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PROVINCIAL HOUSE OPENS FOR BUSINESS

Socialist Members Emphasize the Disapproval of the Workers of the Province of the High Handed Acts of the Lieutenant-Governor and the Interests Behind Him.

The Socialist members of the Legislature at least have not been slow in expressing their condemnation of the action of Lieut.-Governor Dunsmuir in withholding his assent to the Natal Act last session, and also in importing Japanese laborers under contract. On the opening day the irrepressible Jim Hawthornthwaite sprung a surprise on the House by rising and asking for the suspension of the rules for the consideration of a matter of grave importance.

Speaker Eberts wished to know what the matter was, and Hawthornthwaite promptly handed up his resolution setting forth his reasons and calling on the House to request the Governor-General to investigate the matter, and if the facts were proved as stated to dismiss Mr. Dunsmuir, cocked hat and all.

Speaker Eberts hedged it off by saying that he did not consider it a matter of such grave importance as to interfere with the constitutional practice of the House, and gave as a further excuse that on the opening day it had always been the custom to do the ordinary formal business and adjourn.

Hawthornthwaite said he did not think the business of the session should proceed at all if members were to be denied their ordinary privileges and amid cheers from the gallery, challenged the Speaker's decision and appealed to the House.

The motion to introduce the resolution was of course voted down, only Hawthornthwaite, McInnis and Oliver voting for it. Parker Williams was absent on the opening day, and Oliver voted with the Socialists as a matter of principle, holding that the Speaker had no right to rule a resolution out of order without giving authority for it.

Hawthornthwaite says he will bring the resolution up again, and it is quite evident that the last has not yet been heard of this matter.

Another unusual feature of the opening ceremonies, which the Socialists started last year and repeated this, was that Messrs. Hawthornthwaite and McInnis remained seated all the time the Lieut.-Governor was in the House, though all other members stood up, while beneath the shadow of his cocked hat the Coal Baron waddled nervously through the Speech from the Throne.

On the second day of the session Hawthornthwaite brought up another matter which surprised the House a little. It was just when Premier McBride, after a barren afternoon of arid speeches on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, was moving the adjournment of the House that the member for Nanaimo rose, and stated that he had just received a letter stating that the Protection mine at Nanaimo had been closed indefinitely, while the Brechin mine had laid off a number of its men, so that about 250 men had been thrown out of work altogether. He pointed out that most of these men were emigrants from the north of England, who had been induced to come to Canada by representations made by agents of the Provincial Government among others, and it was therefore up to them to open up roads or provide some means of relief.

Premier McBride smoothly replied that he did not think agents of the Government would be guilty of making misrepresentations, though he admitted that they had been doing their best to get people to come to the country. If any had been induc-

ed to come by promises made by Government agents the promises would be made good. While he could hold out no immediate hope of Government work for the men, he gave the comforting assurance that the C. P. R. was about to let contracts for the grading and construction of the E. & N. extension to Alberni, and the men could get work there for a time.

While this was not altogether satisfactory, Mr. Hawthornthwaite was gratified to hear the next day that his representations had borne fruit, since the Executive had telegraphed to the Government agent at Nanaimo to see what could be done to help the men out.

There are many important matters to come before the Legislature this session and no doubt the Socialists will have something to say about most of them. Among the bills foreshadowed is the Natal Act to be passed again, a bill to provide for a Provincial University, an Irrigation Bill, the creation of a new Ministry of Public Works, and other matters.

Following is the motion ruled out by Speaker Eberts, but introduced again by Mr. Hawthornthwaite on Monday last:

Whereas, during the last session of this House, a bill was introduced intitled "An Act to Regulate Immigration into British Columbia," with the object and intent of preventing a further influx into this province of "backward races," notably certain of the subjects of His Imperial Majesty the Mikado of Japan; and

Whereas the said bill, as amended, successfully passed through the various stages in this Legislature, was supported by the members of the Executive Council at that time present, and was enacted, so far as it lay in the power of the members of this Legislature; and

Whereas the Honorable James Dunsmuir, Lieut.-Governor of this province, refused to assent to the passage of said bill; and

Whereas the Hon. Richard McBride, Premier of British Columbia, has publicly stated that the Lieut.-Governor was not advised by his Government to refuse to give his assent to said bill; and

Whereas it has transpired during an investigation by the Deputy Minister of Labor, MacKenzie King, acting under instructions from the Dominion Government, into the causes and nature of the extraordinary immigration of Japanese laborers into this province, that the Honorable James Dunsmuir, in his private capacity as an operator of coal mines in this province, had, on or about the time of the passage of said bill, entered into a contract with the Canadian Nippon Company, of Vancouver, to procure five hundred Japanese coolies for exploitation in his coal mines; and

Whereas the passage of the aforesaid bill would have had the effect of delaying or preventing the coming into this province of the laborers aforesaid; and

Whereas the Lieut.-Governor has not acted in this matter in accordance with constitutional practice, in refusing his assent to the enactment of said bill without the advice of his responsible ministers, and has further laid himself open to grave suspicion as to the reasons that induced him to refuse his assent to said bill; and Whereas his action in these mat-

ters must inevitably tend to destroy such confidence as the people of this province have in constitutional and responsible government;

Therefore, be It Resolved, That this House emphatically condemns all such unconstitutional proceedings and hereby appeals to the Governor-General of this Dominion to investigate into all of the aforesaid matters and charges, and should the facts prove to be as stated in this resolution, dismiss forthwith the Honorable James Dunsmuir from the office of Lieut.-Governor of the Province of British Columbia.

TREASON CLAP-TRAP.

The operators have already misrepresented the miners, which is a point in favor of the latter. They distorted the truth when they asked that federal troops be sent to Goldfield. Now they go farther, and in a long communication to the commission which was sent to investigate the strike they declare that the Western Federation is an organization of conspirators and suggest that its officers be prosecuted for criminal conspiracy and that the Federal Government bring suit for the dissolution of the union. If the commissioners have not already rebuked the operators for this attempt to in-

fluence them they should do so at once and in a manner fitting the offense. * * * This clap-trap about treason and forswearing allegiance is nothing new. Americans are not guilty of either offense. There is no treason until overt acts are committed. The operators must prove that the miners are traitors and anarchists. Their unsupported assertion is worthless.—Harrisburg, Pa., Star-Independent.

According to capitalist papers the drunken orgies indulged in on New Year's by the swell women of New York was something great. In all the fashionable hotels and cafes they were scattered promiscuously about the premises in various stages of beastly intoxication. Their slightly less drunken lords and masters in many cases experienced much difficulty in sorting their personal, feminine baggage from the job-lot that booze had cast into the same pile. In many instances the wrong goods were carted away, the mistake not being discovered until the next day. This, however, is an unimportant matter. It was no particularly radical departure from the usual custom prevalent among the "better classes," even when sober. These orgies were by no means vulgar, as the participants got drunk on wine, high-priced wine at that.

KOOTENAY COMRADES URGED TO TAKE ACTION

Workingmen of the District Called Upon to Get in Line for the Fray Between the Enslaved Victims of Capitalism and Their Conscienceless Exploiters and Oppressors.

Fernie, B. C.,
Jan. 11, 1908.

Comrades and Fellow Workers:

We should by this time be fully awake to the fact that independent political action by the working class is absolutely essential for our social welfare. By independent action I mean action apart from all such as may be necessary to conserve any interests other than those of the working class. Hitherto we have used our franchise for the purpose of electing capitalists or their tools to our law-making bodies. Such persons have no economic affinity with the wage-earner. They have never placed upon the statute books laws intended to better the conditions of the wage-earners, except they have done so from fear of a popular uprising or for party purposes, and even then the executive and judicial machinery of government have ever stood ready to nullify their action. They have placed a premium upon anarchy and murder and have fostered conditions that make for graft and corruption until modern civilization has become a synonym for all that is low, rotten, mean and vile. By pie-crust promises, equivocal language and bare-faced lying they have repeatedly deceived and betrayed us. From charges made and substantiated in the Dominion House, and from newspaper reports we are justified in believing many of them to be of immoral character, intemperate habits and vicious disposition, therefore unfit to represent anything that could properly lay claim to decency. They have been instrumental in appropriating for themselves and the class they represent, all of the resources of the land and the machinery of production, thus leaving the working class practically a class of paupers.

In view of all this we maintain that it would be absolute folly to continue this course, and understanding that side by side with industrial progress, there is necessarily developing from obvious causes a proletariat, that is a working class, which is physically, morally and in-

tellectually the superior of the so-called upper classes. It therefore behooves us to choose from our own class those whom we consider best able to represent us in parliament.

In order to do so we must have concerted action.

We, Fernie Local No. 17, Socialist Party of Canada, believing that some one must take the initiative, and having on hand the views of a number of labor organizations of this vicinity, herewith desire to suggest that a convention be called at Moyle by the wage-earners of the Kootenays on Feb. 14th, 1908, for the purpose of adopting a platform nominating a candidate, and mapping out a plan of campaign for the coming Dominion elections.

We subjoin for your earnest consideration the platform of the Socialist Party of Canada:

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.

Fraternally yours,
JOHN HARRINGTON,
Organizer of Local No. 17, S. P. of C.

THE GRANBY COMPANY DISPLAYS ITS FANGS

True to Its Instincts Boundary Mining Company Exhibits the Savage Traits of the Capitalist Beast Upon Every Occasion When Its Feast of Blood Is Threatened.

No doubt a statement of present conditions in the Boundary District of B. C. and what led up to them will be of interest to the readers of The Clarion.

The Granby Company—the largest company operating in this province—wishing to take advantage of prevailing conditions by reducing wages, but at the same time wishing to evade the operation of the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, commonly called the Lemieux Act, discharged its employees and shut down its mines and smelter, between Nov. 10th and 15th. This act provides for thirty days' notice of any intended change in wages or conditions of employment from either side, during which time either party can call for an Investigation Board, and during the sitting of which, neither party can make any changes or cause a strike or a lockout.

As stated above, the company got around this by discharging its employees and shutting down. This same act does not leave a loophole for the workers, and should they get an Investigation Board, it does them no good because even if their own representative is class-conscious, they will have two of the three members of the board against them, as the recent award in the case of the Moyle miners and the Canadian Consolidated Company proves. This act is one of the most infamous pieces of legislation ever passed by a capitalist government to more completely subjugate the working class, but of course the workers cannot expect their enemies to "represent" them in the legislatures.

On Dec. 4th the company posted up the old wage scale in force prior to May last, and notices to the effect that any one desiring employment could apply on the morning of Dec. 7th. Previous to this time, whenever the company or its employees desired any change in conditions of employment, negotiations had always been carried on through the unions of Grand Forks and Phoenix. Upon this occasion the company saw fit to ignore them entirely, their object no doubt being to see how many men would break their obligations and quit the W. F. of M., by applying for work. Mr. Graves, of Spokane, the vice-president of the Granby Company, proclaimed through the capitalist press that the Granby would resume operations under the reduced wage scale on Dec. 7th and would blow in several furnaces a few days later. The presidents of the two unions sent telegrams to these papers, stating that the report that the Granby would resume operations on the date mentioned was absolutely false. We were afterwards informed by the manager, Mr. Hodges, that Mr. Graves was filled with righteous indignation at the action of these two men in sending those telegrams, which he said in effect called him a liar. Events since that time have proved that while he may not have been a liar, he certainly did not know what he was talking about, while on the other hand those men did, as only four members of Grand Forks union, and not one of Phoenix union accepted the company's invitation to turn traitor to their organization and scab when the whistles blew at the mines and smelter on Saturday morning, Dec. 7th. Things drifted along for about ten days, the company in the meantime succeeding in obtaining a few scabs to unload coke. The manager then

condescended to send a communication to each union offering to meet committees, but stating that he would not discuss the wage scale at all, as it was the only scale under which the company would operate, but that there were probably other matters to discuss. When the committees met Mr. Hodges, the manager informed them that he would not discuss anything until a vote was taken by the men to decide whether they would accept the reduced wages or not. The committee's efforts to find out whether the company intended to discriminate against the active members of the union, as had been reported, produced nothing but a heated discussion in the course of which this manager made the threat that what had happened in Cripple Creek and the Coeur d'Alenes, and what was happening in Goldfield could happen here. Again when one of the committee while talking about discrimination warned him to be careful that he did not come in contact with our laws, he contemptuously replied: "What do we care for your laws? We can buy law." This, together with the way in which the company, while not breaking the letter, certainly broke the spirit of the law, in shutting down previous to cutting wages should be sufficient to prove that it is the mineowners' organizations that are lawless, and not the Western Federation of Miners.

This manager also told the committees that they had no business talking Socialism in the union meetings, and bitterly attacked them for using their influence with the membership to elect a Socialist in this riding last February. He said we had no right to talk politics in our meetings. Of course he meant working class politics.

The wage scale was put to a vote, and turned down, but considering the action of Rosslund and Butte, and the award of the Board of Arbitration between the Moyle miners and the Canadian Consolidated, the great army of unemployed, and the fact that the W. F. of M. had several hard fights on, both in the courts and in the industrial field, we finally decided to return to work under the old scale. Six of the eight furnaces are running at present. The company has discriminated wholesale against Socialists, and active members of the union, and also against some who believed that their interests were identical with their masters. Probably the latter was intended to whitewash to a certain extent the rest of their dirty and contemptible work.

The officers of these unions are, and have been for some time past, good class-conscious men, who could not be "got at" by the company; and because of this terrible crime they must be gotten rid of. No doubt it is the intention of the management to secure control of these unions at the next election of officers by getting in a bunch of men that will do whatever the manager tells them and pervert the unions from aggressive, class-conscious labor organization into pure and simple sick benefit societies, whose only function will be to take care of the men killed and injured by the Granby in its mad rush for profits. They have adopted a card system, and if their spies hear any employee mention Socialism or say anything contrary to the interests of the com-

(Continued on page four)

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1908.

THEY RESTED.

While the toadies, flunkies and retainers of capital stood upon their hind legs and with mock awe and solemnity watched the medieval flummery of opening Parliament and delivering a joke called a Speech from the Throne, the Socialist members at Victoria wisely remained seated in order to conserve the strength of their nether limbs for the purpose of administering lusty kicks to the capitalist beast during the rest of the session.

It is high time the workers should lose all reverence for the stale monkey business that ruling classes have so long indulged in for the purpose of impressing fools with the magnitude of their power and importance. Behind it all lies hidden the law of the jungle, the fang and the club. When the Socialist members remain seated in the presence of this parliamentary fanfarra and flub-dub they demonstrate their knowledge of its farcical character. They are to be commended for refusing to participate in, or in any manner sanction such mockery and pretense. They evidently realize that the task set for the working class by the hand of economic evolution, calls for the serious and earnest efforts of men, rather than indulgence in the monkey tricks of court jesters and buffoons. Hasten the day when all such tom-foolery will be dispensed with.

THE ONLY SCHOOL.

The school of experience is said to be a dear school, but it is the only one in which mankind will or can learn anything. With the average man the experience must be bitter in the extreme and long continued before he will abandon his previous habits or depart from old established customs. Just now the working class is receiving a most drastic lesson in the school of experience. Hundreds of thousands of them are out of employment, and suffering the many privations and discomforts that this implies, because the present masters of industry cannot see their way clear to profitably employ them. This condition arises solely from the present system of property in the means of wealth production, and out of the purpose for which production must be carried on under it. The purpose of capitalist production is profit. The products must be disposed of at a price in advance of their cost. This implies a market in which they may be sold. If at any time the market should fall short of the requirements a halt must be called to production. This means that the labor force must be reduced by laying off some of the workers. Then the most pronounced and glaring evil of capitalist rule expresses itself in the misery and suffering that spreads like a plague throughout the ranks of the workers. A cry of distress is heard throughout the length and breadth of the land. Though they were actuated by the best of motives it is absolutely impossible for capitalists and their defenders to offer a solution for the difficulty, without destroying their own system of property and overturning in their en-

tirety, those social institutions which conserve and defend it.

In the suffering and misery of the workers consequent to the operation of capitalist industry, and its inability to at all times assure them steady and remunerative employment, is afforded the experience necessary to compel the workers eventually to break the rule of capital and thus set free the means of production to all men alike.

The suffering of the workers during these times of industrial depression is the price the working class must pay for remaining in allegiance to a system of property that has outlived its usefulness, and can no longer conserve the needs of human kind. It is the price, or a part of the price, they must pay for their enslavement. It is only when it becomes actually unbearable, when it becomes beyond human power to longer tolerate, that the workers will rise in their might and sweep it out of existence.

The present era of hard times and misery is but a repetition of numerous similar eras that have preceded it. Each in its turn has been the administration of a drastic lesson to the workers and yet no more so than the occasion requires. The present period will prove the most severe, prolonged and drastic on record. May it prove so emphatically so as to make a further repetition of the schooling unnecessary.

Wise, indeed, is he who can profit by the experience of others and thus avoid uncomfortable experience for himself. While there is here and there an individual so constituted, the fact remains that the vast majority can draw no lesson except from experience and even then it must be bitter and oft repeated. Fortunately for human progress and the advancement of civilization, the economic forces that underlie human society and compel its growth and development, will continue to afford the conditions requisite for the schooling of the workers and making them fit for the task in hand, the overthrow of capital and its accursed production for profit. Though the school of experience be a dear one it is worth the price. Its teachings alone will force the solution of all problems that arise to perplex humanity in its march along the pathway of progress to a higher and better civilization.

It is a mistaken notion that the workingman thinks with his head. There is nothing to it. There is, also, nothing in it. The only thinking he does is with his belly. When it is full he thinks he is the only real thing on earth. When it is empty he thinks only of how to fill it, regardless of the quality of the filling. Were it not for his belly he would be not only without brains, but without a place to put them, if he had them.

At Nanaimo the mines are all but completely closed. In the Crow's Nest region some hundreds of men have been laid off. Some of the coal camps have been nearly wiped off the map. The Boundary District is on the "bum," to use a slang expression. All of which goes to show that the hard times are over and "confidence" has been completely restored. Capitalist papers please copy.

A Conservative member of the Ottawa House has introduced a bill intended to do away with crooked practices and corrupt methods in the manipulation of elections. As it is not a matter of record that the Conservatives have at all times been as pure as angels in this respect, it looks like another case wherein "Satan rebuketh sin."

Although the financial and industrial conditions have not, as yet, fully regained the satisfactory status of the days when prosperity was at flood tide, there is little to complain of in the situation. Only 60 per cent of the steel workers in the Pittsburg district are now unemployed. Their outlook for the future is most cheerful and satisfactory.

One of the most dangerous signs of the times is the increasing lack of respect for "law and order," and its wise and beneficent paraphernalia. Only the other day a deep-dyed villain made his escape from the Vancouver branch of that most glorious British institution known as the "chain gang."

The Socialist members in the Provincial House are making it in-

teresting for the legislative retainers of the powers that be. Under the leadership of the irrepressible Hawthorthwaite they are after the Dunsmuir scalp with a vengeance. See next issue for full reports.

Another huge strike in the ship-building trades in the Tyne district is threatened. A reduction in wages is the cause. Even the British work-mule gets balky when his ordinarily generous feed allowance is shortened.

WESTERN FEDERATION OF MINERS.

District Association No. 6 in Convention at Greenwood Adopts Pointed Resolutions and Dispatches Much Business.

Sandon, B. C., Jan. 14, 1908.

Dear Comrade: I am enclosing copies of resolutions passed at the last convention (annual) of District Association No. 6, Western Federation of Miners, held at Greenwood, B. C., Jan. 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 1908. These resolutions we would like you to publish in The Clarion or as many of them as you may think fit.

Briefly, and it must be briefly, as the mail closes in ten minutes. The convention was the best ever held by the district. The attendance was larger than at any previous convention and the business conducted with credit and dispatch. Frat. Delegates Peter Patterson of the United Mine Workers of America, and Edgar Mason of the Nelson Local, I. W. W., were also there and took part in the deliberations. The new officers of the association are Charles Bunting of Grand Forks, president; B. E. Taylor of Moyle, vice-president, and A. Shilland of Sandon, secretary-treasurer. The next place of meeting is Moyle, B. C.

Report of Committee on the Lemieux Act.

We, your special committee appointed by the Tenth Annual Convention of District Association No. 6, W. F. of M., to consider the report upon "The Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, 1907," beg to recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas, The Industrial Disputes Investigation Act—commonly called the Lemieux Act—was made law by the Dominion Parliament without giving the workers sufficient time to examine its provisions and express their approval or disapproval of the same, and

Whereas, A careful consideration of the operation of the Act and the awards of the Boards of Conciliation and Arbitration constituted under it, proves that the measure is detrimental rather than beneficial to the interests of the working class, and

Whereas, whilst it prevents the worker from ceasing work as a body in an effort to improve his condition, the employer can evade the operation of the act by closing down his property prior to an attempt being made on his part to reduce the wages of his employees, as was clearly shown by the recent action of the Granby Co. in the Boundary district of British Columbia.

Therefore be it resolved, that we, the delegates in attendance at this Convention recognise in this act another instrument in the hands of the employing class for the subjugation of the working class, and we therefore press for its repeal.

Signed: Wm. Davidson, ex-M. L. A.; John McInnis, M. L. A.; B. E. Taylor, Chas. Bunting, Peter Patterson, Fraternal Delegate, UnUnited Mine Workers of America.

Resolved, that we, the delegates in attendance at this, the Tenth Annual Convention of District Association, No. 6, W. F. of M., protest against the decision of the Arbitration Board in the case of the Moyle Miners' Union and The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. of Canada on the grounds that in the last analysis it continues to allow the old law of labor supply and demand to regulate the wage scale with the additional disadvantage that the immediate result of this award is an authority to the St. Eugene mine management to reduce the wages of the men employed at Moyle.

This Convention further protests against the action of the Board of Arbitration in recommending that the several scales handed down by them be made general within the mining districts of the province, thus using their position to reduce the

wages of other mine workers not parties to the dispute in question.

This Convention further protests against the award on the grounds of its injustice, for since it was admitted by all parties to the proceedings that the cost of living had increased from ten to twenty-five per cent, this Board of Arbitration not only made neither provision nor recommendation for an increase in wages commensurate with even the lowest uncontested ratio of increase in the cost of living, but actually recommended a reversion to a scale of wages less in some instances than the schedule formulated to meet living conditions that existed eight years ago.

Resolution.

Whereas, The Dominion and Provincial Governments are at the present time assisting immigration into Canada and particularly the Province of British Columbia, in effect acting as agents for the large corporations operating in this country, and

Whereas, The effect of this policy is to reduce the wages and lower the standard of living of the working class, and

Whereas, The Lieut.-Governor of the Province of British Columbia has violated the pledges of his office by using the same to advance his private interests, by his refusal to assent to the Natal Act, and by contracting to bring Asiatics into British Columbia in violation of the letter and spirit of existing legislation, and

Whereas, His unreasoning antagonism toward organized labor makes it impossible for him to deal out even the commonest justice to a large section of the citizens of the province,

Therefore, Be it Resolved, That we, the delegates to the Tenth Annual Convention of District Association No. 6, W. F. of M., protest against the immigration policy of the Dominion and Provincial Governments, and

Be it further Resolved, That we condemn the actions of Lieutenant-Governor Dunsmuir, resent his attitude toward organized labor and consider him unfit for the present position and incapable of discharging the duties incident to so high an office.

Resolution.

Resolved, That this, the Tenth Annual Convention of District No. 6, express its continued confidence in John McInnis, Parker Williams and Jas. H. Hawthorthwaite, the Socialist members in the Provincial Parliament of British Columbia.

Resolution.

Resolved, That we request the Socialist members of the Provincial Legislature to bring to the notice of the Provincial Board of Health the matter of sanitary inspection of the boarding houses in and around the mines, mills and smelters of the province, and if it be necessary, to have legislation placed on the statute books that will effectively deal with this question.

Resolution.

Whereas, The machinery of production has reached such a degree of efficiency that it is possible for the workers to produce sufficient to satisfy the wants of society with a shorter work day,

Therefore, Be it Resolved, That we, the delegates in attendance at the Tenth Annual Convention of District Association No. 6, Western Federation of Miners, demand the enactment of a universal Eight-Hour Law.

A. SHILLAND,
Secretary.

Report of Committee on Co-operatively-Owned Stores.

We, your committee on co-operation would recommend that each locality open a retail co-operative store on the Rochdale system, and whilst we appreciate all that has been said in favor of distributing centres, we still believe that the success of the movement depends largely on each locality showing the true co-operative spirit and starting its own store, then later on establishing distributing centres in each of the following districts:

The Crow's Nest District, The Blocan, Nelson and Rossland, The Boundary District, but first in the opinion of your committee, must come the retail store, then afterwards to supply the needs that their establishment will create, the Co-operatively-Owned Wholesale House will come into existence.

Your committee would recommend that localities wishing to start a store of this kind communicate with

Grand Forks, where an enterprise of this description is in successful operation.

Report of Committee on President's Address, Paragraph 9.

In respect of paragraph 9 of the President's address, dealing with the institution of a home for our aged, sick and indigent members, your committee would recommend that an assessment be levied and the amount so realized form the nucleus of a fund for this purpose, but before final action be taken by this convention, your committee would further recommend that the question in the above form be submitted to the local unions for a referendum vote.

EXPLOITATION.

We have seen that there exist in society two classes, one of which exploits the other by means of the wage system; by compelling them to sell as a commodity their labor-power, the labor-power which, applied to raw materials, alone can produce wealth, they rob them of all right or title to the wealth they produce, reducing them to a condition of slavery even more merciless than that of the chattel slaves, who, while they, under a somewhat different system, did the very same thing, that is produced, for their masters, wealth to which they themselves had no claim, had, yet, a more secure foothold upon their livelihood, in that they, being valuable property, had to be fed whether there was work for them to do or not, unlike the modern wage-slave who need only be fed while at work and can be left to tide over a period of unemployment as best he may. Being nobody's property, it is nobody's concern if he starves. It is true that charitable persons make somewhat strenuous efforts to keep him alive, but this is an unwarranted interference with Nature's Laws and the Divine Will. The course of Evolution if left to itself would by a process of natural selection produce, in the long run, a type of wage-slave that would endure long periods of starvation with perfect equanimity.

The question naturally arises, by what means is the master class enabled to compel the workers to sell their labor-power instead of using it themselves to produce those things that they require?

The answer is simple enough. It must be remembered that to produce wealth not only is labor-power necessary, but also raw materials, and, in the present advanced stage of social production, the complex machinery of production and transportation.

And these things are the property of the master class.

Of course, there are raw materials and machinery of production that the master class do not actually possess. The farmers, for instance, apparently own the raw materials and machinery that they use; but this ownership is more apparent than real. The master class own the elevators and railroads and thereby control the marketing of the farmers' product. By virtue of his apparent ownership of his farm and implements the farmer is more severely exploited than he would be otherwise, he works harder and longer hours because he thinks he is working for himself. Really he is a slave working for his masters. Just as he sometimes feeds his grain to stock and thus sells it converted into pork, beef, etc., so he converts his labor-power into farm produce and sells it in that form. What he really receives is the market price of his labor-power, that is, his living.

It is therefore not necessary that the master class should possess all the raw materials and machinery of production. So long as they possess some vitally necessary part of it they can control the rest. So long as they can come in somewhere between the producer and the consumer they can command the product. And the true test of ownership is control. So that virtually the master class owns absolutely all the machinery of wealth production and every last bit of raw material in existence.

It is clear, therefore, that for the workers, lacking the raw materials and machinery of production, it is impossible to utilize their labor-power in producing for themselves the things they require. They must get them, if at all, by the process of exchange, and, their labor-power being their only saleable effects, that they must sell to obtain what they need.

The Remedy.

The remedy for this state of affairs should be manifest enough. To produce wealth for their own use the workers must own the means of wealth production, the mines, mills, factories and workshops and the natural resources. To return to individual production, to make each worker the owner of his own means of wealth production is as impossible as it is undesirable. No other course then is open but to make the means of wealth production the collective property of the producers, so that every worker should be entitled to the full product of his toil, that is, the full equivalent of the social labor he has expended.

The class ownership of the means of wealth production, which made exploitation possible being thus abolished, exploitation becomes impossible, for the workers cannot exploit themselves, the class line is broken down and classes disappear. As no one can longer live by exploiting others, all must become useful workers, must fulfill some useful function in society. Society attains to its proper function, the social production of wealth for social use.

The Method.

The method by which this end is to be attained should be as manifest as the remedy. Were the workers individually or in a body to attempt to take possession of the means of wealth production, they would find themselves face to face with the police, military and naval forces, that is to say with the repressive powers of the government. The Government then is the instrument that keeps the master class in possession. It logically follows that the Government is the instrument whereby they can be ousted out of their possession.

To the capture of the powers of government, therefore, must the workers bend their energy. That they must have, no matter by what means or at how great a cost. Where the ballot will serve, by the ballot, where the ballot will not serve, by force of arms if necessary.

That will be the Revolution, and peaceful or bloody, it must necessarily be a political revolution. In fact what else a revolution could be is hard to conceive. It is only by a revolution that the political form of a society can change. A revolution that is the culmination of gradual and hardly perceptible evolution in its economic structure.

Conclusion.

One can only conclude by reiterating the all-importance to the workers of an understanding of exploitation, the cause of all their misery.

Let the militant socialist arm himself with a thorough comprehension of this that he may disseminate it among his fellow-slaves. Once bring the workers to a realization of their position in society, of whose yoke it is that is chafing their shoulders and why it is there, and they may be safely relied on to carry out their historic mission, fearlessly, unhesitatingly, mercilessly.

On this string we cannot harp too much, for the class-struggle can be waged successfully only by a class-conscious proletariat, a proletariat conscious of its enslaved condition and determined, not to better that condition, but to abolish it.

Other methods of propaganda may give us a "broader movement" or "greater popularity," but are these "things worth the price?" After all, it is upon a revolutionary electorate we must depend in the long run to carry out the Revolution. Let that then be our object, and not the election of representatives by hook or by crook. It shall profit us nothing to pawn our principles for a show of power, and it is cowardly so to do, moreover.

Mc.

Dr. Hermon F. Titus
Editor Seattle Socialist
Royal Theatre, Sunday, Jan. 26
8 P.M.
EVERYBODY INVITED

THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

This Page Is Devoted to Reports of Executive Committees, Locals and General Party Matters—Address All Communications to George Dales, Secretary, Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Regular meeting Tuesday, Jan. 21st, 1908. All members of committee present, Com. Peterson in the chair. Minutes of preceding meeting read and confirmed.

Communications were read as follows: From Locals Ladysmith, Sointula, Nanaimo, Trail, Ymir, Cumberland, Revelstoke, Victoria, Fernie, Phoenix and Comrades Johnson and O'Brien, Enderby.

Warrants were drawn as follows: \$1 for literature agent, Local Vancouver, \$15, January salary, Secretary Geo. Dales.

Comrades O'Brien and Johnson reported a fair success in starting the Okanagan tour.

The matter for proposed leaflet submitted by Comrades Burrough and Williams, Ladysmith, to be published in the "Western Clarion" and its issue in leaflet form to be considered at next meeting.

The Secretary has received invoice of Finnish Constitutions with letter and translations from Comrade N. Valley, Nanaimo, and expects to have them distributed in a few days.

Nearly all communications from the Interior report industrial trouble and greater or less dispersion of the "hands" to meet capitalist necessities, but from every point an increasing confidence in the Socialist remedy and determination to fight for it on the political field.

Comrades Dales, who is leaving Vancouver, resigned his office; accepted and Com. D. G. McKenzie was elected B. C. Provincial and Dominion Secretary of the party, duties commencing Feb. 1st.

Receipts. Revelstoke, stamps and supplies \$6 10 Nanaimo, stamps and supplies 12 00 Ymir, stamps 5 00 Vancouver Local, stamps 10 00 Victoria Local, stamps 2 00 Com. Carme, literature 25 Phoenix, stamps 5 00

Adjourned. \$40 35 GEO. DALES, Secretary.

Audit. B. C. Provincial accounts for six months, ending 31st Dec., 1907: Receipts—General fund \$453 05 Organization fund 72 65

Expenditures as per warrants \$323 60 Bal. Jan. 1st, 1908 \$202 10 Auditing Committee—Jas. Pritchard, J. Bone.

DOMINION ORGANIZATION AND FUND

The Dominion Executive Committee is now pledged to the plan of sending across the continent and to every organized point in Canada the two men most fit and representative of the Canadian Socialist movement, Dominion Organizer Kingsley and J. H. Hawthornthwaite, M. P. P.

The necessity for this step has been apparent to the Dominion Executive for some time past and becomes more urgent with every passing day. We feel that the time is the most opportune in the history of Socialism in Canada.

Driven by the exigencies of capitalist exploitation the working class of Canada is smarting under the double lash of physical privation for

the present and gloomy anxiety for the future. Signs of intelligent revolt however come from practically every quarter of the Dominion, and to crystallize this into intelligent political effort by organization will be the work of our comrades.

The scheme involves an expense of at least \$1,000 if carried through in a way demanded by the situation, and its importance should appeal to every comrade in the Dominion. Until a substantial part of the above sum is in hand the executive will not feel warranted in starting the speakers out.

Dates, route and other information will be announced as soon as they can be fixed.

Canadian comrades! this is our first national effort, its success or failure depends on you. If successful, it will lift the revolutionary proletariat of Canada to its proper and proportionate rank in the world's rising army of revolt. If a failure!—there is no such word as failure in the lexicons of Socialism. We only fail as individuals and the cause still calls for—and finds—better men.

The fund is open. Send in to Dominion Secretary D. G. McKenzie your cash, your promises and your proposals. On then! with the Evangel of Revolt against the bitterest tyranny that ever oppressed our race, and made a thousand times more bitter to the intelligent by its utter needlessness.

For the Dominion Executive, GEO. DALES, Secretary. Amounts Received. Dominion General Fund \$100 00 Leo. English 1 00 Local Trail 2 00

Ymir is Confident. Ymir, B. C., Dear Comrade: Please find enclosed quarterly report from Ymir Local No. 31 for quarter ending Dec. 31, 1907; also post office order for five dollars for due stamps.

Our membership is low now because so many of the boys are out of work and no money to pay dues and a number have left camp. My next report will show you a good increase in numbers. The S. P. of C. is here to stay. The strongest men of both old parties admit as much and some of them have already enrolled with us.

Yours for freedom, W. B. McISAAC, Secretary.

WANTED! AT COBALT. Cobalt, Ont., Jan. 4th, 1908.

Mr. Geo. Dales, Box 836, Vancouver, B. C. Dear Sir and Comrade: Please send at once full particulars to enable the wage-slaves here to institute a Local of the S. P. of C.

We have been on strike for six months and of course you are acquainted with the revolutionary principles of the W. F. of M.

However, we feel the necessity of an organization that will bind the members of the community together who cannot join the union.

An early reply will oblige. Yours for the Revolution, ARTHUR L. BOTLY.

VICTORIA MUCH ALIVE. Victoria, Jan. 9th, 1908.

Geo. Dales. Comrade: Victoria Local held its regular weekly meeting last Tuesday evening, enrolling three new members, making a total of nine for the present year.

Our business meetings are well attended and every member earnestly endeavoring to make the movement a power in the nation. We have inaugurated a paper distributing brigade, each part of the city receiving its share of attention from the brigade. Another feature of our propaganda is the board advertising. A number of respectable looking boards have been made about five feet long and two and a half feet wide.

One is given to each comrade, which he takes home. Whenever a speaker is secured the secretary stamps the details of the meeting upon a sheet of paper, covering the whole board, and mails it to the different comrades. He in turn fastens it to his board and places it in a conspicuous part of his neighborhood and is responsible for its appearance. After the meeting he takes it home. We find this a very effective manner of advertising. I might add in conclusion that Victoria Local was never so much alive in its history.

Fraternally, J. REAY, Secretary, Box 770.

INDUSTRIAL CRISIS OF NANAIMO.

Editor Clarion.

We have a touch of the real thing here now. In a few days there will be about 400 men out of work. The boom has burst at last. There is no use for us Socialists to say we are sorry for it is something we have been praying for, and I hope this industrial crisis will get so bad that the worker will be obliged to take a hold of the machinery of distribution and production to save his own life.

I see by the papers of Nanaimo that the Government is going to come to the rescue of the workers. In fact it has already done so, in shape of a tax collector. Today, at the office relieving every one of them who were getting paid off of three dollars apiece for poll tax. A large number of the men who are getting paid off are intending to return to England; seeing that the Government of this country is giving everything away to Chinese and Japanese companies and that, look where they may for work, everything in the line of sawmill work and the fishing industry is in the hands of Japs and Chinese, and the C. P. R. pays the magnificent wage of \$1.80 per day for ten hours a day, which is just about enough to keep them in rice in this country.

I wish every working man had been listening to the remarks of the Rev. Mr. McLeod of the Baptist Church on Sunday evening last. He chose for his sermon "Heroes or Cowards," and he showed where the working class were cowards to allow this brutal system to go on.

He also remarked that all these cruelties and outrages that were committed on the working class were because they are cowardly and allowed it to be done. "AROUSE YE SLAVES."

DOMINION CAMPAIGN FUND. Local Vancouver No. 1, S. P. of C.

The time will soon be here when the workers of Vancouver will have another opportunity of electing men who will write the law in their interests. Before that time comes, however, there are certain things which must be done if success is to be attained. Every worker, if his name is not on the voters' list, should see that it is put on at once or it will soon be too late. It does not cost you anything to register, except a few minutes of your time.

Every worker should also see to it that he helps to make the above fund what it should be, for you must remember that no candidate can be nominated unless a deposit of \$200 is put up. Do not leave it to the other fellow to do, for "he that would be free must free himself."

All contributions are acknowledged in The Clarion; the next report will be published on Saturday, Feb. 29th. See that it is a good one.

This fund is for the purpose of nominating a candidate in the next general election and for paying other expenses incidental to a campaign, such as distributing literature, rent of halls, etc. The workers of this city are facing a period of hard times. Are you going to starve in silence or are you going to strike a blow for your deliverance? Local Vancouver No. 1 of the Socialist Party of Canada awaits your answer.

There is danger in delay—so don't delay. Yours for immediate action, LEEDS, Care Western Clarion, Box 936, Vancouver, B. C.

Monthly Report of Campaign Fund to Date.

Previously acknowledged \$30 50 Leeds 1 00 P. McQueen 50 C. F. Schroeder 1 00 J. Robertson 1 00 Sam. Webb 1 00 A. R. Stebbings (3 mons.) 3 00 F. Perry (for Dec.) 1 00 B. J. L. 1 00 Mc 1 00 G. W. C. 50 Harry 50 J. D. 1 00 R. Jamison 1 00 A. Friend 2 00 J. G. Morgan 50 Dr. Curry 2 00

Total \$48 50

Even China has a revolutionary Socialist movement to add to its other troubles. The Chinese Socialists are publishing two revolutionary papers in Tokio, Japan. International capital binds the workers of all lands together in their struggle for a common purpose.

FOR NEW COMRADES.

Just previous to the commencement of last Sunday's propaganda meeting (Toronto Local), I observed some young comrades in discussion. They were evidently in earnest, but were very much at cross-purposes.

I listened for a short time and was just starting to give them a few pointers when the meeting was started and I had to subside.

However, the need of clearness of thought that I have often observed in comrades like the ones I have mentioned, who I know, as far as one can know, to be honest in intention and desirous of furthering the cause, was impressed in my mind still more deeply by this.

It is with no desire to appear as an "authority" that I am writing this, but to endeavor to help young comrades as I have been helped in the past, notably by Comrade Peel, who is, to my mind, the clearest thinker and best exponent of Socialism in Toronto Local, but who has one great fault, that of excessive modesty. I hope this tribute to Comrade Peel will cause no local comrades to take him as infallible.

No one is. There is too great a tendency to set a man up on a pedestal merely because he has made, or had made for him, a reputation, to defer to him, to take what he says for granted without further study. This is a big mistake and is the cause of endless strife in the movement.

Some glib-tongued orator, such as Walter Thomas Mills, gets a following, starts some pet scheme or other, and of course the "Reds" won't stand for it and a scrap more or less lengthy takes place, destined to end in the victory of the revolutionists after a waste of precious time, that might have been spent in fighting capitalism directly.

Well, my young comrade, to get down to my subject, I will start with this advice: When a new thought is presented to you, no matter how obvious, how reasonable, it may appear to you, do not accept it till you have thoroughly studied it, and, on the other hand, do not reject it, however absurd it may seem, until you have subjected it to the same test.

This applies to books as well as to speakers. Take no book as inspired. Let your attitude be critical at all times.

I have been enabled to interpret much that I have read in Socialist literature by my own experience. Wherever possible apply this test, which I think the best of all.

Let your paramount idea be: "How can I equip myself to make plain to my fellow-workers what is plain to me?" If you keep this in your mind, you will not, after becoming familiar with such terms as "economic determinism, etc.," be working them off on a crowd at the street corner who cannot possibly understand them, but your knowledge will impel you to use the simplest, most every-day language at your command and results will be sure to come, though you yourself may not see them.

This reminds me of some time ago, after we had been running a class in economics for a time, one of our comrades speaking at a street meeting, after pouring out a fluent jumble of words, observed, "That's what we call 'economic determinism,'" and the joke, a rather tragic one, was that it wasn't, nor anything else in fact. Moral: Don't try to tell more than you know. If anything, keep a little in reserve.

The foregoing savors of generalization, but it seems to me to cover some important thoughts or I would not have written it. Taking for granted that your desire is to educate your fellow-worker to the truths of Socialism, the question is, "How will you go about it? Well, what started you on the road? It's more than likely you, yourself, feel the pinch of capitalism in some way and so became a ripe subject for some propagandist. Having embraced the bare principles of Socialism, in your new-found enthusiasm, you immediately set out to prove to your fellow-worker that Socialism is RIGHT.

And here you make your first mistake, pretty early in the game, isn't it? But don't let that discourage you; we've ALL made that mistake. Now we will see why it is a mistake. The fellows you have been working on have got their ideas of right and wrong from institutions controlled by the master class, from parents who got theirs in the same way; ideas which have been inbred through long ages of servitude. These Men Have Capitalistic Minds.

You have heard this before, perhaps. Well, you hear it again now. It's up to you to REALIZE it. And

NOTICE

Take notice, that 30 days after date, I, J. H. Ley, of Vancouver, B. C., occupation Miner, intend to apply for a lease for a stone quarry on Blind Bay, Nelson Island as follows: Commencing at a post planted on the shore line directly opposite Hardy Island, thence East 100 chains, thence South to chains, thence West about 100 chains, thence along shore line to point of commencement. Dated Dec. 30, 1907. J. H. LEY.

60 YEARS' EXPERIENCE PATENTS TRADE MARKS DESIGNS COPYRIGHTS &c. MUNN & Co. 361 Broadway, New York

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that, 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal and petroleum on the lands in Township 2, Rupert District, Vancouver Island, described as follows:—Commencing at a post planted at the 1/4 post between Sections 10 and 11, in Township 2, Rupert District and marked E. L. Kinman; N.E. Cor., thence South 80 chains; thence West 80 chains; thence North 80 chains; thence East 80 chains to point of commencement. Dated December 29th, 1907. E. L. KINMAN, Locator

NOTICE is hereby given that, 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect coal and petroleum in the lands in Township 2, Rupert District, Vancouver Island, described as follows:—Commencing at a post planted at or near the North East corner of E. L. Kinman's claim, marked M. P. Brophy's N.W. Cor., thence South 80 chains; thence thence East 80 chains; thence North 80 chains; thence West 80 chains to point of commencement. Dated December 29th, 1907. M. P. BROPHY, Locator. E. L. KINMAN, Agent.

don't forget that, with all your earnestness, your mind is chiefly capitalistic yet.

Now, what started you, let me ask again. The realization of a fact, the fact that capitalism affected you adversely and it was not till that fact was impressed upon you in some way that you took the interest to find out if Socialism was RIGHT. Well, there is the gist of the whole thing. It was a fact that moved you and not a moral idea. Well, stick to facts, and the rights and wrongs will take care of themselves.

To give a little of my own experience: It was a number of years ago when a Socialist pamphlet was first pushed into my hand in the town of Kingstown, Ireland (incidentally I was a government hireling at the time). I put it in my pocket and the next day finding it there, read it. From what I can remember it was phrased in simple language, was convincing and logical, and thereafter I called myself a Socialist when I remembered it. But was I?

It was years afterwards when, soon after entering the wage-slave market again, I got my head banged good and hard up against the brick wall of supply and demand, and I didn't like it a little bit and went about with blood in my eye for a spell. To make the story short, I dropped into Socialist environment with the inevitable result.

I think this will be enough to go on with; some more of the same sort of stuff next week. WILFRID GRIBBLE.

WANT THE DOPE.

McAdam Jct., N. B., Jan. 14th, 1908.

Dear Sir: Please supply me with necessary information re forming Socialist Local. The time is ripe for such work at this place. I am agitating the placing of a Socialist candidate in the field for the coming election, but we must have a Local. Please send me some "dope" along these lines and oblige.

Yours truly, DOW S. BOONE, Councillor for the Municipality of York Co.

(Continued on Page Four.)

Law is a clumsy device used by rulers to fool their slaves into believing that they are not held in subjection by force of arms. Behind the law is masked the policeman's club and the bayonet of the soldier. Without these it would be impotent. Great is the law. That is it a great farce.

Workingmen of Canada

If it be your desire (as it should be) to act intelligently and with effect in all matters political, you must be supplied with knowledge from some source.

Without an understanding of the position your class occupies in society, how it has been evolved, and how, by exploitation through the wage-system it is kept in a dependent and slave condition, no intelligent or efficient political action is possible.

Two little books published by the Dominion Executive Committee, S. P. of Canada, are designed to furnish you with the information you need.

One is The Platform and Constitution of the Socialist Party of Canada, prefaced by an outline of the Evolution of Human Society.

The other is "SOCIALISM, REVOLUTION AND INTERNATIONALISM" by Gabriel Deville, translated from the French by Robert Rives Lamonte.

Price 10 cents each of GEO. DALES, Dom. Sec'y, Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

(Continued from page 3)

TAKE NOTICE.

Secretaries and comrades generally are specially notified to address all letters and make all orders payable in future to D. G. McKensie, Provincial and Dominion Secretary, Box 836 Vancouver, B. C. This is the more important because Com. Dales is leaving the city, and anything requiring his signature would cause inconvenient delay.

NANAIMO ACTIVITY.

Local Minister Delivers Able Address to Large Audience at Sunday Night's Propaganda Meeting.

Dear Com. Dales: Sunday last, Jan. 12th, we had the best and most successful propaganda meeting we ever held in this town. The hall was literally packed, every seat was occupied and crowds stood up, every foot of available standing room being utilized, and it was an audience composed largely of a most intelligent section of the citizens who have hitherto taken but little interest in our work, or attended our meetings. The interest taken in the discussion was evident, the speakers being followed with the closest attention and that they were appreciated was evident by frequent applause.

Comrade Hardy was chairman and opened the meeting in a strong address which seemed to strike a chord in the hearts of the audience, and when he introduced the speaker of the evening, the Rev. A. W. McLeod, there was vociferous applause.

The reverend gentleman who has won an enviable reputation as a bold, fearless and able speaker, and has attracted crowded congregations to the services of the Baptist Church, of which he is the pastor, justified his reputation and demonstrated the rapidly growing influence of the principles of Socialism amongst the thinking people of this city. The subject of the lecture, "The Cause of Poverty," was handled in a very able manner, the speaker showing that poverty in its most hideous forms was prevalent alike in the crowded nations of the East and the most highly civilized countries of the West. He showed that in the richest and most fertile agricultural districts grinding poverty laid its blighting hand on countless thousands and forced them to wage an eternal battle with starvation and death. That in the great manufacturing districts whole armies of little children were forced by the Demon, poverty, into the factories and workshops, and there ground up soul and body in the ceaseless struggle for bread.

He showed how awful are the conditions that exist in all our great cities, where wealth in boundless profusion is piled up everywhere, and yet thousands starve in misery. He startled the well-fed audience by the statement that in the great wealthy city of London 200,000 children daily go to school hungry. Poor little, helpless, innocent children, must we forever hear their wailing cries for bread? Can society, can the heartless Lords of Capital ever atone for the crime of starving the babies?

Having shown the widespread prevalence of poverty, the speaker next reviewed the many attempts to cope with it, and the utter failure in every case, and he then pointed out the basic cause of poverty and misery of the vast majority of the people, showing clearly that everywhere it was due to the monopoly of the natural resources of the earth, the tools of production and the means of distribution, whereby an ever decreasing minority were enabled to command the services of the ever-increasing majority.

He showed that in every case the great nations of the past had gone to wreck and ruin because of the concentration of wealth in a very few men's hands, the people being plunged into the deepest poverty and so fell an easy prey to their barbarian enemies. In like manner he predicted the disappearance of our civilization unless, in the meantime, a remedy be found. The only possible means of averting the inevitable catastrophe was for the people to take possession of the land and the means of producing and distributing wealth, and operate them for the common welfare.

In the course of his address the

reverend gentleman sketched the history of the Conservative and the Liberal parties, showing that both stood for the robbery of the workers and hence ought to be equally condemned. He was especially severe on the Liberal-Labor party, showing that it was but a tail of the Liberal party and that it was designed by the unscrupulous politicians and fakirs of the type of Ralph Smith, to lure the workers away from the real means of emancipating themselves from the oppressive rule of Capital.

The speaker made a very decided hit on this, his first appearance on a Socialist platform, and, if he continues to improve, will certainly be a powerful agent to spread the Gospel of Socialism. He is a vigorous, forcible speaker and essentially a fighter. He seems to have grasped the essential principles of Socialism, though probably not quite clear in his conceptions and ideals. But as he progresses in his study of the literature and work of the movement and understands more clearly the economic foundation on which it rests, he will take his place in the first rank of the leaders in the Revolution.

I do not believe there is any question as to his sincerity; certainly there is none in regard to his hostility to the Liberal party, Ralph Smith and other Labor fakirs and decoy ducks. He seems to have a soft spot in his heart for the Conservative party and is disposed to deal leniently with that bunch of champions of capitalism, the supporters and defenders of organized robbery and legalized murder.

Comrade Hawthornthwaite, in a short speech eulogized Mr. McLeod and cleared up some of the points which he had failed to elucidate, and welcomed him into the ranks of active workers for the cause of humanity.

Comrade Cartwright, always brim full of fight, and running over with zeal and enthusiasm, affirmed that the advent of the Co-operative Commonwealth was near at hand, pointing out that it was impossible for the present intolerable conditions to much longer endure. He predicted a collapse of the present anarchistic system in the very near future.

This was beyond question the greatest propaganda meeting yet held here and marks the beginning of a new departure in the progress of the movement, showing how firm is the hold it has on this community.

SOCIALIST PARTY LEAFLET.

Advice Regarding Election Matters Especially Applicable to the Province of British Columbia.

This leaflet has been compiled for the benefit of that large portion of the working class who have such hazy ideas of the qualifications required and the process to be gone through in order to obtain a vote in Provincial and Dominion elections. Such ignorance can have but little excuse in the eyes of any thoughtful man or woman who is in daily contact with the conditions of working-class existence today. On every side can be heard tales of unemployment, low wages, and disheartening failure in the search for work, for the opportunity to gain access to the means of life. Nobody has the assurance to assert that the means of providing food, clothing and shelter for the human family are insufficient to meet the demands for such necessities. Nobody would believe such a palpable falsehood. Yet we have the strange spectacle of strong, willing men and women, who have spent their lives in producing these necessities, homeless, ragged, starving, humbly accepting a bowl of soup doled out by capitalist charity, in the very shadow of piled-up wealth created by their labor, and the labor of their class, alone. Such a spectacle would be ludicrous if it did not contain such awful tragedies.

The machinery for the production of all social necessities is in the possession of a small minority of human society—the capitalist class. They did not make that machinery, they do not operate it. In the case of the typical capitalist concern of today—the trust—the owners (the shareholders) may never have even seen it. Still, they own it. How they became possessed of it is not the purpose at this time to enquire. Being owners they naturally claim the benefits accruing from the operation of that machinery. The workers, the wealth producers, being a propertyless class, are compelled to go to the owners for permission to get access to the means of life. Permission is granted, but the owners, the capitalist class, confident in the knowledge of their superior position, impose conditions. Shortly they are

these; "All the wealth that you produce over and above the cost of your subsistence belongs to us. The cheapest man gets the job."

Then begins a struggle in the ranks of the working class, which eventually results in the one who can live the cheapest, in other words, needs the least wages, getting the job. By this process the average wage of the whole working class is kept hovering around the cost of subsistence.

So long as the machinery can be operated with sufficient profit to the owners the worker gets his living. But the machinery of wealth production is so immensely productive that it pours into the markets its products in such volume and so rapidly that the greatest consuming class, the workers, cannot buy it up fast enough with the wage they receive. Although they have produced it by their labor, it is not theirs. By the terms of the bargain outlined above, it belongs to their masters, and if they want it they must pay for it. Being unable to do so, the unsold products of their labor keep on piling up. Sales dwindle, and the piling up process goes on until the owners of the machinery, failing to realize a profit on its operation, decide to close down. The workers, suddenly thrown out of employment, in a very short time find themselves face to face with starvation. This is where we are at today in B. C. The situation is further aggravated by the presence of cheap labor deliberately imported from the Orient, and induced immigration from Europe, deceived by lying statements as to the cost of living and wages, circulated by fraudulent employment agencies, transportation companies and government agents, all of them acting in the interests of the capitalist class to flood the country with cheap labor and bring wages still lower by increasing the competition in the ranks of the working-class. The inevitable result is a lower standard of living, increased uncertainty of employment, increased misery and destitution, soup kitchens, bread lines, racial riots, hold-ups, murders and suicides, and the spirit of revolt.

Do you participate in the last? Have you got any spirit of the man left in you? Are you willing to keep this accursed system of exploitation on its legs any longer? Are you content to see the faces of your parents, your children, your wives, brothers and sisters getting paler and thinner from want and worry? Do you like the prospect of the same experience for yourself? Do you ever think without a shudder of what the future may have in store for your old people, your daughter, your sister, or your "best girl"? How long are you going to stand it?

A Dominion general election is going to be held in a few months' time. The capitalist class of Canada is then going to ask you for the continuation of your consent to the system of robbery and exploitation of the working-class by which they thrive, and under which you are now suffering. The present system can only be maintained as long as the workers give it their consent and approval, and no longer. The capitalist class numerically in an insignificant minority, the workers are in an overwhelming majority, and if the workers withdrew their support the whole scheme of capitalist robbery and exploitation would crumble and collapse like a house of cards.

By virtue of the fact that the political power of the State is in their hands, the owners of the machinery of production and distribution of social wealth are enabled to maintain their economic domination over the rest of the people, the wealth producers; that is the key to their supremacy and at the same time it is their most vulnerable point. In constitutional countries, such as Canada is, they are maintained in power by the votes of the very class upon whose exploitation, degradation and misery they thrive. That being so, it is useless for the working-class to look to the capitalist political parties, Liberal, Conservative or Reform, for relief. They are composed either of the capitalists themselves or their hirelings and cannot be expected to turn traitor to their class interests or the interests of Reform, for relief. They are composed either of the capitalists themselves or their hirelings and cannot be expected to turn traitor to their class interests or the interests of Reform, for relief. They are composed either of the capitalists themselves or their hirelings and cannot be expected to turn traitor to their class interests or the interests of Reform, for relief.

The capitalist realize that B. C. is a province rich in natural resources, and in their insatiable greed for profits and their desire to exploit these resources to the limit, will stop at nothing in order to crush opposition from organized labor. If they attempt to prevent men from expressing their opinions they will assuredly cause them to think more, and the same thing that happened at Nanaimo will happen here, and John McInnis will be rejected by a bigger majority than before, at the next election. Let

machinery of wealth production. The ownership thus being transferred, the benefits derived from that ownership naturally go with it. Instead of producing for the profit of a small and useless portion of society, the workers will then produce for their own use and benefit, under a democratic organization of industry, a Co-operative Commonwealth. The benefits to flow from such a condition of society can be easily imagined.

On page three will be found the platform of the Socialist Party of Canada. Read it and study it, and if it appeals to you as a way out of the conditions under which you are now suffering you will know what to do with your vote.

The following brief instructions and particulars will be of assistance to you in getting your name on the voters' list:

The list of persons claiming to vote is suspended on and after the last Monday in March and September of each year. If your application is not handed in by that time, it will not go on that list, but will be held over until the next Court of Revision sits, which it does on the first Monday in May and November of each year. If your application is not successfully opposed your name will then be placed on the list and you will be entitled to vote.

Qualifications.

1. You must be a born or naturalized British subject.
2. You must be 21 years of age or over.
3. Residence—You must have been in British Columbia six months immediately prior to the date of your application.
4. At the time of making your application you must have resided for 30 days in the district in which you want to vote.
5. Members of the Imperial Forces are not entitled to vote—except those who live in their own or rented houses, outside barracks or naval yard.

TRANSFERS.

Important.

A person who is on the register of voters can only vote in the district in which he is registered.

If you have taken up your residence in any other district in the province than the one you have registered in, and desire to have a vote in that district, you must get your vote transferred. The following process has to be gone through:

After residing in the new district 30 days, you can make a personal or written application to the Registrar of Voters in the district from which you came, to remove your name from that voters' list. This application must contain your full name, occupation and residence as given at the time your name was put on that list. The Registrar, upon receiving that application for removal, strikes your name off the list, and forwards to you a notification to that effect.

Take that notification to the Registrar of Voters of the district in which you want to vote. He will accept it, and after you have filled out the prescribed form in his presence, your application is filed for 30 days and will then be inserted in the list of qualified voters—

Provided, however, that after the expiration of that 30 days, there still remains 30 days more before the date set for the next Parliamentary election.

THE GRANBY COMPANY DISPLAYS ITS FANGS

(Continued from page one)

pany, on the works, in the union, or any place at all he is immediately discharged. This should open the eyes of some of our contented wage-slaves who have been foolish enough to imagine that they were free men in a free country, with the right of free speech, and the franchise to use as they see fit. They must recognize the fact that capitalism is the same in all countries, and that the methods employed in Russia can, and will be used here, unless the working class gets wise in time.

The capitalists realize that B. C. is a province rich in natural resources, and in their insatiable greed for profits and their desire to exploit these resources to the limit, will stop at nothing in order to crush opposition from organized labor. If they attempt to prevent men from expressing their opinions they will assuredly cause them to think more, and the same thing that happened at Nanaimo will happen here, and John McInnis will be rejected by a bigger majority than before, at the next election. Let

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them adopt repressive measures, it will only bring their finish all the quicker and the sooner we get rid of such a stenful mass of rottenness the better. The W. F. of M. has since its inception withstood the fierce onslaughts of the Mineowners' Associations of the West, and although its members have met the injunction, faced the bayonets and bullets of uniformed murderers, and been thrown into bull-pens, they have remained true to their principles and refused to surrender their manhood to industrial despots. In spite of their efforts to destroy this splendid labor organization it will continue to be the vanguard of the labor movement in its fight for industrial freedom.

A Member of the W. F. of M.
From reports of the ever lengthening bread line in the big cities it would appear that these are the times that try men's stomachs.

Is your name on the voters' list?
Is your name on the voters' list?
Is your name on the voters' list?

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Socialist Directory

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

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Tuesday. Geo. Dales, Secretary, box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Tuesday. Geo. Dales, Secretary, box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

LOCAL FERNIE, S. P. OF C. HOLDINGS
Educational meetings in the "Miners' Union" Hall, Victoria Ave., Fernie, every 5 day evening at 7:45. Business meeting first Friday in each month, same place 8 p. m. b. Foster, Sec.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, NO. 1, S. P. OF C.
Canada. Business meetings every Monday evening at headquarters, Ingleside Hotel, 813 Cambie street (room 1, second floor). Frederic Perry, Secretary, 836, Vancouver, B. C.

LOCAL NELSON, S. P. OF C. MEETS
every Friday evening at 8 p. m. in "Miners' Union" Hall, Nelson, B. C. Fred Phillips, Organizer. I. A. Austin, Secretary.

LOCAL TORONTO, S. P. OF C. MEETS
every Sunday, 3 p. m. at Davis Hall, corner Queen and Spadina Avenues. James Simpson, Secretary, 18 Hart House Avenue. Jewish Branch meets Sunday nights, 185 1-2 Queen Street West, 1st floor. Branch, Saturday nights, same hall.

LOCAL VICTORIA, NO. 2, S. P. OF C.
Meets at Yates St. below Government. Monday, Wednesday in each month. J. R. McC. Sec. 779, Victoria B. C.

Union Directory
When They Meet, Where They Meet.

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

SANDSON MINERS' UNION, NO. 11, F. M.
Meets every Saturday at 7:30 p. m. John McInnis, President. A. Shill, financial secretary.

HOENIX MINERS' UNION, NO. 8, W. F. of M.
Meets every Saturday evening at 7 o'clock in the Miner's Hall, W. J. Little, President; W. A. Pickard, Secretary.

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