two new readers and a promise of more. Let them come soon—they will bring more.

* * *

Another bunch of five from Comrade Gribble. He reports a new local formed at Erskine, Alta., with fourteen members and another at Markerville, with ten. She's a hummin'!

* * *

Another pair from Comrade James Thompson, Winnipeg, Man. (Perhaps you are right in reference to the poor taxpayer, or maybe its a case of mistaken identity. The further we are away from such things you know, the bigger they look.)

* * *

Comrade R. M. Webster, renews his own for a year and doubles up with a new one. Matters in Okotoks, Alta., look promising he says, and the boys keep pegging away. That's the stuff.

* * *

The Comrades of Strome, Alta., distributed 100 copies each of the Clarion and Cotton's, at Comrade Gribble's meetings there on March 1st and 2nd. The Alberta reds are certainly hitting a pace.

* * *

Comrade A. Farmilo finds another one in Toronto who is willing to investigate the way of salvation for the slave class, and also a renewal.

* * *

Elkhorn Miners' Union, W. F. of M., Elkhorn, Mont. orders bundle of 50 Clarions every week, per Comrade Thos. Gorman, Fin. Sec.

* * *

The whack of the policeman's club on your head is the echo of your last vote.—Euge V. Debs.

* * *

One at a time is good medicine if you do it often. Here's the squad for this week:

W. F. Cook, Vernon, B. C.; F. Blake, Edmonton, Alta.; C. M. O'Brien, M. P. P., Edmonton, Alta.; Jas Mortimor, Airdrie, Scotland; Joe Thompson, Phoenix, B. C.; James Shaw, Cowichan, B. C.; Olaf Arneson, Eagle Hill, Alta.; Emma Mott, Fernie, B. C.; J. D. Anderson, North Vancouver, B.C.; T. Machin, Calgary, Alta. Joseph Hubble, Vancouver, B. C.; William Allen, Sydney Mines, N. S. Reade, Adams, and Smith Vancouver, B. C.; John Tobay, Chameleon Harbor, B. C.

* * *

Emperor William has ordered his thugs to keep their hands off the Socialists. 'Tis about time he did.

If anyone should tread on your favorite corn, or in other words harshly criticize your pet theories, just smile—and rustle subs. You'll get 'em.

TO LABOR.

The seed ye sow, another reaps;
The wealth ye find, another keeps;
The robes ye weave, another wears;
The arms ye forge, another bears.

—Shelley.

IN THE ROBBER BURG

(Continued from page 1)

Hawthornthwaite retorted that McPhillips was probably right in thinking the workingman a fool and the best proof of it was the fact of the hon. member's presence in the House.

McPhillips was understood to say that he had behind him the best blood, boue and brawn in the country.

Hawthornthwaite, continuing, said it was unquestionably to the advantage of the widow to get the lump sum, which was just enough to eke out a miserable existence. McPhillips had appealed to the Opposition for consideration and to give credit for good intentions for having fought for the Compensation Act. Well, he could have the credit, for few had done more. One reason might have been that the Act had been a Godsend to the lawyers. (Laughter.) The Government and McPhillips now wanted to cut the compensation in this case down to one-third, or $500. That was the position. Judges had decided that these people were Jentitled to the $1,500, and McPhillips tried to persuade them that $500 was enough. *From a humanitarian standpoint these* unfortunate people should receive all that was due to them.

The amendment was defeated on the following vote:

Yeas—Williams, Hawthornthwaite, Brewster, Jardine.

Noes—Fraser, McKenzie, Tisdall, Callahan, Miller, Jackson, Cawley, Bowser, Cotton, Ross, Shatford, McPhillips, Schofield Hunter, McGuire, McKay, Davey. (Watson in the chair.)

Jardine moved to amend the Bill, Section 27 (3), by providing that no Chinese or Japanese be registered as companies under the Ace.

Bowser objected on the ground that it would cause the whole Act to be disallowed at Ottawa. It would be construed as an insult to Japan, an ally of Great Britain, thus reflecting on the Imperial authorities.

Parker Williams said it was not his desire to insult these people, but they were not wanted here. The Liberal party had repeatedly proved false to its promises and the same with the Conservative Party. Now the Conservative party had begun to preach colonial interference. The B. C. government had no power to incorporate any firms for transacting business outside the province, and the British government would not interfere with local companies.

McBride supported Bowser's stand.

Parker Williams *replied* that though the Attorney General said that the Ottawa government had been advised by the Imperial government on this question, the Province now had Conservative representation at Ottawa, who had access to the Dominion government. While the Conservatives in B. C. had formerly made much noise about the Natal Act, since they had gained in representation at Ottawa, no more had been heard of it here. He would like to see the Natal Act passed again to see if the Conservatives at Ottawa were any better than the Liberals.

The amendment was lost on the usual party vote.

The Liquor Act was in committee again on Monday, February 21, and Parker Williams kicked at the Latin phrase "mutatis mutandis" in clause 52 and wanted to know why the lawyers could not use English or even Welsh, for many more people in B. C. understood that than understood Latin. The Bill was also criticised in minor details by Hawthornthwaite, who objected to the custom of allowing grocers to sell liquor, and also to the difficulty travellers sometimes experienced in getting meals at hotels after the regular hours.

A Joker—Hawthornthwaite moved to insert the word "bridge" between "black jack" and stud poker," in the list of prohibited games on licensed premises. He had often read of the demoralization caused in the ranks of the "best people" by this game, of the nature of which he was wholly ignorant. The Attorney General had often accused him of being biased in the measures he introduced, and he hoped that in view of this amendment the Attorney General would alter his opinion. The game was said to be making dangerous inroads and undermining the morals of the friends of the Attorney General. (Laughter.)

As the member for Nanaimo could not explain the game, Bowser said the House could not be expected to legislate on matters not explained to them, and the amendment was voted down.

Bowser then proceed to amend the Bill by including "craps" and the "shaking of dice" in the list, which brought Hawthornthwaite to his feet again. He was sorry to see the Attorney General following the example of some famous pugilists, and drawing the color line! Every one knew that these games were the favorite pastimes of colored people. He had to confess that he himself knew nothing of these games either. (Laughter.)

The Public Schools Act went through the final stages on Thursday, February 24, after debates on amendments submitted by the Socialists had been defeated.

Parker Williams moved to strike out section 6, which had been amended with the consent of the government, by Hayward of Cowichan, to allow the residents in any school district in the E. & N. belt to assess themselves to raise the school teacher' salaries.

Parker Williams said that his reasons for striking out the clause were the same as he had put forward in the committee stages of the Bill in favor of raising the teachers' salaries. The amendment of Hayward's, accepted by the Government, and now a part of the Bill, amended section 23 of the original Act, which provided that the government pay the whole of the teachers' salaries in the E. & N. belt, in districts not included in municipalities, the people only paying incidental expenses for the upkeep of the buildings, etc. Great difficulty had been experienced in the last few years in getting teachers, owing to the salary offered being below what people of equal education received in other occupations. After gaining six months' experience at the cost of the children, the teachers drifted into the cities, where they could command higher salaries, sometimes an increase of $20 or $30 a month. The government should increase the salaries in the E & N Belt to equal those in any other portion of the province. The E. & N. schools did not require any such provision as Hayward had inserted, the government being bound to pay the salaries. Had the members of the House ever come into contact with a body of people who wished to tax themselves? He had pointed out in committee that Hayward should have acted on his own initiative to put the original Act into force, and induced the government to raise the salaries, but his (Hayward's) personal ambitions stood in the way and his action had not been in the interests of the people of his district. He (Parker Williams) was speaking for both Newcastle and Cowichan districts, and the people there had no more desire to assess themselves than he (Parker Williams) had. *It might look all right* to some people in the Cowichan district to put on $10 a month, which had a big assessment roll, but in Newcastle district the total valuation for taxation purposes was only $28,000. In addition it had been found necessary to cut the district in two, and each district now had to pay the teachers' salaries on an assessment roll of about $15,000. An increase of salary would probably bring the salaries to $60 a month. Taxes in rural districts were never higher than now, and bore heavily on his district, though it might not be as heavy in Cowichan. That was the sum of the matter. He appealed to the members for Comox (Michael Manson) and Skeena (Wm. Manson) as to what would be the opinion of their districts on that form of taxation.

Minister of Education **Young** replied that the department had had the matter under consideration for some months and knew all the facts. Hayward's amendment had been accepted at the request of residents in the E. & N. belt. The assessment would be optional. The government was raising the teachers' salaries and hoped to be able to do so from year to year. He declined to accept the amendment.

Hawthornthwaite said the people in the E. & N. belt had a just claim on the government. Young had stated that the Island Develoument League had been instrumental in bringing the amendment of Hayward's before the House. They should mind their own business of booming real estate, or they should be dealt with by legislation. While the conditions in the E. & N. belt were unchanged, the political make-up of the House had changed. When the government had assumed the charge of the teachers' salaries in the E. & N. belt, they had a bare majority of 3 or 4, now they had an overwhelming majority of 38. They had not passed the clause then because it was right to do so, but because of the political situation. ** * The government could find millions for railways but nothing for education. * * * The government, with Hayward's amendment in the Bill, could now say to other districts, "Go and do the sames—assess yourselves." From a sense of fair play the House should pass the amendment.

McBride denied the truth of Hawthornthwaite's criticism of the government's motives in the past, and claimed justification of their policy been given in the recent elections. The land values in the E. & N. belt had increased ten-fold—through the wise legislation of the Conservative government. The district was being opened up rapidly by government works and the E. & N. extension to Alberni. All of the most discouraging conditions had vanished. * * * The charge of hardship being imposed could not be justified. Some of the finest agricultural land in Canada was in that belt. There had been nothing in the policy of the government inconsistent with the school laws dealing with the E. & N. belt.

Brewster supported the amendment and Hayward, in the course of a few brief remarks, accused Williams of playing to the gallery, to which Parker Williams replied that if the suggestion he had made, that Hayward get the opinion of his district on his amendment, was playing to the gallery, he was guilty.

Manson (Comox) said he could see nothing wrong in Hayward's action, and would vote against the amendment.

The amendment to strike out clause 6 was put to the vote and defeated.

Ayes—Williams, Hawthornthwaite, Brewster and Jardine.

Noes—All the Conservatives with the exception of absentees Callanan, Shatford, Thomson, Taylor, McKay.

Orientals in the Schools.

Hawthornthwaite then moved the following amendment to the same Bill:

"11. Section 39 of chapter 44 of the Statutes of 1905 is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:—

"(2.) The Board of Trustees shall have the power to exclude any child or children from the school or schools on the ground that owing to racial differences it is deemed to be inadvisable in the best interests of the majority of the children to admit them.

This is the same amendment that was debated in committee the previous week (See Clarion, Feb. 26) and laid over until the Bill reached the report stage at the request of the Minister of Education. It is the same amendment, with the words "or other" left out as applied to "differences.")

Hawthornthwaite said it was an important amendment, and had been discussed fully when the Bill was in committee, from the Opposition side of the House, but they had received no reply or notification from the government as to their attitude. To-day they were to hear the pronouncement of the government, and he would express the merits of the case for the Socialist Party.

It resolved itself purely into a question of money, and would give considerable satisfaction to a large majority in almost every section of the province. They took as wide and broad *a stand as possible, and had no race* prejudice against Orientals as such * * * but if it could be shown that any privileges they enjoyed interfered with the best interests of the majority of the people, the House should pass legislation limiting those privileges. He had previously pointed out the troubles and dangers arising from the *forced association of white children* with Orientals in the public schools, without reflecting on the Orientals. The latter developed faster than the Anglo-Saxon, and such close association was not advisable. It would be sufficient to state than an Oriental child was possessed of certain knowledge that a white child of the same *age had not. That was a fact that* should be recognized and dealt with in prudent legislation.

The Chinese were an extraordinary and unusual race. Thousands of years ago they had reached a point of development from which they had not advanced. Many reasons had been given for that. John Stuart Mill ascribed it largely to economic reasons, all progress in human society, depending, to a preponderating extent, on the development of the means of production. The opinion of biologists was worthy of consideration. They said that a race advanced to a certain point, and could advance no further without an admixture of blood. The logical method should not alone be used in dealing with these matters, but the dialectic method, which considered all the points on any question. He did not think any exception could be taken to the stand of the biologists. It meant that they could not evolve without admixture of blood. He did not say that the government saw those facts or understood them, although they should, but the people who dominated the government understood, and it was they, in the last analysis, who would guide and rule. Those people desired cheap labor, but there were laws against Oriental immigration, they therefore desired that the white workers be brought into as close contact as possible with these people, ahd the government was acting in those interests in forcing that association upon the white workers. The mind of a child was not easily alarmed and could be easily educated to accept much which men would certainly resist. * * * It was the plain duty of the government, without giving offense, to provide the best education civilization could give for both races. They could do so without allowing the question to become so vexed that action might be taken that no subsequent action could allay. * * * He had stated that as far as his own knowledge went, the people of Nanaimo would do something if the government did not act. The Chinese had now come into the city limits and were sending their children to the schools, and many parents had withdrawn their children from the most important one, and wisely. Others had sent them elsewhere at considerable expense. * * * The master class had now a different working class to deal with. They had learnt that in Germany, and it held true here, due only to education.

Those being the facts the government should carefully consider before turning the amendment down. * * * He would ask the government to look at certain of the Southern States, where they had had to enact legislation to deal with matters he did not care to discuss. * * * It would not be disallowed at Ottawa, the Dominion government had absolutely no power in the matter. * * * He hoped the government would frankly accept the amendment, and he was satisfied that if they did so, nothing but good would result to the people of the province

Minister of Education Young stated that the government could not accept the amendment, as it would mean a system of separate schools and double expense for teachers, etc., with a loss of the efficiency of united action.

The amendment was then defeated on the following division:

Ayes—Williams, Hawthornthwaite, Brewster, Jardine.

Noes—All the Conservatives except absentees, Cawley and Mackay.

On Friday, Feb. 26, Hawthornthwaite introduced two Bills. An Act to Amend the Labor Regulation Act, 1907, and an Act to Amend the Inspection of Metalifferous Mines Act, 1899.

J. H. B.

PLATFORM

Socialist Party of Canada

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

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

So long as the capitalist class remains 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, under which is cloaked the robbery of the working-class at the point of production. 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 programme 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, railroads etc.,) into the collective property of the working class.

2. The 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.

EXIT THE LABOR PARTY.

The Labor Party has fallen never to rise again. It is interred in a Liberal grave. It's epitaph is "The Party of Humbug." There is no good achieved by flogging a dead horse, but we feel justified in the position we have always taken regarding this hybrid, when we examine the conduct of its leaders during the late elections.

The Labor Party professed to be an Independent Party. They were supposed to be organized on the basis of the class struggle (see the I. S. B.), Let us look at a few of the incidents in the great "revolutionary" fight the Labor Party put up against the Capitalist class.

Pickles, of Huddersfield, a revolutionary Socialist (he styles himself so sometimes on the quiet), fought the Holmfirth Division in the interests of the Labor Party. The Hallamshire Division draws up to Holmfirth and the member thereof (Wadsworth) was a labor member. Wadsworth, and Wilson, the Liberal candidate for Holmfirth, held a joint meeting together as Liberals. Thus in the event of Pickles being returned, Wadsworth and Pickles would have been "Comrades." Attercliffe constituency is near Holmfirth. Pointer won it for Labor. Pickles asked for help there. A speaker from the Attercliffe fight went (a Socialist) and spoke for the Liberal candidate.

Phillip Snowden fought Blackburn and spoke from Liberal platforms and allowed the Liberals to speak for him. In one district they were roughly treated, egged in fact.. The Old Country papers don't distinguish between Liberal and Labor but bracket them together as one.

Russel Williams fought Spen Valley in the interests of Labor. Williams is a sentimental Socialist and always fights as one. His propaganda speeches are something like R. J. Campbell's sermons on the New Theology. During the fight, which was a three-cornered one, a curious incident took place. When the Conservative Party had run their votes to the poll they took automobiles and placed them at the disposal of the Labor candidate. "Take our colors off and put yours on. We don't care if we can only keep the Liberal out."

Victor Grayson made a hard and desperate effort to retain his seat. He was backed by the S. D. P., Ernest Hunter, of the S. D. P. was virtually the election agent. Hyndman, Marklew, Irving, Cunningham-Graham, *Cummings, the Countess of Warwick* and many other leading lights spoke at his meetings, but the seat was lost.

Grayson deserves his fate. He has had every opportunity during the last three years to teach the people of the Colne Valley the principles of Socialism, but Grayson never taught anybody anything. He would sooner give amusing talks in different parts of the country at seventy-five dollars each.

The fight put up by William Gee was as straight and uncompromising as the S. P. of Canada could desire. Gee fought a lone hand. He had about twelve workers for the whole borough out of 15,000 votes, he polled 413 votes but those 413 votes are worth more to our class than all the votes cast for the Labor Party, for every vote was cast by a class conscious man.

They are trying to form a Labor Party in the States according to the Review. Simons and the A. F. of Hell. Gompers will no doubt try to imitate the English grafters, Hardie, Clynes and the English freaks are booming the thing for all it is worth in the Labor Leader. "Birds of a feather," etc.

The same fate awaits the American movement, if it is floated, that has befallen the British Labor Party. It is to be hoped that our Comrades across the line will strangle the thing at its birth.

LESTOR.

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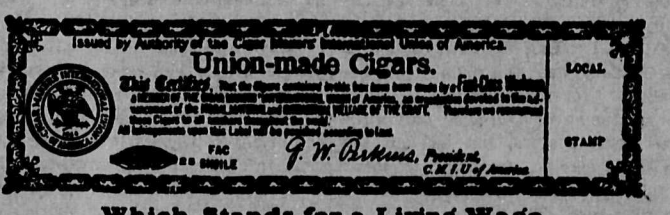

Which Stands for a Living Wage
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TO HOUSEKEEPERS
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