WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE

The WESTERN CLARION

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING CLASS ALONE

ROCHFORT & DANIELS

NO. 8. Vancouver, British Columbia, Saturday, Sept. 24, 1910. Subscription Price Per Year $1.00

Legislative Library

THE EDUCATION WE NEED

University Degrees not for Proletarians

"Educate, educate and educate." That is the slogan of the working class agitators. That must pecede all other action. Organization must come after education. That is, in the mass. It is no use having people join the Socialist party unless they are educated. If they were permitted to join before they understood our principles, they would be a detriment to the movement. They would take up the time of the comrades to drag them along. It must be seen, then, that if the education is given prior to joining the Socialist party, it helps to quicken the work of organization.

But what do we mean by education? It is a necessary implication that one is educated when they attend a high school, grammar school or a university. Not a bit of it! Is education that which the teachers in capitalist schools so energetically impress upon the minds of the children? Do you understand that the teaching of "Bible" history(?) and the ridiculous miracles of the various prophets (!) in the Old and New Testaments; is that education? None of these methods are of any interest to the working class. But, why?

Principally because, as Marx and Engels so clearly stated, that "the ruling ideas of any age are the ideas of the ruling class." If the ruling class have interests opposed to the workers, they will try to "educate" the wage slaves in such manner as will retain their dominance in society. That is why, in spite of the slavish Christian notions about the brotherhood of man, the Jews in England, France, Russia and America are taught to love "their own" country and to antagonize their co-religionists of other lands. It suits the capitalist class to teach history without its economic interpretation. It suits the capitalists to foster the notions of the Protestant Reformation. In Roman Catholic schools there is a totally different version given of that reformation. It pays the capitalist class to do as they like in "educating" the workers.

Generally when a child goes to school in the morning (speaking of good Christian England), the Lord's prayer (which is not the Lord's prayer) is recited. The child is made to believe that he is a transgressor or that she is a sinner. "Give us this day our daily bread" is said with gusts, though in London the capitalist statisticians say there are 120,000 children in school breakfastless. Did you ever hear of such cant? Then, as if to add insult to injury, the children will sing in a monotonous tone Psalm 23, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." Then comes the various portions of the curriculum. In most schools on both sides of the Atlantic, arithmetic is the subject to which more time is given than any other. For what reason? Simply because the capitalist system of finance demands arithmetical juggling. In order to secure clever control over finance, it is necessary to have people well used to figures. That is why the capitalist class like the metric system. It is so much easier. That is why the metric system will soon be in vogue in Great Britain. Already agitation grows every year to secure its introduction completely. On this continent both the obsolete English system and new methods are being taught. That is only because it enables the students to eliminate waste of time in figuring. Still less time would be needed if the English system were abolished. Another few years and we will be wondering what IS going to happen to our pounds, shillings and pence.

But the capitalist class controlling the political machinery in their interest alone and against that of the working class, also hold, as part of the political administration, the function of education. There is a board of education in the capitalist government, or at least something corresponding to it. They see to it as the nominees of the capitalist class that their interests are the main ones considered. If in the process of time a great professor or educator speaks the truth, which is always against the capitalist class, he is without much warning, retired, and put upon some small pension.

Take the examples of Sir Ray Lankaster, who said that if given a large sum of money, medical and surgical science could banish from our midst many of the diseases notified and assumed to be incurable. He had to retire in sensational fashion. Professor Marshall, one of the disciples of Jevons, though much cleverer (and goodness knows, it doesn't need much to be as clever as Prof. Jevons), in his "Principles of Political Economy" pointed out that production was solved, all that was needed now was a more equitable distribution. He went on to say that there was sufficient wealth produced to grant each member of society a happy existence. That was in direct contradiction to the notions of the capitalist class. Professor Marshall "resigned." Someone who won't be so foolish (to the idea of the capitalists) is now Professor of Political Economy at Cambridge University.

There is another man in England who has had a good chance, but he, too, may have to clear out if he is not careful; that is Professor Chapman at Manchester University, who has now taken up the Marxian position on the reduction of hours, that is that it does not help the working class and they have a need for greater leisure, because they become more fatigued by the intensification of labor by machinery. Let anyone bring in a new argument against the capitalist class and they will soon see what is done. The master class see to it that only such instruction as supports their position in society is given in all government schools or those places aided by the finance of the capitalist class.

The education of the working class is in the bitter school of experience, in the mine, workshop, factory, on the railroad, lumber camp and in the store. He wonders why it is that, though he slaves from morn to night, he has just sufficient to live upon. It is finally sounded and clearly expressed at the Socialist meetings, where he is informed of all that is necessary for him to be an educated man. It does not mean that because a man or a woman have some kind of scholastic degree that they are "educated." It only shows that they satisfy the inspectors who are appointed for the reasons that the capitalist class are satisfied that they can chloroform the minds of the working class. The granting of degrees is a farce. Many men who haven't the brains of a bedbug have high sounding degrees. The capitalist class are most anxious to keep supreme control over the minds of the working class. Even were an administration of freaks like Seidel & Co. elected in Vancouver, Winnipeg or the "Soo," were even the S. P. dominant in any town, they would have to conform to the laws granted to it by charter from the legislature, they from the Dominion and even they from the "Imperial" government in London.

The new method of education includes now gymnastics and drill. More important than either is technical education. Technology is being developed in order to fit the system with more highly efficient wage slaves. I have just read the annual report of the institution when I was educated, and behold, that, too, says technical education is to be taught. The reason for it is to make better producers. The efforts of the master class can be seen when you look at what is being done at the various schools of technology throughout England. Many pupils there are apprentices to large firms of various kinds, and their fees are being paid by those firms. Why? They want their energies for profit-making purposes. The master class know it's an advantage to them to appear to be philanthropic. It's an advantage to them to extract a greater amount of energy in the way of knowledge from their employees. They don't send boys to technical schools for fun or for the sake of the health of the boys; no, they send them to make a good return for their outlay.

Technical education is being fostered by the master class because it pays them, and soon the majority of schools will have some hours devoted to that "science."

Gymnastics is a matter that has occupied the minds of the capitalist class, too. They have realized that something ought to be done to put an end to the physical deterioration of the working class. Military drill is now adopted. Church ladys' brigades, Jewish lads' brigades each instill the military spirit in the young lads of our age. Now Boys' Scouts are in vogue. I remember seeing a number of them looking up trees near Manchester (not in Manchester, for it is a hellish pace and no kind of botanical life can live long, owing to the stench); there I saw those courageous sons of "our" empire looking up the trees to see if there were any Germans ready to take "our" country from us. I spoke to one of my friends who was with me, and he said it was tragic. So it was. All that those boys had to defend "their" country could easily be put in a small flower pot. But to resume.

Gymnastics makes the child more agile. It makes them more subject to discipline. Therein lies what capitalism stands for. Obey, obey, obey, and again OBEY! It makes the children fear their masters. It makes them craven spirit in mind, but active in action. Carl Marx pointed out the necessity of gymnastics and how the capitalist class would "educate" the workers along that line as he likewise did with technical education. In Section 9 of "Machinery and Modern Industry," he makes these two points, though in different paragraphs, follow one another. It is the last sentence in paragraph 4 and the first in paragraph 5 of that section says Marx:

"From the factory system budded, as Robert Owen has shown us in detail, the germ of the education of the future, an education that will, in the case of every child over a given age, combine productive labor with instructions and gymnastics not only one of the methods of adding to the efficiency of production, but as the only method of producing fully developed human beings."

Note that Marx stated this over 40 years ago, and have not events proved the truth of his contention? It is foolish for me to look upon Marx as a prophet, but I must say that throughout the whole "Capital," I have failed to find any statement not justified in every way. He understood then what the master class would have to do, because of his remarkable knowledge of past history and its economic interpretation. So with us. Marx indicated the lines upon which the education (the real education) of the working class would proceed. Degrees, chairs of philosophy, curacies, count for nothing with us Socialists. We call the man or woman educated who is willing to stand by his or her class for complete emancipation. That is the only way. When the working class hear that they are slaves and they are the last class to be emancipated, they will act in their own interests. Unless they stand out for economic and social freedom, they are but ignorant of the true facts of history. It is up to us to show the clear road to revolution, to point along what lines we must be emancipated. To teach—or illustrate, rather—that the working class are the only factor of the population deserving our thoughts, for us to point out always, the supreme necessity of striving as a class to get hold of the political machinery, and putting to waste those means whereby we are oppressed. If you workers know that that alone will help and that the capitalist has no interest in you except to keep you as a slave, you are then at that point of intellect we call educated.

MOSES BARITZ.

FROM OLD ONTARIO

Being fortunate enough to shake off his harness for a few days the other week, the writer took a short trip to the shore of Lake Huron. In my travels I mixed up amongst all sorts and conditions of men and some of their opinions on things vital to the working class are no doubt of interest to readers of the Clarion.

In every place I found the farmer to be "dead against" the labor union, which they seem to regard as the root of all evil. I asked one old moss-back who was particularly keen in his denunciation of any working class movement what was his solution of the labor problem He stuck his hands deep down in his pockets, jingled a handful of coins so as to make a noise like a capitalist, and then delivered himself of the following:

"Labor problem!" why, its darned easy to solve that! Look at here, young man, Labor must be prevented from flying at the throat of Capital" (more jingling of the nickels). "Labor problem, indeed! Yes, sir, I'll tell you how to solve the labor problem. If the workingmen don't like the job or the wages, well, let them quit, and go somewhere else and get a job that suits them there!" Marvellous in its simplicity, isn't it?

It is remarkable, too, how this old granger's views coincide with those of our Brantford "Labor Leader," who said ("Expositor," 4-17-09), writing of industrial conditions in this city: "Lastly, if the city does not reach the standard desired, there are four railways ready to take people where they can seek fresh fields and pastures new, and one is just as free to go as he was to come." So, now you know.

Another point that I noticed with the farmers was their open hostility towards those of the working class who had an easier time, or who got more money than the farmers. They were particularly sore on the striking conductors of the G. T. R. "Why, they don't do anything. They don't need to know very much. They have a fine time traveling about, and get more money than do most of the farmers who own land and stock and implements, and who have men working for them."

Isn't it a shame! Poor farmers! I'm very sorry for you, you ignorant old mutts. Don't you know that you are only a working man in spite of your "ownership" of land and implements. One of the hardest worked and lowest paid of workingmen, too, you are, but you have allowed yourselves to be blinded by your vanity and pride in your "ownership" of your farm and implements. Cannot you see that the only difference between the factory slave and yourself is the fact that he sells his labor power direct to the capitalist, while you put yours into grain, cattle, fruit and hogs, and sell them on the market instead. The net result is the same; you both get your cost of reproduction like your horses and sheep get. You are simply a cog in the great wheel of social production, but, ostrich like, put your head in the sand and fancy that you are "IT."

The condition of the factory workers, too, in the smaller industrial towns is quite interesting. The doctrine of identity of interests of employer and worker goes unchallenged. The leading employer is generally mayor of the town or else its representative in the legislature. This goes as a matter of course.

The influence of the supernaturalist is manifest on every hand. "Be content," says he. "Your reward will come hereafter." And so the workers all submit very meekly to the conditions which a kind Providence has thoughtfully prepared for them. Woe betide the man who dares to make any protest against the existing order in these small communities. "23" for him.

Now, this "skidoo" stunt gets to be somewhat of a bore after a little time, so that gradually our rebel conforms to his surroundings, never says anything about the good, kind capitalists who "find us work," never reads a Socialist paper, goes to church regularly to hear just how content he has to be, and what posthumous felicity is to be his. He wouldn't think of joining a Socialist Local, and as for selling literature on the market square at a Socialist meeting, why, the very thought fills him with horror!

Taking everything into consideration, the battle must be fought, I am satisfied, in the larger towns, where the propagandist is not so conspicuous a mark for those possessing economic power.

W. D.

NOTES FROM GAY PAREE

Progress of Events in the French Capital

For a couple of months past the threatened strike of the railwaymen has shared the honors of conversation in French working class circles with the triumph of the aeroplane and the increase in the cost of living. So far the strike has remained—threatening, but the busy season on the railroads has been allowed to pass, and every week lessens the probability of a strike. The railway workers' demands are certainly not extravagant; they ask for a general minimum of five francs a day!

The government, of course, is entirely on the side of the companies, and is making active preparations to use the military in order to ensure the running of trains. The use of the army of the republic in the case of strikes is so common that it scarcely provokes comment. Only a week or so ago the engineers were used to open vaults in the cemetery of Pere Lachaise; the cemetery workers having been locked out by the employers because the men's union had black listed one of the firms of marble masons. Moreover, the provoking and brutal activity of the police in every strike here is a significant commentary on the value of republican institutions and radical governments.

Most of the big guns of the French "Unified Socialist" party are at Copenhagen at the time of writing, taking part in the congress. So far the news consists chiefly of mutual congratulations on parliamentary successes and in details of processions and musical festivals. The preparatory commissions have been discussing various reform topics, such as votes for women (in which connection it is to be noted that the limited suffrage proposition of the English Labor party has been handsomely defeated), and the demands of several sections of the "International" for the formation of new national entities.

The question of militarism has also been discussed in part, many of the speakers trying to conciliate a strong national defence with projects of disarmament or general strike in case of war! The result is—words!

Another commission on social legislation is dealing with unemployment insurance. The English Labor party are asking for government insurance to operate through the trade unions. Here in France the state already subsidizes unions who pay unemployed benefit, but only on condition that the unions submit their accounts to the prefecture and accept the control of the government in such matters. As such would be the case in any other country on the passing of a similar reform, it is evident that its value is just something less than nothing.

Other revolutionary matters discussed by the commissions are the questions of night work and co-operation. Guesde represents the minority of the French party on the latter commission. He maintains rightly that co-operative societies are not Socialist but capitalist, and insists that the only value of co-operative societies to the movement lies in the cash they may subscribe to party funds.

The congress has recognized the split in the Dutch party, and has granted a vote to the revolutionary section which has formed in protest against the reformism of the majority. De Gean has had the number of votes (3) at his disposition reduced to one. On the whole the delegates appear to have had a pleasant time, but one sighs for a definitely international Socialist congress.

Agitation in France.

Throughout Europe an agitation is being carried on against the rise in the cost of living. Here in France the campaign has assumed gigantic proportions. Meetings of protest are being held and strong measures are urged against bakers, butchers, restaurant keepers, and (in particular) the speculators in wheat and cattle, who are said to be chiefly responsible. The Union des Syndicats de la Seine has placarded the walls of Paris with a manifesto, and the General Confederation of Labor as a whole is organizing protest meetings in many districts. The "Unified" group in parliament have met, and have agreed to force the matter on the attention of the government when the chamber reassembles in October. Meanwhile reactionary journals are suavely reminding the discontented workers of the futility of their protests, as shown by the powerlessness of either government measures or popular insurrections to control prices in the past.

In Austria also the government is being urged to take action in order to minimize the unprecedented rise in prices. In Germany the Parteivorstand of the Social-Democratic party has issued a manifesto appealing for a monster protest of the people against the policy of the Agrarians, who are there held responsible for the "intolerable rise in the cost of living." Almost everywhere the speculator is being roundly cursed or threatened—without effect, of course.

The speculator will seek to profit equally by a fall as by a rise in prices. It is the nature of the beast to batten on popular misery. But is not the present general rise in the cost of living too universal and persistent to be the result of mere speculation? The worldwide nature of the phenomenon shows that the real explanation is not in local perturbations, but in some fundamental economic factor, in which case it becomes evident that it is a futile tinkering with effects to simply howl at the local butcher, baker or wheat speculator. But what is this fundamental economic factor? The Marxian can put his finger on it immediately. He knows that commerce is at bottom an exchange of equivalent values (popular prejudices to the contrary notwithstanding) and that profit is really made in the factory by the exploitation of the workers. Commodities exchange on the basis of the amount of social labor embodied in them, consequently the general rise in prices must be explained by a change in the relations of commodities to each other in respect to the amounts of necessary labor embodied in them. And what are prices? For our present purpose, disregarding temporary market fluctuations, prices may be stated as the expression in money (gold) of the values of commodities. Gold, owing to its convenience, happens to be the money, gold is subject to the same laws as other commodities. If the labor required to produce it decreases, it is worth less, i.e., it will buy less of other commodities whose labor-cost of production has not changed. And this is what has happened. Year after year the production of gold has increased. Each year for years past the output of gold on the South African Rand has beaten previous records, only slightly checked during the South African war. The new stamping machinery, the development of the sulphocyanide process, and improved organization, have lessened the amount of labor required to produce an ounce of refined gold, and have enabled inferior quartz to be profitably worked. Consequently, as this mass of gold percolates through society it gradually establishes new value relations with other commodities. Those goods whose labor-cost of production has not decreased in the same proportion as gold suffer a proportionate rise in price; more gold is required to buy them. And this is particularly the case with meat and most necessaries of life in the production of which machinery and labor-

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The WESTERN CLARION

Published every Saturday by the Socialist Party of Canada, at the Office of the Western Clarion, Flack Block Basement, 165 Hastings Street, Vancouver, B. C.

POST OFFICE ADDRESS, BOX 1688.

SUBSCRIPTION:

$1.00 Per Year, 50 cents for Six Months,

25 cents for Three Months.

Strictly in Advance.

Bundles of 5 or more copies, for a period of not less than three months, at the rate of one cent per copy per issue.

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THE WESTERN CLARION.

Box 1688 Vancouver, B. C.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th, 1910

ROOSEVELTIAN SOCIALISM.

When T. Roosevelt, the African model for a moving picture company, delivered himself some time ago, of a tempestuous treatise upon Socialism, a tremendous roar of protest and denial went up from the Socialist Party of America. Teddy was vehemently denounced as an ignoramus, a falsifier and a defamer of character. Since that time something, or somebody has undergone a great change, for the Great American Advertiser is now being hailed by "Socialist" leaders across the line, as trembling on the verge of conversion to the very doctrine at which he barked so ferociously. Berger is reported to have said in an interview. - - - "I believe, however, that he is drifting our way and that before a great while he will openly advocate a modified form of Socialism." A despatch from Chicago says that "Local Socialist leaders believe that when Eugene V. Debs, former Socialist candidate for president, and Mayor Seidel, of Milwaukee, arrive here to aid in the opening of the Socialist campaign they will take Colonel Roosevelt's Syracuse speech and hold it up as the very primer of Socialism, in an effort to show that the former president is literally 'stealing their thunder!'" Also that "Roosevelt's definition of his 'new nationalism' that the new nationalism means nothing but 'an application of old and fundamental moralities to new conditions,' is but **Socialism pure and simple.**"

In whom has the change taken place? Evidently not in Theodore, for we still find him the great master of the art of declamation as of yore, except that perhaps his jungle experiences have taught him more effective methods of roaring. It is more likely that our "Socialist" friends have discovered the painful fact which we have often been maligned for pointing out, that the manner of their Socialism differed but slightly from the bombast of any party which sought to lead the working class into a political bog.

Some of the measures advocated by Mr. Roosevelt, and endorsed by the insurgents are "graduated income and inheritance taxes, the reform of our financial system, such conservation of our natural resources as tends to healthy development, comprehensive workmen's compensation acts regulation of child labor and the work of women, direct primaries, publicity of election expenses, and provision for the removal of unfaithful or incompetent public servants."

What "evolutionary" party could object to such a splendid collection of immediate demands? It reads very much like the minutes of the International Socialist Congress.

"Steal their thunder?" Not the Colonel; he is simply showing the "something nows" that when it comes to thundering, their efforts to produce that phenomenon are, alongside of Republican Insurgency, as the splutter of a damp match to the battle of the Sea of Japan.

Any party that does not fearlessly state its object to be the possession by the working class of what is now Capitalist property, and does not insistently endeavor to educate and organize the workers for that purpose, is no Socialist party. Hurling invectives at "wealthy crooks" and insisting on "honesty in high places" only displays a weak attempt to imitate our masters in the game of politics, a game in which they are adept from long experience.

No healthy animal could be talked out of abandoning prey which was within its reach, nor is there any argument which would avail to balk the desires of a working class, once aroused and enlightened. Any body, however, that seeks to hide the reason for its existence in an effort to conciliate its opponents, that embodies the spirit of compromise in its very declaration of principles, instead of teaching revolt to the wage-workers, must inevitably find itself submerged in the stronger party to the compromise. What the I. L. P. is to the Liberal Party, the Socialist Party of America is to the Insurgent movement; both have become the mere shadows of parties that, so far from fearing them, have shown themselves to be "more Socialist than Socialism."

From all of which we must learn to be more unbending than ever, in our attitude toward all that even hints at a retention of Capitalism. Our message must be clear and to the point. If it bear any taint of resemblance to that conveyed by other, and stronger, parties than we, why should the worker accept it? He is there to be shown, and all we have to show him is his own strength.

A DISAPPOINTED DOVE.

After hovering in the air for some time, Mr. Scullin, the professional dove of the "Industrial Peace Association" lit on the platform in Vancouver last Monday. It was a very fine meeting. A department store keeper was chairman and Judge Grant opened the meeting by explaining that he (as usual) had not come prepared to speak. Other capitalists also, either made speeches as much to the point as the judge's, or else lent weight to the meeting by their presence and generously charged no interest. A wage-slave also unburdened himself while every one wondered how he came to be there. The Rev. Dr. Fraser, as the representative of the "Prince of Peace," was on hand and remarked that he had come expecting to hear some good speeches, in a tone that implied some disappointment. The consensus of opinion seemed to be that industrial strife was all to the bad. To all appearances none of the participants seemed to be so much concerned about themselves as they were for the innocent bystanders. What worried them chiefly was the terrible hardships inflicted by strikes, etc., upon the "middle class," and upon non-combatants generally. The wage-slave was almost in tears over the impending coal strike in Wales as it threatened to deprive "our" warships of coal.

Oh, we nearly forgot that the Dove outlined the aims and objects of his Association, which appeared to be in the direction of impressing upon capital and Labor the folly of industrial warfare and the necessity for adjusting their differences in a peaceable manner. He urged that Vancouver should not be behind other cities in this and should have a branch of the Association and that funds should be raised for this noble purpose. (No, he didn't state what salary he would expect).

Up to this point things had gone smoothly considering, but in a lull in the proceedings somebody called for Fitz. Fitz got the platform and the spirit of Peace took to the woods, while he proceeded to hand out the doctrine of the only real peace society in town, the S. P. of C.

Yes, it was a very successful meeting and it was decided to make Industrial meetings a regular institution and a committee was elected for the purpose, which committee turned out to consist of elements so harmonious as to augur well for industrial peace in Vancouver, being one capitalist, one S. P. of C. man, one S. L. P. man, and one I. W. W. man. As Yorkie interjected during the proceedings "Let us all stand up and sing "Peace, perfect peace."

THE PRICE OF COAL.

Editor World.—Since leaving my native home in the North-East coast of England I have travelled through your wonderful country and am now in San Francisco, but as a true Britisher I took particular note of the country on my trip through Canada, with its natural resources and all sorts of minerals. As I am familar with coal conditions in England and Wales, naturally I took a pride in inquiring into the coal conditions in the various cities which I passed through in Canada, and since my arrival here I understand that the most of the coal which is used in San Francisco markets comes from British Columbia. This I am very proud of as a Britisher, but when I was in Vancouver I was told there that the sale price of coal was about $7.50 to $8.50, while the same coal in San Francisco sold as low as $8 and in some instance $7.50 per ton. This is for screened coal; and on following up my inquiry I found that the loss on these screenings was 50c per ton. In prosecuting further inquiries I understand that it costs in handling Vancouver coal from the mines to San Francisco about $3:50 per ton, which is arrived at as follows:

Freight, per ton	$1.50
Duty	.45
State Tolls	.05
Loss on Screenings	.50
Expense in San Francisco of handling coal	1.00
A total of, per ton	3.50

What occurs to me is that the British Columbia people are paying more for their coal than they should, and as it appears to me are not getting fair treatment.

The only explanation that I can see in regard to this state of affairs is that the coal trust in San Francisco, who handle all the British Columbia coal, is a foreign company, and the shareholders, for the most part, I understand, are citizens of the United States; therefore they have no interest in common with our home people, and the company would appear to have but one aim—and that is reaching out for the almighty dollar.

What surprises me most is the fact that the British Columbia parliament or the Dominion government has not "wakened up" to what would be considered a most unsatisfactory state of affairs in Britain. Only a few years ago the British government enacted a law establishing an export tax on all coal exported to foreign countries. This tax has a double object in view; first of all it was intended to prevent so much of the very best coal which England and Wales produces being exported, and the other was that the prices within England and Wales should be a little lower than the foreign people were able to get the very best of coal.

You will pardon me for enforcing my observations in your columns, but I am strongly of the opinion that the British Columbia people are not aware of how they are being treated in this coal question, particularly when their coal is being sold about one thousand miles away from them in a foreign market and at a lower price than they themselves have to pay. It seems to me a most absurd state of affairs. It is just possible that the British Columbia people are so much taken up with the prosperity which I was happy to notice during my sojourn in British Columbia, that they are not aware of what is going on in the coal situation. You will understand that my only object in placing these facts before you, is to show that the so-called coal trust in San Francisco measures out a different treatment to their buyers in San Francisco from what they do in British Columbia. Seeing that the latter have to pay quite as much, if not more, than the people of San Francisco, it occurs to me that the export tax is the only way to deal with such an unsatisfactory state of affairs.

A. TRAVELLER.

* * *

The above is so rich all the way through that we have no excuse to offer for its publication in full. The idea of any one in this day and generation being proud of being a "true Britisher" would be almost unbelievable were it not sufficiently absurd to be highly probable. Proud of being a member of a race whose whole history is one of murder, nd rapine, robbery with violence and by stealth, a nation of hucksters and slaves! Of course we are no worse than any other civilized people but that is nothing to rush into print about.

This doughty traveller's explanation of the peculiar phenomena in coal prices which he mentions is quite on a par with and equally as reasonable as his patriotism. Of course "citizens of the United States," being also patriotic, would naturally sell coal cheaper to their compatriots and make the base Canadians pay the piper. Now that Mackenzie & Mann, "true Britishers," have corralled the coal fields we may expect the price of coal to go up in Frisco and down in Vancouver. "Reaching out for the almighty dollar" is of course never the aim of true Britishers. What astonishes us, however, is that it was necessary to put an export tax on coal in Great Britain. Is it possible that the shareholders in those collieries were also citizens of the United States or other such like foreigners?

The remedy he proposes for this lamentable extortion which is being practiced upon our unfortunate consumers is so simple that it is curious it has never been thought of before. It is unfortunate our traveler had not blown along a little sooner, when Colliery-owner Dunsmuir was lieutenant-governor of this Province. It is certain he would have had the matter attended to as soon as it was called to his attention even if he lost money by it. Being a true Britisher he was quite above "reaching out for the almighty dollar."

AN EASTERN "IMPOSSIBILIST'S" VIEW OF REFORMS.

Showing that Reforms do not Reform.

We hear a great deal of talk about advocating reforms and bettering our conditions by the "step at a time" method, which method, by placing it under a little unprejudiced scrutiny can be clearly made out to be found wanting, in-so-far as the workers are concerned, in every shape and form.

We will grant that some of the advocates of reforms are sincere in their efforts to gain an amelioration of the wage slave's present condition, but it is, at the same time, apparent to all us "impossibilists" that these "humanitarians," "reformers," "Christian Socialists," etc., have never bothered to look into the wage-slaves' present position in society. Is it not plain that a slave's portion of the world's goods is his cost of production, namely enough stall and fodder to keep him and propagate his kind, and that just so long as his labor power continues in condition to create more wealth to hold its commodity nature, the position of the peddlers of this labor power must remain the same?

The best illustration that can be given to show the fallacy of reforms is for us to take a look at the countries where reforms have been advocated, tested and tried, then we can see beyond doubt that it is impossible for any reforms to make for any good for the workers. Now this being so, it is apparent there must be some reason. The reason is this, that reforms deal solely with effects, leaving the cause intact.

Before proceeding further it might be as well for us to investigate right here what we mean when we use the term "cause and effect," which we will do by making a few illustrations. L would like to ask our reformist friends what action they would take when attacked by toothache? Do they go after the ache which is the effect or do they go to the seat of trouble namely, the tooth, which is the cause of the ache? I think the latter, but we will let them decide and pass on to another very striking illustration. I once stayed at a cheap boarding house, being in reduced financial straits (which is quite a usual thing for us slaves). I was shown to the bedroom and feeling tired (another usual thing for slaves), soon availed myself of the opportunity to sleep and gain the needed strength for the following day's work. After being in the land of dreams for a short period I was awakened by a troop of bed bugs who were evidently admiring the taste of my flesh. Now, having long finger nails I proceeded at once to scratch the bitten portions, and, not having intelligence enough to know that I was dealing with the effect of the bite, suffered quite a few more bites until I was struck with the idea of going after the cause, the said cause being eliminated by the ushering in of a bloody revolution (taking the sheets for proof), a peaceful one being impossible.

Now while this might be lowering to our reformist friends to have to compare their great reforms with bed bugs, there is, nevertheless, a good moral to be drawn from the above illustrations, and that is to remove the effects you must abolish the cause. Tinkering with effects leaves the cause intact, hence the inability of any reform to benefit the working class to any appreciable extent. Had I compromised with the bugs and continued scratching myself, is it not apparent that I should have been bolstering up their system by making my flesh softer and juicier for them to bite at? Is it not also apparent that by attempting to reform the present capitalist system we are merely helping the capitalist class to run it, leaving ourselves with the only thing possible after all our attempts at reformation, and that is a precarious existence.

Let us analyze one of the main reforms put forward and see where we stand. We will take the eight hour day. The only justification for this reform is that it might possibly be the means of curtailing the productivity of the workers for a short period. Even the curtailing would depend upon what extent the capitalist class were prepared to combat the shortening of the working day by the initiation of the speeding-up process. It is only logical to suppose that new ways and devices would be inaugurated to compel the workers to produce as much in eight hours, as previously in ten. So that all we would have to choose from in this great reform was whether we would go home at nights tired out by working ten hours slowly or eight hours fast. This is certainly a worthy condition for our reformers to fight for.

It is also a common thing to hear our sympathizers prate about the idea that a shorter working day would allow the workers to study their own interests and give them more time to read our literature. This I must deny, my answer being that they underate the ability of the Capitalist class in their role of mind attractors. For the perpetuation of this system compels the ruling class to inculcate into the minds of their slaves, that which is of no concern to the workers at all. Evidence bearing this out can be had by noting the happenings taking place in different countries. Taking for example the present ruling class of America, we find that they financed the movement which had for its object the sending of Roosevelt around among the crowned heads of Europe, with a view to promoting that "great man" feeling and hero worship among the workers. Again, in England, will take place a coronation, which will tend to revive patriotism and loyalty to an ordinary human being whose nom de plume, is King George. This will have a tendency to make the wage slaves jubilant, thereby forgetting their own misery and degradation.

The present ruling class by turning back the pages of history, can get a pointer from the methods adopted by the Roman ruling class, the Romans being quick to notice any sign of discontentment among their slaves, would attempt to dispel the same by the formation of a gigantic carnival and feast in which their slaves would take part. A somewhat similar affair is taking place in Spain, the only difference being that it takes the form of a bull-fight, needless to say it has the same effect upon the workers in making them forget their own interests.

All this goes to prove that the present dominant class must keep complete control of their slaves' minds, so that they can continue in their ownership of the means of life. It also implies to us "impossibilists" the fact that the shortening of the working day will not aid us to any appreciable extent with our propaganda. The Socialist Party of Canada stands alone for Socialism, a complete change in the ownership of the things necessary for us to create the necessities of life: i.e. the mines, factories, railroads, etc. The effect of the Capitalist system upon the workers must be the problem as we know it—misery and want for the worker, abundant wealth for the idler. We can lay claim to being the only party in Canada which makes the achievement of the Co-operative Commonwealth its immediate as well as its ultimate object. If it is possible for any alteration for the benefit of the workers to take place under the capitalist system, we are convinced it can only be as the result of the fear of worse to come, impelling the Capitalist class to make the alteration. Therefore we say the easiest way to produce that fear would be to concentrate all our efforts on the attainment of the whole hog. If in agreement with this, your place is in the ranks of the Socialist Party of Canada, fighting to remove your own fetters, if on the contrary you think otherwise, your place is at your master's heels, vote him into power at the next election, and then take your medicine without complaining.

Brantford.

A. W. B.

The receipt of a copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

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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 1688, Vancouver, B. C.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL Executive Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Monday. D. G. McKenzie, Secretary, Box 1688 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. Danby, Sec., Box 647 Calgary, Alta.

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee. Meets first and third Tuesdays in the month at 12 1-2 Adelaide St. Any reader of the Clarion desiring information about the movement in Manitoba, or who wishes to join the Party please communicate with the undersigned. W. H. Stebbings, Sec., 316 Good St., Winnipeg.

MARITIME PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every second and fourth Sunday at Comrade McKinnon's, Cottage Lane. Dan Cochrane, Secretary, Box 491, Glace Bay, N. S.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, B. C., NO. 1.—Canada. Business meetings every Tuesday evening at headquarters, over Edgett's Store, 151 Hastings St. W. F. Perry, Secretary, Box 1688.

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 VANCOUVER, B. C., NO. 58—LETTISH.—Meets every second and last Sunday in the month, 2 p. m. E. J. Weinberg, 40 Ave., South Hill. J. Schogart, Secretary, Box 1616, Vancouver, B. C.

LOCAL VICTORIA, NO. 2, S. P. OF C. Headquarters and Reading Room, 523 Johnston St. Opposite Queens Hotel. Business meeting every Tuesday evening, 8 p.m. Propaganda meetings every Sunday at Grand Theatre. R. Thomas, Secretary.

LOCAL NANAIMO, NO. 8, 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. George Heatherton, Organizer; R. J. Campbell, Secretary, Box 124.

LOCAL VERNON, B. C., 33, S. P. of C., meets every second and last Friday in each month. Chas. Chaney, Sec., Box 127 Vernon, B. C.

LOCAL PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., No. 53, S. P. of C.—Meets every Sunday in hall in Empress Theater Block at 2:00 p. m. L. H. Gorham, Secretary.

LOCAL MICHEL, B. C., NO. 16, S. P. OF C., meets every Sunday in Graham's Hall at 10:30 a. m. Socialist speakers are invited to call. V. Frodsham, 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 Theater. Speakers passing through Revelstoke are invited to attend. B. F. Gayman, Secretary.

LOCAL LADYSMITH NO. 10, S. P. of C. Business meetings every Saturday 7 p.m. in headquarters on First Ave. J. H. Burrough, Box 31, Ladysmith, B. C.

LOCAL MOYIE, B. C., NO. 30.—MEETS second Sunday 7:30 p.m. in McGregor Hall (Miners' Hall), Thos. Roberts, 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. Sebble, Secy., P. O. Box 765 Rossland.

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

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, T. Machin, Secretary. Box 647, 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. 9, Miners' Hall and Opera House at 8 p.m. Everybody welcome to call. H. J. Smith, Secy.

LOCAL EDMONTON, ALTA., NO. 1, S. P. of C. Hearquarters 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 LETHBRIDGE, ALTA., NO. 13, S. P. of C.—Meets 1st and 3rd Sunday in the month, at 4 p.m. in Miners' Hall. Secretary, Chas. Peacock, Box 1983.

LOCAL WINNIPEG, S. P. of C., HEADquarters, Kerr's Hall, 120 1-2 Adelaide Street, opposite Roblin Hotel. Business meeting every Monday evening at 3 p m. Propaganda meeting Sunday evening 8 p.m. Everybody welcome. Secretary, J. W. Hilling, 270 Young Street.

LOCAL TORONTO, ONT., NO. 24, S. P. OF C. Business meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in the month, at the Labor Temple, Church St. Outdoor propaganda meetings, Saturday, 8 p.m., City Hall; Sunday afternoon, 3 p.m., at University and Queen St.; Sunday night, 8 p.m., at Shuter and Yonge St. Speakers' Class every Thursday, 8 p.m., at **Headquarters, 79 Church St.** Secretary, Arthur Taylor, 201 George St.

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. M. J. Gorman, Box 446, Financial

LOCAL OTTAWA, NO. 8, S. P. of C. Business meeting 1st Sunday in month, and propaganda meetings following Sundays at 8 p.m. in Robert-Allan Hall, 78 Rideau St. The usual weekly inside propaganda meetings discontinued during summer months. John Lyon, is Secretary, 43 Centre St.

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.

SMOKE "KURTZ'S OWN" OR "KURTZ'S PIONEERS" OR "SPANISH BLOSSOMS" BEST IN B.C. CIGARS.

Propaganda Meeting

Empress Theatre

Sunday Sept. 25th.

E. T. Kingsley

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 1688, Vancouver, B. C.

MARITIME EXECUTIME COMMITTEE.

Meeting held Sept. 4th. Comrades Present—Chapman, McKinnon (chairman), Sutherland, Brodie and the Secretary.

Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

Correspondence dealt with from Locals Moncton, St. John, Fredericton.

Organizer Fillmore was present and his Cape Breton tour arranged. Organizer Fillmore was heard re appealing for funds for election purposes in Cumberland Co., on motion the matter was laid over till next meeting of the executive committee for further discussion.

Receipts.

Local Halifax, due stamps.....	$ 2.00
Local Fredericton, due stamps..	2.40
Local St. John, due stamps.....	2.00
Local Glace Bay, due stamps...	4.00
Total	$10.40

DAN COCHRANE,
Secretary.

ON THE TRAIL.

Since last report I have had meetings at Frank, Coleman (2), Blairmore, Corbin, Michel, Fernie, Coal Creek and Moyie. Literature sales have been good, O'Brien's speech in the House showing up as the most popular. My meeting in Blairmore was in the open air and most of the town was there. The Michel crowd on "Labor Day' was good and the boys there are doing good work. Fernie comrades are a little lazy and are not doing as much propaganda as they ought. In Moyie the local is live and contains good stuff, though their numbers have been weakened by a recent lay off in the mines there. At Corbin, a new camp on the Crow, I had one of the best meetings up to date. The foreign comrades there helped me out by advertising the meeting, and one of them also spoke for about ten minutes. Take it all round, the movement in the Crow's Nest is alive and growing as fast as is healthy for a party that stands for straight revolution.

DESMOND.

BOOM IN BRANDON.

Things have been moving in Brandon lately. We have now a permanent headquarters, with reading room always open. We have doubled our membership this summer, and we have an economic class in full swing. Last month our receipts for literature sales and contributions were over sixty dollars. Not too bad for this small city. Of course this may all be a spasm, but we will try to keep the spasm up.

Last week we had Comrade Gribble to assist us and we enjoyed his visit fine. In spite of the Arctic weather, snow, rain and frost, several meetings were held. On Sunday the 4th we had two fine meetings outside and finished up with a good one in the headquarters. Monday being regular business meeting we held no propaganda meeting but Comrade Gribble addressed the local and gave the members some valuable pointers.

Tuesday night it rained to beat heaven, so we had an indoor meeting and a fine scientific address from Comrade Gribble.

Wednesday night Comrade Gribble was allowed 15 minutes at the Bricklayers' Union and he spoke for one hour and a quarter.

Thursday night was our regular economic class, "Value, Price and Profit" the textbook. Comrade Gribble put us through the mill on it.

Friday we had an indoor meeting, Saturday a street meeting. At this meeting Comrade Gribble got our courage up to the pitch necessary to sing the "Red Flag" on the street, previous to this we had confined our singing to indoor meetings.

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Comrade Gribble held noon hour meetings in the C. P. R. shops, jarring loose quite a few of the C. P. R. profit makers.

Sunday the 11th we had two outdoor meetings (sang at both) and one indoors, thus closing Comrade Gribble's visit.

Considering the bad weather, we had good crowds (Sundays about 500) and we made good literature sales, about $5.00 each Sunday. The clerk of the weather is evidently an anti-Socialist as the weather was exceeding ly bum during Comrade Gribble's visit, but since his departure it has turned fine and warm.

Comrade Gribble has departed further west, but he has left some inspiration with the rebels here, though small as yet, we are true red and determined we will do something yet.

ED. FULCHER.

STEELTON, ONT.

Dear Comrade Editor—

Baritz left here yesterday and although his visit was not sufficiently long to enable some of the people to hear him, he has at least succeeded in rousing "Local Steelton." He gave us a good talk on Saturday night on the main street of Sault Ste. Marie, for the workers to hope for anything better unless they get down to business and do something for themselves.

Sunday afternoon was spent at the Finnish Local headquarters, where, in the presence of the ex-mayor of Steelton, Bartiz showed up the utter futility of any kind of reform movement.

Although confined to his bed on Monday night he managed to give us some good points for the studying of Economics.

As a Scientific Socialist Moses is evidently second to none. As an organizer his work might be marred by his impatience. He is a proper war horse. Like a restive steed he scents the battle from afar and wants to be in the thick of the fight. At best, though, an organizer can but prepare the soil, it is up to us to sow the seed and rest assured we will do our best.

Your for the revolution,

G. WAPLES.

Secretary Local Steelton.

IN CAPE BRETON.

For some time past I have been wandering over Nova Scotia, spreading, as best I could, the gospel of discontent. I have been in Springhill and seen the striking miners turning towards Socialism as their only hope. And on August 10th, I saw the first Red Flag carried in the streets of Springhill.

In my absence from Glace Bay Mr. R. L. Borden, the immaculate, the silvery tongued politician who is to lead the hosts of Conservatives to victory at the palls in the near future, blew in to town. Great preparations had been made by the local politicians for his reception. A parade was arranged and this new Moses was billed to speak to the wage mules at 3 p.m. When the train arrived a squeegee band of about six pieces attended by less than a score of citizens who, no doubt, received free beer for their attendance, fell in behind the orator and attended him to the field. Here the crowd had failed to materialize and the hot air tournament was postponed till evening. When darkness fell, about 300 people were on hand to absorb the new truths emanating from the capacious maw of this representative of big business. Several Comrades were on the field and plastered it with Socialist literature. The next day the Post reported that 5000 people attended, while the Standard went the backward Post one better and made it 6000. The truth of the matter is that the whole affair was a decided frost. The actions of capitalist politicians during the recent strike has certainly put the kibosh on the hopes of a lot of would-be legislators in this vicinity.

I had only been in Glace Bay a couple of days when September 5th, the masters' Labor Day, came around. The men had made preparations for the "great" day and a parade was arranged. About 1000 people marched in the parade and upon arrival at the field several spouters mounted a platform and proceeded to lay down volumes of new truth a la Gompers et al. There was much flag waving and shouting about the "dear old Union Jack." However there was not one word said about the way in which the men were used while carrying the "dear old flag" last summer in their parade when they were met by machine guns and red coated butchers who also carried the Union Jack. Of course the same old chestnuts about "rights" and "justice" and "fair wages" were flung at the crowd by some of the speakers. The crowd, however, seemed hard to enthuse over such worn slogans and there was little applause.

Comrades McLachlan and McLennan who are members of the S. P. of C. did very well although even their talk was too much along the lines of an attack on individuals instead of the system of wagedom. Some of the brutality and animalism that capitalism has kept alive and even developed in the workers was vented on a company policeman who attended the affair.

On Tuesday, the 6th, I went to Sydney Mines where we held a street meeting and held an interested crowd of about 125 men. I was interrupted a few times by a fellow who had imbibed too freely of the cup that cheers and also befuddles the wages slave. An effort was also made by a local politician to persuade the police to break up the meeting but was unsuccessful. Wednesday was very wet so we had to cancel our meeting at Florence, but I shall be back there the 16th inst. Thursday the 8th, we held a meeting in Glace Bay and Saturday night we walked to Morrin and got a crowd of about 75 into a hall. Comrade McKinnon and the writer spoke, and the audience seemed much interested and responsive.

Tonight I am to invade Sydney with a stack of literature and endeavour to hold a couple of street meetings.

I have omitted to mention a meeting held by Comrade McKay and myself at New Glasgow on the evening of Sept. 1st. We got a crowd of about 150 and had a very good meeting. Will call there on my return trip.

The movement is growing in Cape Breton. The workers are refusing to become enthusiastic over the time-worn platitudes of professional politicians. A few days ago Mr. A. K. McLean, attorney-general, spoke in the Liberal Club rooms. He is reported as having said that he did not believe in stirring up strife between capital and labor for political purposes and this has furnished amusement for scores of the workers since then. The Red is growing here. More later.

ROSCOE A. FILLMORE.

GRIBBLE REPORTS.

Arriving at Winnipeg on the 25th Aug., I remained there for nine days, the Local being busy and keeping me busy all the time. Meetings were held nightly, and good sales of literature and collections realized.

On one night the comrades sent me to Elmwood, Comrades Brown and another of the Winnipeg comrades—together with Comrade Farmilo of Toronto accompanying. We had a small crowd here and after holding a meeting of fair length, took the car back to Winnipeg, arriving in time to take part in a meeting the comrades were holding on the spuare.

On another night a number of us went to Selkirk and started a meeting there which resulted in the writer being arrested for speaking and prosecuted for causing an obstruction (which was'nt caused), and "convicted" on the perjured evidence of two policemen and fined $2.00 and costs or fourteen days. The comrades decided to pay the fine, which deprived me of any chance of being a martyr. I was vexed.

Winnipeg Local is doing well especially as they are restricted to the square for open-air speaking. Being so handicapped, they are unable to secure anything like the crowds that the Toronto Local does, and the collections and sales of literature are much smaller. The square at Winnipeg is well away from the main streets nd there are comparatively few people passing at any time from which to recruit a crowd. It is up to the Winnipeg Local to make a special effort to get the streets for propaganda. I've no doubt they will do this in due time.

Leaving Winnipeg, I was accompanied as far as Portage la Prairie by Comrade McDougall and we held a successful meeting there, the best feature of which was becoming acquainted with an exceptionally alert young kicker of the name of Loord, who bought some literature and took a yearly sub. for the Clarion, herewith enclosed.

Leaving Comrade McDougall to conduct another meeting at Portage la Prairie the next day (Sunday), I departed at midnight for Brandon, and was rejoiced to meet that Red (in two senses) Farmilo on the train, hiking for Calgary—Calgary will find themselves strongly reinforced.

At Brandon Fulcher and Higgins were on the platform (3 a.m.), and escorted me to the home of the former, which reminds me that I wanted to say that as a matter of personal preference I would sooner stay at a comrade's house than any hotel. At Winnipeg I stayed with Comrade Hillhouse and at Brandon with Comrade Fulcher, and nothing could exceed the kindly treatment I received from all concerned. Home comforts for me every time! As to Brandon I tell you there's a bunch of scrappers there. They were good the last time but there is no comparison to what they are now. We had bad and chilly weather, and were only able to hold five outdoor meetings during the eight days I spent at Brandon, but they were good ones, and the biggest was bigger than any I have seen in the square in Winnipeg. The boys are not allowed to take a collection or sell literature on Sunday, but they got over that by passing round the hat filled with literature, and invite any one who likes to drop in a dime or so. This answers well. Nice headquarters at Brandon and it was crammed every night we were there, after the out-door meeting.

For speakers, Brandon has the well-known Fulcher, and Cliff Butler can do a fair stunt, while Tommy Legge is practicing hard every chance he gets in the headquarters, pausing ever and anon to say "Oh, this is awful, what shall I say next." But what pleases me best is to see the fine organization of Brandon Local, the punctuality at meetings, the bright and alert way in which all the comrades move in a bunch from the headquarters to the vacant lot (being denied the streets) and form a compact ring around the box without any coaxing or urging, and they have got down to singing too, if they go on they will shortly be up to Toronto's Local in this respect. Sing! comrades, sing! You've got something to sing for, don't mind the coldly superior who are above it. The Brandon Local had some thought of placing me in Rivers for a night, but decided more good could be done in Brandon. I strongly suspect that the Brandon Local has developed a spirit of generous rivalry towards Winnipeg and it also looks to me that Winnipeg will have to get a move on to retain first place in Manitoba.

Regretfully leaving Brandon, I arrived at Regina three days ago and have held meetings each evening since. Things not so rosy here, but some first-class comrades, nevertheless, Comrades Cocks and Bruce doing all in their power to help. Two more nights at Regina and then Moose Jaw, where I look forward to seeing that sturdy comrade A. Stuart, there is no better Red going than that same Scotchman.

WILFRID GRIBBLE.

THE REASON WHY.

In the Clarion of September 3rd, Comrade Desmond sounded a note that cannot, in my opinion, be sounded too strongly or too often. We, the working-class, he says (in effect), occupy the position of underdog in capitalist society because it is the only position we are fitted to occupy; because, in short, it is our place. This will be for many of us, a bitter pill. But as it is plainly compounded of truth, we shall do well to swallow and digest it with as pleasant a face as may be. There is nothing to be gained by refusing to face facts, or to admit conclusions legitimately derivable from facts. If it be true, therefore, that the facts of nature, as scientifically observed, indicate unmistakably a constant struggle for existence amongst all forms of organic life, resulting in a merciless extermination of the unfit, we are obliged to concede that the present condition of the working class is an accurate and a sufficient intimation of their relative fitness to survive.

I know hat many attempts have been made to show that under this system of capitalism, the best and the worthiest do not "survive." Genius is pictured in a miserable garret, composing elegies to days gone by, when fields were not so brown, and minstrels had the private ear of kings. The business man who goes bankrupt because he is too "honest," is also a familiar figure with those who would have us believe that this "system" of ours is nothing but a monstrous perversion of the natural order of things. But these misguided sentimentalists should remember that it is not the "best"—measured by any standard of ethics, or even of cerebal superiority—but the fittest, who succeed in the struggle for existence, be the qualities that determine fitness what they may. It is true, of course, that different characteristics make for survival in varying environments. Thus, in the stone age the thickest head and the strongest arm doubtless took all the prizes of life. Later, brute force succumbed to sagacity. The intelligent plug will multiply the illustrations indefinitely.

What I am trying to get at (doubtless with but indifferent success), is the eternal principle that: A given environment favors the survival of such forms of life as are best adapted to that environment, and reversely, crushes out all such as will not conform. I know this observation is somewhat trite. But I think it will be labor not utterly wasted, if I can persuade even one member of the party who may be clinging to the old shibboleths of justice and fair play, that he is clinging to ideas which have absolutely no scientific justification. If the capitalist class give us the heavy end of the stick, it is not because they are "sinful" creatures who have abjured the teachings of the Master, but because it is ours to suffer until we can—by proving our fitness to survive in this environment, or by demolishing this, and fashioning a new one to which we shall be better adapted—depive them of their right to rob and murder us by taking away their power.

I am glad, therefore, that Comrade Desmond has called attention to this phase of our problem, because it is a phase that has often been misinterpreted in a manner favorable to the interests of the ruling class. The hirelings of the bourgeoisie have said that the facts of organic evolution conspire to establish beyond a rational doubt, that the capitalist class rules because of its proven fitness to rule. As Desmond says, hey are right thus far; the principles of biology do support their assertion. But it is when they attempt to draw the inference that it is the destiny of the capitalist class to rule eternally, that we can logically step in and say, "We do not dispute your premise. You rule because you are able, and therefore fit, to rule. But it is no logical deduction from that premise that you will always be able to do so. Indeed, all the facts of organic nature go to prove the contrary. With changing environments, organisms require new qualities—sometimes even a new physical structure—to assist them in the struggle. Now, in an environment of capitalism, you possess all the qualities that make for survival. You can buy and sell, and you feel no pricks of conscience when you rob your fellowmen. Upon occasion, you can murder them without compunction. These qualities are very desirable—under capitalism. Just here, however, a little instruction is necessary. You may not know—but it has been established as a law of human societies, that "each mode of production, each economic epoch, contains within itself the seed of its own destruction." Applying this to that system of production known as capitalism, we arrive at the logical result that it must go as did its predecessors. With its decay will perish those organisms which are adapted only to that environment. You are adapted "only to that environment." Therefore, "quol erat demonstrandum."

Finally, it may be said that as no one doubts that man reacts upon his environment, to some extent he may fashion it as he will. We know that the working class are not fit to survive in an environment of capitalism, but it is quite conceivable that they may combine to destroy capitalism and make a new environment in which they can survive. Speed the day.

A. PERCY CHEW.

"BEWARE OF GREEKS BRINGING GIFTS."

When the deputation from the Trades and Labor Council of Victoria appeared before Sir Wilfrid Laurier, on the occasion of his last visit to the coast, it was generally supposed that any delegation of the "working class" was sufficiently aware of Laurier's position, to know that the powers that roost at Ottawa were antagonistic to any interference with their supply of Oriental labor. Laurier was all smiles and smooth promises done up in neat packages were delivered wholesale. His baits were many and variegated, but, nevertheless, even considering that everything in Victoria is smug bourgeois, and also that representatives from Trades Councils are as a rule seldom overburdened with grey matter, no one would have suspected that their prayer was such a conglomeration of idiocy and docility, presented in such a tolerant and respectful manner that even the dogs must have grinned at the spectacle. What did they expect to gain by their humble attitude to one who has not, nor could not consider their interests in the slightest. Did they imagine, when basking in his glorious presence, that his diplomatic smile meant anything for their class? Does Laurier serve the propertied or propertyless section of society? Have not the deeds of Liberals and Conservatives proved beyond the shadow of a doubt their direct hostility to those who alone are useful and necessary to society, as far as production is concerned? There is no negation to the question from the standpoint of those who belong to the working class.

On second thought, probably, Victoria Trades and Labor Council are no worse than other bodies of a like nature (I don't know whether my quasi-apology is a compliment or not), but, at any rate, the Trades Congress of Canada shows its true nature by submitting to a welcome from Mayor Pelletier, of Fort William. Memory is very elastic, but surely the delegates remembered an instance during the recent strike in Fort William, when the mayor, true to his class and their needs, called out the militia for the purpose of shooting flies off troublesome workers, who were demanding more oats and a little cleaner stall.

It is not that I am seriously concerned about what actions are correct, or the reverse as far as Trades Councils are concerned. They can slobber all over their tin gods if they desire, but when one thinks of the silly accusations thrown at the S. P. of C. by the supposed flower (skunk cabbage) of Trades Unionism, we manifest a desire to gently point out to our friends their docility to their masters and their acquired habit of forgetting their states as workers, when entertaining or being entertained by the flunkeys of capitalist society.

When the mayor of Fort William made the statement "that the Labor Party would soon be the dominant political party of Canada," he had visions of an organization that has insidiously crept into the arena of politics as a "Labor Party," supported by Liberal spell-binders, from professional labor leaders to ministerial pimps, and financed by the most unscrupulous bunch of political tricksters that ever electioneered.

Whether it be Laurier or Pelletier as Greeks bearing gifts, we know their ilk by their scent, consequently their smooth phrases and oily manner are tips for us to beware of our masters' minions. Suspicion might be a mighty bad virtue in the eyes of capital's moralists, but we have tested its worth and found it very adaptable to our needs, hence our serious objection to co-operating with unified bodies of labor peddlers who have by their actions on occasions too numerous to mention, justified our suspicion that they, as yet, are no better, if as good as their masters. W. H. S.

Here and Now

By Spes.

A Russian by the name of Federenko is being held in Winnipeg by the authorities, pending his return to the loving embrace of the Little Father. He is charged with having committed some terrible crime in Russia two years ago, whereas he has been in this country four years, which is very coarse work on the part of the Czar's thugs. A strenuous effort is being made by the Refugees' Defense League of Winnipeg, to stay the extradition proceedings, an effort in which every one who would balk the bloodthirsty rulers of Russia of their prey, should assist.

There can be no doubt that Federenko is wanted for political reasons, and it is up to the members of his class in this country to save him. As usual, it is a question of cash, our divinely appointed rulers in every country being quite willing to take money in preference to blood. Subscriptions are now in order, and it is hoped that lack of a few dollars will not add another victim to Nick's catalogue of atrocities.

* * *

It has been generally supposed that the earth was pretty well in the possession of corporate interests. Judging from the great movements now in progress for conservation of "our" natural resources, a considerable area must have been overlooked.

* * *

Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth. The more meek they are the more gunpowder is required to protect them.

* * *

The International Socialist Congress at Copenhagen had a swell time. A phenomenon that not uncommonly marks an assemblage of swelled heads.

* * *

Land, Labor and Capital have been said to be the three necessary factors in the production of wealth. Some genius now steps forward and announces that there is yet another. Brains, he says, constitutes a very important item. Being an admission that Capitalists don't need any brains, this may be taken as an effort on the part of the enemy to compromise. What a relief it will be to all these gentlemen when Labor settles their controversies by using its brains to organize in its own interests as well as to produce wealth.

* * *

Reports from all over the country indicate that the propaganda is being energetically pushed with good substantial results. When it is considered that the Socialist Party of Canada entered the field but a few years ago, in the midst of a piebald collection of "Labor" parties, the progress made should encourage every true revolutionist to redoubled effort that the end may soon heave in sight. We are pleased to report a formidable array of rustlers this trip.

Man. Ex. Com., 70; Baritz, Soo., Ont., 11, and $5 for Clarion Maintenance Gribble, enroute, 8; Jos. Naylor, Cumberland, B. C., 4 and $1 for Maintenance Fund. F. S. Faulkner, Great Falls Mont., 3; T. J. Wallador, Glentanna, B. C., 3; Local Steelton, Ont. bundle of 50; Eli Waterson, Salmon Arm, B. C., 1 sub, bundle and literature.

Singles—Richard Lightfoot, Nanaimo, B. C.; Alf Johnson, Silver Creek, B. C.; John Lyons, Ottawa, Ont.; W. H. Stebbings, Winnipeg; J. V. Hull, Port Moody, B. C.; H. Jones, Seattle; Clarance V. Hoar, Portland Me.; J. D. Houston, Minnedosa, Man.; H. Collingwood, North Battleford, Sask.; C. Tabor, Jordan River, B. C.; Andrew Ericson, Golden, B. C.; John N. Penoff, Brandon, Man.; J. MacDonald, Port Essington, B. C. "Smith," F. Perry, W. W. Lefeaux, G. Lane, R. L. Johnston, Vancouver, B. C.

NOTES FROM GAY PAREE.

(Continued from Page 1)

saving processes have not entered to quite the same extent as with many other commodities, including gold. Therefore the worker's wages, reckoned in gold, represent a smaller value than formerly, they embody less exchange with a smaler quantity of the necessaries of life. The robbery has taken place in the factory, and the decrease in the labor required to produced the standard metal has intensified this robbery.

Doubtless this is why in the country in which I am living there is quite an epidemic of small strikes, and threats of bigger ones. It is an endeavor to restore real wages to their former level. It shows at the same time the futility of the outcry against the shopkeeper, and the necessity of putting an end to the robbery of the workers by abolishing wage-slavery; and this means Socialism. Indeed, the disturbances of prices due to speculation and the jugglery of commerce are insignificant compared with the importance of the robbery of the worker in the process of production, and the persistence of operation of fundamental economic laws.

F. C. WATTS.

PROGRESS AND CRIME IN INDIA.

A perusal of the following, the data for which have been culled from a "Statement exhibiting the Moral and Material Progress and Condition of India during the Year 1908-9," issued by order of the House of Commons, should, it is hoped, do something towards enlightening our readers as to working-class conditions obtaining in British India.

Between the Lines.

Reading between the lines of this official document, it is apparent that the India Office is chiefly concerned in endeavoring to hide away in its dusty archives the facts relating to the real position of the native agricultural and industrial workers. Seemingly, however, the truth will out even in a Government publication, and the truth, in this instance, will be found far from palatable, at any rate to those whose minds have been cleared of racial prejudice and the bastard patriotism so prevalent to-day.

The following is taken from page 56 of the Report, "Inspection of Mines": "The number of mines of all kinds coming under the Act (The Indian Mines Act, 1901) in 1908 was 1,062 . . . They gave employment to an average daily number of 164,301 persons (an increase of 8 per cent. in the year), of whom 103,322 were men, 54,518 women, and 6,461 children under twelve years old; 102,451 persons worked underground."

"There were 135 fatal accidents, causing 194 deaths, during the year 1908, an increase of 72 over the deaths in 1907. The increase is chiefly due to the expansion and activity of the coal industry and to the increasingly difficult and dangerous conditions of mining work. Of the fatal accidents, 165 occurred in coal mines. Accidents in coal mining would probably be more numerous than now (1.37 per 1,000 workers) but for the favt that the workings are generally free from gas, very shallow, and not elaborate."

Suffer Little Children.

In the section "Factory Inspection" it is to be noticed that one of the laws passed decreed the raising of the minimum age for child laborers from 7 to 9 years, and another the forbidding of the working of children more than 7 hours per day. What benevolence on the part of the factory legislators! Only 7 hours work per day for children of nine years of age! As the next paragraph shows, however, the laws relating to the working of children are broken with impunity. Is this why they are passed? On page 114 with regard to plague in India we read:

"It is now generally agreed: (1) That bubonic plague is spread by infected rats; (2) that the vehicle of contagion between rat and rat and between rat and man is the rat flea."

In India it has presumably been ordained by a dispensation of capitalistic Providence that rats and men shall dwell harmoniously together, sharing the same rat-flea between them— a state of affairs which even the working class in Britain, who do not usually cavil very much at their housing accommodation would possibly object to.

In the light of the foregoing, it is interesting to notice that "income tax receipts have increased with the increase in profits and salaries resulting from commercial and industrial activity" to £1,553,419 in 1908-9, as compared with £1,504,113 in 1907-8.

Perhaps the most significant section of the "statement" from a Socialist standpoint is that devoted to "Crime and Police." The Socialist contends that the material conditions in which an individual lives and by which he is surrounded determine the predominant features of his individual character, and that therefore a bad and degrading social environment must inevitably engender bad and degraded social units. This contention is certainly upheld by the Report under notice. We read:

Poverty Breeds Crime.

"Madras. The season was generally unfavorably, and scarcity prevailed almost throughout the Madras Presidency. The prices of food grains, excessive at the end of 1907, rose still higher in 1908; and, in consequence, there was a marked increase in crime. The total number of true cases of cognizable crime (cognizable offences are those for which the police can arrest without a warrant) rose from 47,500 to 50,047. Property lost during the year was valued at £110,533, of which 27.3 per cent. was recovered."

"Bombay. In Bombay the total number of cognisable cases reported during the year rose to 33,646, there being increases under all heads of offences, except cattle theft. The value of property stolen during the year, in connection with cognisable crime was estimated at £113,352, a large increase for the figures during 1907."

"Bengal. As regards ordinary crime, there was an increase of 8 per cent. in the number of cognizable offences. The whole of this increase occurred under the heads of burglary and theft, and is to be attributed principally to the high price of food."

"United Provinces. The famine, which lasted during the greater part of the year under review, naturally affected the returns of crimes in the United Provinces. The volumes of reported offences increased by 5.5 per cent. on the corresponding figure for 1907, and amounted to 195,697 cases. there were increases in the number of robberies, burglaries, ordinary thefts, and cattle thefts."

"Punjab. Burglaries increased from 12,087 to 73,700; and cases of cattle theft by 299."

In Eastern Bengal and Assam ordinary crime is reported to have remained about stationary.

"Central Provinces and Berar. In the Central Provinces and Berar there was an increase in the total volume of crime, which may be attributed in part to the failure of the crops in the north of the Provinces, and the subsequent general high range of prices."

"Burma. The outstanding fact of the year under review in Burma was a substantial increase of crime."

"North-West Frontier Province. The year under review in the North-West Frontier Province showed a great increase in violent crime, to be attributed to the unsettled state of the border and to the higher prices which ruled throughout the year."

In Coorg the number of offences were reported as being normal.

In all the above-named provinces (except Coorg) where not actually stated that high prices and scarcity of food conduced to the increase in crime it is shown by a perusal of other sections of the Report that such high prices and scarcity did actually prevail, generally to a very large extent.

The conclusion may be drawn, therefore, from the facts supplied by the Government of India, that a decrease in the standard of living brings with it an increase in criminal offences, and that such offences as robbery, burglary and theft are the outcome of the fierce and ever-intensified struggle for existence prevailing in present-day society.

This conclusion is, of course, quite in accord with the views which have been constantly and consistently put before readers in the "Socialist Standard" during the past six years.

The foregoing are the most salient features of "a statement prepared from detailed reports from each presidency and District in India, in such form as shall best exhibit the moral and material progress and condition of India in each such presidency." (So it is naively described in the preface.)

The Logical Conclusion.

The India office has apparently come to the conclusion that the best form in which the "Moral and Material Progress of India" can be exhibited is by the compilation of facts showing the moral and material deterioration of the native working class. It would seem, indeed, that from the India office standpoint, moral and material conditions progress, like the crab, by going backwards. Truly, the bourgeois method of reasoning passes the wit and understanding of an ordinary mortal.—F. J. WEBB in the Socialist Standard.

THE MARX HE NEVER KNEW.

Dedicated to the Diety of Truthfulness

(By M. Bargo)

It was four o'clock upon a wild December day; the mellow light of about that time struggled valiantly between the flyspits upon the dingy window panes of Old Hans Guffer's little hotel on 4404 street, New York. It fell (the sunlight) upon the bald head of the busy Hans, it fell upon the bottled red eye and boxed brown paper yclept flor de stinkadores. It glowed yellow upon the up-turned and pimply face of the young Comrade Mopemoff, as he gazed with an almost reverential squint upon a faded photo hung just behind the bar parlor door.

"Tell me about him, Hans," he said. "Tell me about him."

"Ach," replied Hans (your German characters must always say ach), he was a great man, perhaps the greatest man who ever lived, our Karl."

"So they say, but you have seen him, Hans?"

"Himmel! as though it yesterday was, yes. Many a time haf he herein come and say, 'Hans, my boy, great tings. The government have passed the washerwoman's relief bill and will yet make law of the home for distressed cats; our work is going on! Donner and Blitzen, how kind he was. Many times haf I seen him weep when he thought of the thinness of the froth upon the poor-house beer. Great shudders of grief have through him swept when he read that dogs must be muzzled three weeks earlier that year. And the beautiful Jenny! What teeth, what eyes, what hair! Ach, how they yet lived while Karl wrote Capital, I know not."

Mopemoff was now reduced to tears, for Jenny, or Karl, the writer does not know. Said he, sobbing: "But Hans, did Marx write those books? I cannot think so, for they are revolutionary."

"Herr Gott! Yes, that is what the earlier Socialists thought, but to-day we better know, yes. His next of kin, Ernest Untermann Marx, says that although Marx, in thoughtless moments, did say something about the revolution social, yet he wished us to understand he did not. Der tenful, how he loved the labor unions and although when he a boy was, he some. thing said the commodity nature of labor about, yet wisdom comes with age and he told J. Spargo, his best pal, that it all poppy cock was, so! Engels and J. Stett Wilson used to come here in with Karl sometime, but Engels I like never. He was all for revolution and bought his beer over the street at the Anarchist Greenbaums; Greenbaum would say "Vorkers of the World, Unite," but Karl used to go over and stop him by saying he a impossiblist was; yes!"

"Did you see Stett Wilson, too, Hans?" said the young comrade.

"Yes, many times; Karl and him would sit within and write the 'Message of Socialism to the Church,' together. It was Stett who showed Karl how foolish the books Das Kapital was. Karl wanted to burn them, too, but Stett said, 'Give them to a museum for the next generation to laugh over.' Ach! how Karl loved our Teddy Rosenfelt. He said many times when he was sitting the chair you are within (the young comrade rose hastily), 'Remember, Hans, that I says that man is for us, he will help the working class all the time; and you see it is true. Karl used to come in and say bad words about the B. C. bunch and the Western Clarion. How they are distorting him and wrecking the movement, but he always thought the Appeal to Reason was worth more than two kicks the guts within, so! And then he died just before he finished his last great work, 'Critic of the Modern Method of Applying Corn Plasters,' in which he is said to undo all he wrote in 'Kapital.'"

"Did you ever see the books, Hans?" "No, but those I have met who nearly saw the printer who lost his job just before it was published."

To think hat he is dead," said Mopemoff, as he wiped a tear upon his greasy sleeve; "to think he will never more write for the movement gives me a pain," and he suddenly looked pained.

"Hans," said he, "did Marx teach you about the robbery of consumers?" "He did so, Comrade, he was always great on that, and I learned it well."

"By the thickness of the bottom of this schooner, I should think so," and the young comrade went softly out into the night. The light from an arc light now is still struggling through the window.

For the rest of this entertaining novel the reader is referred to the Marx he knew, by Spargo. The discerning reader will, no doubt, find serious flaws in our German adjectival phrases, but we would say that our German is almost forgotten and—put it down to the printer.

A. BUDDEN.

THE POWER GOES WITH THE INTELLIGENT VOTE.

You workers who know nothing about Socialism and care less—You who vote for the interests of your boss, instead of voting for your own interests—do you ever stop to ask yourselves how many more years you will be "employed" by the kind hearted boss who does not swear at you more than a dozen times a day and who only takes from you ALL the wealth you create each day by the sweat of your brow and graciously allows you enough stabling and coarse fodder to enable him to rob you completely the next day, and so on?—Do you ever ask yourselves what you are going to do when your boss finds he can skin a bunch of younger fry than yourselves to more profit and so turns you out, or kicks you out, fires you, or shall we draw it mild and say "lays you off" and you find yourselves "free men" instead of wage-slaves? Do you ever think of the approach of that time when you will be "free" to starve because you have been such good servants to your master and voted in his interest and worked dilligently for him and made him rich.

Of course, you had no use for Socialists; you had a good job, and were going to support the interests of your boss so as to insure your job. Socialists never put any grub in your stomachs; Oh, no! it was all done by your kind-hearted boss, and in a miraculous way (for he never did a tap of work in his life, never created any values, and yet has been able to "employ" you). The Lord must be on his side for he lives in a mansion and eats the best; his wife dresses in silks and satins and his children are educated at universities. He rides in an auto. and comes to his office once now and then, all because you vote in his interests. While you create all the values that make him rich, you are down to the knuckle-bone. You work long hours, live in hovels, your food is like hog-swill, your poor wife is dressed in cotton print for best and rags for second best and there is always a row in the house because the miserable wages won't go the rounds and the children go hungry to school. You have to practice "race suicide" to keep down the family increases, and ruin your own and your wife's nerves by doing so; and last but not least, you are steadily and rapidly approaching that year when your services will no longer be required (45 is the average age men are cast adrift at).

Do you see in all this state of things the cause of your bosses wealth on the one hand and your poverty on the other? Well if you don't, let me tell you it is all in the way you voted. If you and all workers voted in your own interests instead of your bosses you would have been the ones to be living on easy street during your declining years or after you have passed the meridian of your manhood; your wives and families would be the well fed, well clothed and well educated ones; and your idle boss who never did a tap in his life would disappear from the reckonings as he would of necessity have to change his tactics and work like you and enjoy the full net value of his work the same as you or else he would be "free to starve," instead of you. See the point?

Socialism stands for insuring to every worker, male or female, the full net value of his or her product, and this will become law as soon as you workers as a class recognize your class-interests and vote for Socialism. All other kinds of voting make the bosses rich and the workers poor. So learn the lesson and teach it to your fellow workers NOW.

An Irishman at last Provincial election said that Socialism was no good it had been a failure wherever it had been tried.

A comrade told him he must have obtained his information from a capitalist newspaper or magazine as these call anything and everything Socialism and always make it come out a "failure," and Socialism had never yet been tried.

So the Irishman asked him what this Socialism is if it has never been tried yet. The comrade told him it was as yet but a theory and was going to explain the theory but was cut short by the Irishman who said: D'you think thut any mun in his sinses is going to be such a dumnfuil as to vote for a theory."

By the way his eye brightened up he thought he had got a good one in on the comrade but the comrade informed him we have the theory now and the voting is for the Practice—of Socialism.

Will some economist please analyse "buying" ad "selling" so that we can see where that bunch of highway robbers the Capitalists "buy" ous labor-power. When a highwayman meets you on the road and puts a gun to your head and takes your watch and chain and charm, if he were to hand you back the charm and say "here is the charm, this is your wages for producing the watch, chain and charm, this will pay for your labor-power for the time it took you to produce the watch, chain and charm, or one-fifth of its real value, I suppose you would say you were properly paid, according to the way economists seem to put it. I myself hate to give a capitalist credit for what he does not do, you know yourselves that you produce all the values and therefore pay yourselves and not only do you do this but you pay the capitalist 5 times more than you pay yourselves, in values for daily produce merely for the privilege of being allowed to work on the means of wealth production or those natural resources which are privately owned by the capitalist. The capitalist holds these natural resources by virtue of crooked laws made in his interest by the liberals, conservatives, labor fakirs and any and all kinds of elected politicians except Socialists. You workers give these fakirs the power by your vote and of course they write the law—not in your interest but your masters; and you get it in the neck to the tune of divvying-up all you make to them. I say ALL you make because the one-fifth you keep for your wages gives you the strength to work for your masters the next day, so you see he gets it all, and if you work 50 years steady for him the day you quit you are about 1 meal in your belly ahead of him—he has got all the rest of your production out of you. Your daily wages are like the shingles on the roof, they just carry you through by a sort of over-lapping from one day to another but in the end the boss gets the lot, and you get the scrap-pile for yours. Socialism intends to write the law so that everyone will enjoy the privilege of using the natural resources of the earth without having to pay a boss four-fifths of the daily product. That four-fifths will be retained by the worker himself and no one will be able to prevent him from living. Is it not worth your while striving for.

PERCY ROSOMAN.

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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 degredation.

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 reins 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.

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ALFRED WYNGAERT.
Gibson's Landing, B. C.

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On account of increased postal rates we are obliged to make the subscription price of the International Socialist Review in Canada $1.20 a year instead of $1.00. We can, however, make the following special offers:

For $3.00 we will mail three copies of the Review to one Canadian address for one year.

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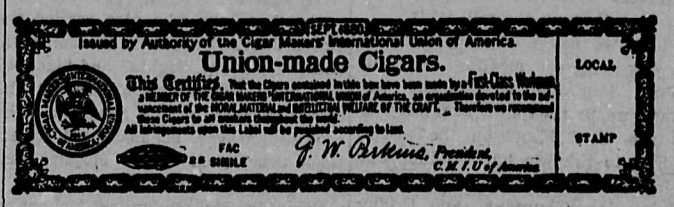

Which Stands for a Living Wage
Vancouver Local 357. 556

TO HOUSEKEEPERS

If you would like to spend less time in your kitchen and woodshed, and have much more time for outdoor life, recreation and pleasure, look into the question of doing your cooking with a Gas Range.

Telephone your address to our office and we will send a man to measure your premises and give you an estimate of cost of installing the gas pipes,

Vancouver Gas Company, Limited.