MAR 11 1912
VICTORIA, B. C.

WESTERN CLARION

OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA — PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING CLASS ALONE

NUMBER [illegible]8 — VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1912 — Subscription Price PER YEAR $1.00

Legislative Library

INTERESTING DOINGS IN B. C. LEGISLATURE

McBride Puts the Kibosh on Minimum Wage Bill for Miners and Other Labor Measures.

On Thursday, Feb. 22, Parker Williams introduced an Act respecting the "Payment of Wages." It provides for a fortnightly pay day.

On the same day Hawthornthwaite moved the second reading of Act providing for a minimum wage of $3.50 per day for workers in coal mines. He said that labor bills had so often been presented and explained that it seemed impossible to present any new phase to the House, but the present Bill did present a new phase. The Socialist party took the position always that it was more advisable to settle labor disputes by political action, through parliament, than by the old methods of strike and boycott on the part of the workers and the lockout and discrimination by the employers. The eight-hour Act for coal miners had been opposed on the ground that it was best for such matters to be settled on the industrial field, but experience had shown that it was better for the House to deal with the matter by giving the measure of relief required. Since the enactment of the measure there had been little trouble. He believed that eight hours was too long to work in a coal mine, but the miners seemed to be satisfied for the present. The Bill before them dealt with wages and sought to fix a minimum wage in certain industries; it dealt with coal miners first, because they suffered under certain disabilities others did not. On the European continent the workers were preparing to deal with a minimum wage, and in England they were so fully organized that if they used the weapon of the general strike the results would be disastrous. The government was trying to reconcile the two parties and if the employers allowed them they might be successful, if not, the dispute would have to be settled by legislation ultimately. As far as the question of wages was concerned a house of legislation was not all-powerful. Wages took three forms.

Real, Nominal and Relative Wage.

Their was their aspect of "real" wages, i. e., the amount of necessary commodities the money the worker received would buy; the "nominal" wage, which was expressed in dollars and cents; and the "relative" wage, which was that portion of labor's product received by the laborer compared to that received by the Capitalist class. The Bill only affected the nominal wage, and did not affect the real wage in any shape or form. An increase cost of living meant that the nominal wage did not buy as much as it did before, owing to the fact that the prices of commodities had risen owing to the fall in the value of gold compared with their value, thus causing the enhancement in prices and wages being based on gold they did not purchase as much as formerly.

The "relative" form of wages deserved consideration. In times past the worker had received a large portion of the wealth he produced because he did not produce much more than was sufficient to reproduce his labor-power, but in modern times he was in a very different condition indeed. In every capitalistically developed country today the workers produced from three to five times as much as they received in wages. But the Bill before them did not affect the question of "real" wages, nor interfere with matters of trade and commerce. Even if it could be shown that it did affect the powers of the Dominion government, they should go to the limit in passing it, because it meant so much to the workers. Capitalism today had greater power over the workers. The latter had begun to organize against capital and were becoming more powerful. If the coal miners and railroad workers in England came out on strike it would bring about anarchical and disastrous conditions. He believed the Bill would be a remedy and prevent those conditions from coming in B. C., by providing a minimum wage for coal miners. Many people thought that those men were receiving from $5 to $7 a day, and if it were true there would be no necessity for the Bill, but many miners, working at the face, did not receive more than $2.50 or $2.25 per day, and he had known of many cases in which men had received an average of $1.75 per day or less for a month's work. To those conditions men would not submit, and it was only a question of time when they would take action in a brief and definite form. By enacting a minimum wage the House could anticipate that by providing what was termed a "decent living" for the workers under present conditions. Many members of the House were actuated by motives that would induce them to vote for the measure if the government did not put its foot on it.

The argument that the legislation proposal would drive capital away would not hold good. Capital to an amount previously undreamt of was being invested in the Province, and one capitalist, an owner of coal mines, had told the speaker that he would rejoice to see a minimum wage of $4.50 per day enacted in the Province, as that would place all capitalists on an equal footing, and many of the objectionable features of competition under prevailing conditions would be obviated.

McBride Turns Down Minimum Wage

McBride adjourned the debate. In previous sessions he has adjourned all the labor bills at the second reading, and turned them down in a bunch on the last day of the session. The member who adjourns the debate has the privilege of resuming it, and if he is not "ready" to resume it he can continue to adjourn it, thus blocikng anyone else from speaking on the measure.

The member for Newcastle resumed the adjourned debate on supply on Saturday, Feb. 24, at 10 a. m. He explained that owing to the government departing from the usual practice of leaving the subject open from Friday to Monday, and requiring that the debate be immediately continued he had not had time to consider it, and would not have adjourned the debate if he had known that was their intention. During the last few days the government had kept the opposition very busy by the introduction of 8 or 10 important Bills, some of which were long ones. The government had made it impossible, by their haste, for the opposition to perform its function. That haste surely indicated that there was something wrong in the business. The opposition had endeavored to do its best in the way of criticism, but they were limited in numbers in the performance of their duty, notwithstanding that fact, well known to the government party, one of the three of position had very often to follow another, and the attitude of indifference of the Conservative party amounted to discourtesy. When that party with a membership of 39 out of a House of 42 members, could not find a man to take up the government's position on any of its bills, there was something badly lacking.

The Silent Majority.

To any criticism the ministers replied by pointing out the result of the elections in the Province and Dominion, of noting it as a kind of Monroe doctrine that justified and explained all their actions. But the strength of the government in the House bore no relation to its strength in the country. The Dominion elections had no bearing on the House. The Conservative party vote in the last provincial elections had been about 53,000, as against 47,000 for the opposition. On that basis they (the Conservatives) ought to have had 22 members in the House, and their large majority was only incidental to the scheme of political representation. That great silent majority was supposed to be a sufficient answer to anything and everything. It reminded the speaker of Lord Cardigans Light Brigade. "Their's not to reason why, "Their's but to do and die," and that was ex-

(Continued on Page Four)

Propaganda Meeting

THE ELECTRIC

THEATRE

Sunday, Mch. 9, 8 p.m.

Speakers:

J. H. McVETY

E. T. Kingsley, Chairman

YELLOW PERIL CASTS CLOUD OVER STEEL TRADE.

James J. Hill said the other day that China could soon sell pig iron in New York at $17 a ton.

"I believe it," said a Vancouver man today. "China," he added, "has enormous deposits of iron ore, very much higher in iron contents than the ore we now use, running from 62 to 65 per cent. This ore is almost free from sulphur, and is low in phosphorus. They have an abundance of excellent coking coal, which can be mined at very low cost, because they have the cheapest labor in the world. I believe it is possible to produce pig iron and finished steel more cheaply in China than in any other country in the world.

"China laborers, unskilled, receive 10c gold for a 12-hour day, and skilled laborers, such as bricklayers, carpenters and machinists, 30c gold for 12 hours.

"The Chinese coal miner, he says, is paid 7c and found a day for 12 hours. Coal at the pit's mouth in China is sold at 25c a ton.

"This," he added, "is a yellow peril, and a tariff is needed to stop it."—Vancouver World.

How does this strike some of you? The tariff proposition is of course a joke it will have as much effect on Chinese commodities as the $500 head tax did on the Chinese commodity peddles themselves.

Mankind has reached a point where the means of satisfying its needs are in excess of the needs themselves. To impose, therefore, as has hitherto been done, the curse of misery and degradation upon vast divisions of mankind in order to secure well-being for the few, is needed no more; well-being can be secured for all, without overwork for any.—Kropotkin.

"When humanity learned that it could have a nation without a king and a church without a pope, it had taken a long step toward learning that it can have a shop without a capitalist."—Lyman Abbott.

SOCIALISTS RULE GERMAN STATE FOR FIRST TIME.

Rudolstadt, Germany.—The chamber of representatives of the principality of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt has elected Socialists as speaker and deputy speaker. This is the first German state whose parliament is presided over by a Socialist. The chamber consists of nine Socialists, four Liberals and three Conservatives.—Daily Socialist.

Martial law reigns at Lawrence, Massachusetts.

The mass has risen against its oppressors.

The Lawrence strike is not the ordinary kind of a strike. It is a mass uprising.

It is a hunger strike. It is a protest against starvation.

The men, women and children who have quit their machines in the textile mills are not organized. They were not "called out." They just walked out.

Lawrence is today the best illustration of the class character of government in this "the land of the free and the home of the brave." Company after company of militia has been sent into the city to aid the wealthy mill owners in compelling its slaves to accept starvation conditions.

Women and children have been clubbed, bayonetted, shot and killed by the uniformed hirelings of capital, the militiamen.

All of this proves that after all the law of force is still supreme, all talk of wise men to the contrary notwithstanding.

And the strongest in the fierce war between labor and capital will win.

Capital has all the forces of government to help down the workers.

Labor has only the control of its labor power—to withhold it whenever it will paralyze industry. And this control, this power, it has only as it learns to act in unison.

Circumstances—grim circumstances—are forcing workingmen and women together.

When they have once learned the lesson—woe unto capital and all its allied forces.—The Coaldigger, Wash-

ARE YOU WAITING IN THE LAST DITCH

And yet another opportunity. We cannot complain that as a slave class we have no opportunities to attack that which enslaves us to a system of wage servitude we all must hate and detest.

The field is clear.

Today in British Columbia we face our enemy the capitalist system shorn of all befogging issues.

Not as in Europe. Not as in the United States.

Never before in history and in no other Province or Country was there a class fight so well defined.

And the issue is? More capital with its corollary more intense exploitation or making a noise like men we will declare with no uncertain sound that, as for ourselves, we will endorse this accused system no longer.

But the blood of the slave, the result of a hundred generations of slavery, wanders sluggishly through the veins of the vast majority of our class and we whine like curs at the tables of our masters for a few more crumbs, a little more straw in our kennels.

Not yet will we, the producers of everything useful, arise and throw off our chains. Only a comparative few will answer the call of freedom and scorn to vote for the class who, by virtue of their ownership of the means whereby society provides for itself, own us.

Rebels are some of us and we ask no favors.

We do not cringe and we ask no reforms.

We demand, and we demand not too much. All that we have started out to obtain is all we produce and no more.

Yes, the Socialist Party of Canada brand of Socialist is of a dangerous type. He is the handworking on the wall to the master class and from their point of view should be ruthlessly exterminated. Praised be the gods. Once more will the old guard line up. Rather should one say 'will be in evidence for they are always on the firing line. The Last Port has summoned a few. One by one they drop away to their last rest and our turn will come. How much longer, O! slaves! How much longer shall we be content with a mere pittance and existence when the wealth of the world is ours for the taking?

And the burden and the heat of the struggle for liberty? Shall a few be compelled to carry the load of education much longer, O ye slaves? No other page in history will reflect in our class such well deserved contempt as the history of these times.

Means of education, means of liberty, apportunity to grasp all things and we vote for our own slavery, we lick our masters hands, we elect to be ignorant, and like cattle to the shambles we carry ourselves to our masters shearing pens known as the industries and unlike cattle we gather up the proceeds of the process ourselves and lay it at our masters feet.

But it will not always be so. Slowly the millstones of industrial evolution are grinding the resentment of despair into numbers of workers and the old guard on the firing line are cheered by the sight of recruits slowly but surely filling up the all too big gaps.

What do railroads mean to the propertyless working class?

Granted the whole country were covered with railroads, lumber camps, mining camps, sweat shops, factories and every other profit extracting device of capitalism. Then what?

Do you fancy, O worker, that under these circumstances you would find a better market for your labor power than you do now?

If you do, why not go back to London? Why not return East, West, North, South, wherever you came from?

If these things constitute prosperity to you for heaven's sake go back where they have them and lots of them.

In these things we only discern intenser competition to sell our labor power. We have in view the slums of thickly populated countries and a general state of affairs to escape which we came West. But escape them we cannot. The railroads, the camps, the factories are on the programme already. The slaves also are diverting their ships hitherward in search of work-work-work. Right soon will capitalist prosperity overtake us and then for the music.

But the old guard will fight to the last ditch and in the last ditch they will find the masses of the workers who will then turn and capitalism will be no more.

Are you waiting in the last ditch?

W. W. L.

THE JOY OF LIFE TO ALL BUT THOSE BRANDED SLAVE

Instead of Love, Kindness and Companionship, We Have Hate, Cruelty and Bitter Strife.

We are here in a wonderful world full of joy and delight. To move freely on the earth, to eat of its fruits, drink its waters, and breathe its pure air, are things in themselves delightful to healthy animals. Out of the fulfillment of these needs comes the animal joy of life, intensified in the sensitive and highly developed human to marvelous ecstacy.

Young things chiefly show it. Watch the young animals to see the joy of living spontaneously and beautifully expressed; with each breath life so thrills them that the most extravagant gambols can hardly give vent to the joys they feel. And the young humans, if allowed something of that freedom in which the young of other species develop, are the most delightful witnesses to this universal joy of life. Strip healthy children, not only of hampering clothes and wrappings, but of hampering authority and governance, put them in healthy and beautiful places, and watch them in their free pleasures.

Later in life the joy is no less intense, though different in quality and expression. The healthy man or woman of well developed body and mind who goes out upon the earth as it is in unspoiled places, and senses its beauties and delights, is filled with a rapture and fullness of life that none can describe, which even the great artists can only faintly express. And with it comes all that makes life worth living; love and kindness and companionship are its fruits.

All this inexpressible joy of life is ours. It is a part of our nature and we feel the need for it as we feel the need for food and drink, an elemental longing that burns and wastes us if it is not satisfied. And here is the wide world around us and all its wealth to satisfy. All this is ours!

And yet it is not ours. We have nothing of it. Except in rare glimpses we are hardly touched by its joy, and at every turn our freedom to experiment is balked. Instead of golden atmosphere, purity and satisfaction, we have black darkness, filth, misery, and an unquenched longing. Instead of love, kindness and companionship we have hate, cruelty, and bitter strife.

Human life is terrible.

We take it as it comes because we are in the chains of habit; we take it as it is because we have grown amidst its horrors, and they have become commonplace to us. But nevertheless it is terrible beyond words, and we realize this still in moments of inspiration or of unusual bitterness.

Humans are born healthy, strenuous and self-assertive like other animals. Under the conditions existing for the majority those strenuous and self-assertive human born babies grow to be wretched slaves, leading lives of drear discomfort, oppression and pain; under the best conditions, existing for a small and privileged minority only, they grow to be callously cruel tyrants, directly or indirectly practicing tortures upon their kind, incomparably more horrible than anything else in the whole animal world of passion and the rage for food. In the past human tyrants have tortured and killed the best thinkers and most courageous in action of our race. In the past tyranny has tormented the tenderest human bodies and crushed out the joy of life in blood and agony. This is true of the past, but it is also true of the present. Tyrants of today are doing the same.

We live in the midst of this torture; we grope about in the darkness and dirt of cities and everywhere we see and feel as if in endless panorama, the same pain and despair. The torture chambers of our modern tyrants are the factories and mines and other hells in which their slaves produce their wealth.

Comfortable professors of history write indignantly of the tortures of past times; they feel no shame and anger, it seems, because of the tortures suffered in every country today. And yet these things are known to all.

In Russia, a brave girl, Marie Spiridonova, whose heart is set aflame by the sight of suffering, shoots one of the worst torturers and is instantly set dren survive to enter it.

And we live in a wonderful world offering us joy and delight.

A little labor, in combination with our fellows according to experience, upon by others and put through all the diabolical torments which fiends can invent. And not she alone, but many. In Japan the revolutionary Kotoku is executed because he attempted to give the means of free thought to his countrymen that they might free themselves. And not he alone, but many. In Republican France, the fearless Gustave Herve, for four lines of brave defiance, is condemned to four years of prison—for each line a year—and when he continues from his prison to denounce the tyrants and arouse the slaves, he is taken from amongst the criminals to stop his voice. And not he alone, but many. In Spain, the gentle Ferrer is condemned by a military tribunal without the hearing of witnesses in his defense and hastily shot before public opinion can prevent the crime. And not he alone, but many. In the British Empire, the torture of the Indian, Gulab Bano, is concealed and condoned by officials, and is a thing so habitual to British tyranny that when made known at last it hardly evokes more than a few shocked exclamations, immediate apologies, and denial of its horror as "exaggerated accounts." Yet the woman died a lingering death after it. And not she alone, but many.

Not in one or two cases only, but in innumerable cases of untold suffering; not in one country only, but in every country upon earth.

If mothers and fathers fully realized the horrors of modern human life they would scarcely dare to let their children would secure for each of us everything necessary to comfort and health. The riches of earth are there for the taking, the joy of life is for all. The earth is for us, and yet it is not ours.

Between us and the joy of life stand those few who own the earth and all the means whereby our needs can be satisfied.

The earth is in their possession and yet it is not theirs. That possession does not bring to the individual possessors that which makes life worth while is shown in the records of their despicable lives, testified to in their law courts, by their drink bills and their doctor's bills, by their unwholesome bodies and stupid degraded faces. These filthy people know nothing of the joy of life.

They are owners, and therefore they can come between us and our enjoyment; they can deprive us of earth's delights, but they can not know themselves. They can enslave us and impose upon us the most miserable conditions of slavery, and through the power of ownership they can hold us down by armies of police and soldiers; they can torture us in body and mind they can shut us out from the pleasant wholesome places and force us to live and labor in the hells of industrial cities. All this they can do but they can not themselves experience the good they keep from us. The curse of hatred and strife and disease which they impose upon us they can not escape themselves.

They hold the earth by the power of ownership, but it is not theirs.

It is ours when we make ourselves strong to take it, when we break down the property superstitions and powers, and the authority which supports them. For this we have to use a mightier power—the power of the producers who make human life possible, and who can also make it impossible for those who hold from them the things necessary to their labor; who can make human life impossible except under conditions, fitting to humanity, of common ownership and opportunities for all.

The property owners hold the earth as long as we submit to their dominance; but when we shall submit no longer it is ours for the taking with all its beauty and delight.

The joy of life is for us.—Lily G. Wilkinson, in Edinburg Socialist.

LOCAL VANCOUVER

Propaganda MEETING

Every Sunday Evening

Empress Theatre

THE WESTERN CLARION

Published every Saturday by the Socialist Party of Canada at the office of the Western Clarion, Labor Temple, Dunsmuir St., Vancouver, B. C.

POST OFFICE ADDRESS, LABOR TEMPLE, DUNSMUIR ST.

SUBSCRIPTION.

$1.00 Per Year, 50 cents for Six Months, 25 cents for Three Months. Strictly in Advance.

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THE WESTERN CLARION

Labor Temple, Dunsmuir St., Vancouver, B. C.

659 —Watch the label on your paper. If this number is on it, your subscription expires the next issue.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1912.

PHILOSPHERS ONLY.

An election of members of the Legislative Assembly at Victoria, for the ensuing term, is to be held in this Province on March 28th. Nominations are to be made on March 14th. It is safe to say that never since the birth of the Socialist movement, as an alleged organized force in this Province, has it been so absolutely unprepared to take part in an election, as now. It is time we were candid with ourselves and acknowledged the humiliating fact.

The Socialist Party has been in existence in this Province about ten years. It has been instrumental in carrying on the propaganda of Socialism with such good effect that upon several occasions its candidates have been elected in certain districts, while in others a large vote has been polled. There are more Socialists in B. C. now than ever before. It is safe to assert that in some 8 or 9 districts Socialist candidates could be easily returned if anything like organized effort was put forth. And yet, we are confronted with the painful spectacle of a campaign upon us and absolutely no organized force in the field to take part in it on behalf of our class. We have no organization and we might as well admit it. In the two districts (Nanaimo and Newcastle) which have returned our candidates again and again there is not even a Local of the Party, and apparently no effort being made to create one. In the other districts, throughout the Province the Locals, as a rule, are either semi-defunct, or in a state of philosophic dry-rot that is infinitely worse.

We might as well recognize the plain truth even though to do so is, for the moment painful, The fact is that something more than jawbone philosophy is requisite to overturn the rule of Capital and plant the standard of Labor upon the ramparts commanding the field of Industry. Be the ideas of Socialism ever so widely spread and generally accepted, unless this be crystalized into action the capitalist citadel will not fail. And such action means organization. A confusion of gab may have brought the tower of Babel to ruins but it will require *something more drastic than gab* philosophy to shatter Capitalism.

And what have we been doing all these years other than merely indulge our gab proclivities? Is there one among us who does not know, that, we cannot attain the goal for which we are striving except through the organized effort of our class? How can such effort be expressed and realized other than through thorough and disciplined organization?

And what is meant by organization? Does it necessarily imply that every workingman must hold a membership card in the Party? The most careless observer will note that such need not be the case. It is scarce to be presumed that all workingmen will be actual members. In Germany, for instance, the Party membership numbers less than 1,000,000, and yet the vote steadily increases and has already passed the 4,000,000 mark. But the work of organization has gone far beyond the actual membership. The Party members constitute the force that goes into a persistent and thorough canvass of every district for the purpose of locating every workingman, residing therein and getting him in touch with the Party propaganda and other work. If he is already a Socialist he is gotten into line to assist in the task on hand. If he is not then the pressure is brought to bear upon him that brings him to the penetential bench.

There is not a political party in existence that elects its candidates and maintains its hold upon the reins of power that is not forced to depend upon just such a course in order to win. The political parties of Capitalism pay men to do the work that in the case of our movement must be done voluntarily.

There is not a district in B. C., outside of Vancouver that cannot be carried within a comparatively short time by 100 determined men who set themselves the task of thoroughly organizing their district. 500 men can do the same thing with this city inside the next four years. And in no case need it require more than a few hours work per week.

A few gab-fiends can strut the platform and feed fat their vanity at the expense of a few hundred suffering listeners. After this has been repeated a few times it becomes a sort of habit with both performer and sufferers. With all of his noise the gab-fiend reaches but an insignificant percentage of the working people. An organized force of 500 men could put a leaflet into the hands of each one of the 25,000 voters of Vancouver in less than one hour. The cost of such leaflets—and they could be made to carry a far more effective message than the average gab-fiend can get off his chest in an hour and a half talk—would fall far below the rent paid for the Empress Theatre in this city for Sunday night meetings. What holds true of Vancouver holds equally true of the other districts, as well.

The work of organization should include every working man in the district. His address, occupation, politics, whether on voters' list or not and if not he should be put on, etc. All of this information can be gathered with little labor and once obtained it can be kept up to date with still less. Sales of literature can always be made either by the active workers direct or by the filling of orders sent to headquarters. Also the circulation of the Party paper can be increased by the same token. Campaign funds can be collected at the same time and the small sums thus gathered would, no doubt obviate the necessity of the usual frantic appeals for help when election time comes around.

Another striking evidence of our lack of organization is shown in the fact that nearly all of the districts in B. C., that contemplate putting up Socialists are compelled to send elsewhere for candidates. Such requests have already been made in a number of cases.

As an excuse for such emergencies it has been suggested that it is due to the fact that in many districts the active Socialists have been driven out. This may be true, but even so, it speaks volumes for the lack of spirit upon the part of the rest. There are men enough in any district, and in nearly every mining camp, to keep an active agitator on the job all the time to keep things stirred up and also be a candidate when occasions required. The cost of keeping such a luxury on hand would not exceed 25 cents per man per month. We could name a number of comrades who have been driven from camps in the interior through denial of employment who ought to have been kept on the ground by their comrades no matter what the cost.

Be that as it may, however, we have no organization. If we are to exist as a political force we will have to get busy and build up an organization for the work in hand. Either that or confess ourselves "philosophers only" and a d——d cheap bunch at that.

There is much going on these days under the name of Socialism that will scarcely pass muster under careful scrutiny. We believe "Kaiser Bill" has announced himself a Socialist. There is also much masquerading under the guise of Christianity that would probably cause the Nazarene to throw a fit if he should happen along. The Salvation Army monkey business, for instance.

Now they have a ditch digging machine over in the States that will dig a ditch from 2 inches up to 8 feet in depth, and from 4 to 12 feet wide, finishing it as it proceeds. It will dig a mile of ditch 6 feet deep and 12 feet wide, in one day. Seven men are required to operate it. To do the same amount of work would require 50 scraper shovels hauled by 100 mules (quadruped), with a mule (biped) as driver for each team. This makes a total of 150 mules. The four-legged mules can now be sold and all but seven of the two-legged kind chased by the police. Will someone lead in prayer?

A motor-driven trenching machine, capable of cutting out in one day from 900 to 1200 lineal feet of asphalt and concrete pavement, preparatory to sinking ditches for sewers and water pipes or electric conduits, was recently demonstrated in the streets of Washington, D. C. It is claimed that the machine, which can be operated at a cost of $15 per day, can accomplish more cutting in that time than can 45 to 60 laborers, armed with picks and crowbars.—Popular Mechanics.

Another lot of slaves ready for the Findlay treatment for nojobicitis.

THE LIQUOR QUESTION.

The contents of this pamphlet are in every way the same as when delivered in lecture form at Fresno with the exception of the quotation from the address of Mr. Bristol, at Sacramento, and the quotation from the Cosmopolitan Magazine, of July, 1909.

I consider religion to be a private matter, but when it assumes a social or political character it becomes subject to the same criticism as any other social or political organization.

—THE AUTHOR.

In any society, that movement which succeeds in prolonging its existence for any considerable length of time, must have an economic basis.

When we look over the pages of history we find that every great moral crisis has always been preceded by a change of economic conditions.

The Reformation, led in Germany by Martin Luther, and in England by Calvin, known in history as a great moral wave, did not take place until feudal society had begun to decay and the trading and manufacturing class was well advanced in the process of its development. In the United States the "Anti-Slavery" agitation before the Civil War assumed the role of a great moral movement; preceding this movement, however, there had arisen an economic problem.

In the Northern states slave labor had been practically eliminated. Commerce and manufacturing had been developed with wage labor as its basis. The slave states had complete possession of the general government. Manufacturing, steam and machine production could not have sufficient protection or be fully developed with the government in the hands of an agrarian, slave owning class. It was this economic struggle of the manufacturing and trading interests that made possible the Anti-Slavery movement and gave to it all its humanitarian and moral coloring.

In San Francisco has been going on the "Graft Prosecution." Similar prosecutions have taken place in other parts of the country. A prosecution that makes strong appeal to the civic virtues of the community. Leagues of Justice are formed and a great wave of civic morality sweeps over the city. If, however, we analyze this "Graft Prosecution" more closely, we find underlying the moral wave, is an economic consideration. The great reformers and moralists who paid the bills of the "Graft Prosecution" were the unsuccessful rivals and competitors for the privilege and pelf of the very man they prosecute.

We have today in California and throughout the country another great moral movement, which has given birth to such organizations as the Anti-Saloon League and the Prohibition party. To properly understand and interpret these movements we must discover their economic basis; which as a matter of fact, is a contest for revenue between the evangelical churches and the saloon, as admitted by the Rev. Mr. Bristol, district superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League, in a public address delivered by him in Sacramento, June 20, 1909. This is further illustrated by certain compromises which have been proposed and in some cases actually put into practice, in regard to the Sunday closing; the churches insisting that saloons should close on Sunday during church hours, evidently with the idea that if the people had no place else to go, they might go to church. In other words the church says to the saloon, "You have the people spending money with you six days out of the week, give us a chance to get at them on Sunday."

For years ministers have been complaining that the people have been falling away from the church. Parks, theatres, public concerts, sports of all kinds, and the saloon with its free reading room, free music halls, free lunch counters, and in some instances free lodgings for the penniless man, apparently offer better attractions than the church. In the light of modern science, theology is practically dead. The church therefore finds itself compelled to struggle for its existence; especially for revenue with which to maintain itself, and therefore "the saloon must go," in the hope that a large part of the money expended in the saloons will find its way into the coffers of the church.

The consideration of this question at once brings up the question of the power of the State over private property and the limitations of the State in controlling the desires or regulating the thought of the individual.

My worthy opponent, Mr. Chapin, has used forty minutes of his time in a discourse of the dread disease of tuberculosis, and concludes with the statement that the government has power to wipe out this disease, as it also has the power to wipe out the terrible disease of alcholism. The passing of a law by Congress, or by any State, to the effect that on and after the first day of January next, there shall be no more tuberculosis, would not have the slightest effect upon that disease. Should the government desire to do something effectual to prevent the spreading of this disease it can do so, only by removing the causes which produce it. The general improvements of the conditions under which millions of our people live; plenty of pure air; better ventilation of the workshop, mill and mine; better sanitation; better housing; a sufficiency of food and clothing, would do more to reduce the disease of tuberculosis than all the prohibitory laws that could ever be passed. So also, the disease of alcholism can not be abolished by prohibitory legislation but only by removing the causes which produce it. Sometimes a lack of self control results in drunkenness, but in most cases it is a desire to forget poverty and misery through the medium of liquor.

The abolition of poverty and better education for the masses, are the only remedies for the disease of alcholism.

Alcoholism, however, is not as prevalent as Mr. Chapin or the usual advocate of prohibition would have you believe. United States reports for 1900 show the average number of deaths attributed to alcoholism to be only 2,811; from scalds and burns 6,772; from drowning 5,387; from poison 3,390; from suicide 5,498; while killed and maimed on railroads we have a total of about 18,000.

Certainly no one would advocate the prohibition of water because 5,000 people annually get drowned; nor the abolition of the railroads because 18,000 people are killed and maimed annually.

Religious fanaticism and holy wars have destroyed upward of fifteen millions of human lives. And yet the religionists who have made the pages of history red with human gore say to us, "You shall not have a glass of beer, it may injure your health."

The above article is from a 16-page pamphlet by J. B. Osborne, the blind orator. This is a well got up pamphlet and can be obtained at this office at 10 cents each or $4 per hundred.

THE SUB LIST.

In looking at the sub list I must say that I am disappointed. Before the Clarion came back as a weekly there were many that missed it and wailed loud and long because of its non-appearance on Monday morning. Many said what they would do it only we had the Clarion again. One would think that they would have rolled up subs in the thousands.

And what do we find? Large locals situated in populous centres away down in the sub list. What is the matter with them? Are they smitten with laziness? It is so easy to sell sub cards. Our little local in this tiny sleepy city has sold (200) two hundred in three months. If we can do that with hardly any effort surely in the larger centers more can be done.

We must have a strong party paper, it must pay for itself. The condition of the paper shows the condition of the party as a whole.

Do the comrades not realize that they are giving the heathen a weekly two hour lecture by making them subscribe to the Clarion.

Come come. Wake up you sleepy comrades each do your bit take 10 sub cards and go out amongst our heathen friends and sell them its easy. Its not nearly so bad as asking for a job.

If every local throughout Canada did as much in proportion as Local Brandon the Clarion would have fifteen thousand subscribers.

Think of what that would mean and what a paper we could have and what a party. Don't you think it worth while. Now, go ahead and beat us if you can.

A tip as to why we can beat you other fellows. It is because we do not waste our time getting subs for sloppy so-called Socialist papers that in the end bring up an element that become a nuisance and a drag on the movement.

..All our energies are expended in getting subs for the Clarion. And that is why we can beat some of the larger towns.

Our own economics teach us that concentration, and subdivision of labor increase production. Practice it and we'll get there.

ED. FULCHER.

A press dispatch from Germany says that the German government is not very much inclined to sign an international peace agreement with Uncle Sam. This is not a joke. Since the Socialists captured 76 per cent. of the Berlin voters, since the Berlin Hochburg and government district was only saved by seven votes, and since the Kaiser's own residence city, Potsdam, fell into the hands of the Socialist anti-militarist, leader Dr. Karl Liebknecht—what else can the Kaiser do but promise to stop his martial music and listen to the songs of international peace, sung by 500,000 men, women and children in the Trep-tower Pack of Berlin? Even Kaisers are subject to the omnipotence of nature and the laws of social evolution.—People's Voice.

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES.

(To Locals.)

Charter (with necessary supplies to start Local)	$5.00
Membership Cards, each	.01
Dues Stamps, each	.10
Platform and application blank per 100	.25
Ditto in Finnish, per 100	.50
Ditto in Ukranian, per 100	.50
Constitutions, each	.20
Ditto, Finnish, per dozen	.50

Socialist Party Directory

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Socialist Party of Canada, meets second and fourth Monday. Secretary, E. T. Kingsley, Labor Temple, Dunsmuir St., Vancouver, B. C.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL Executive Committee, Socialist Party of Canada, meets second and fourth Mondays in month at Labor Temple, Dunsmuir St. E. T. Kingsley, Secretary.

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

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee: Notice—This card is inserted for the purpose of getting "YOU" interested in the Socialist *movement.* SOCIALISTS are always members of the Party; so if you are desirous of becoming a member, or wish to get any information, write the Secretary, J. D. Houston, 493 Furby St., Winnipeg.

SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every first and third Saturday in the month, 8:00 p.m., at headquarters, Main Street, North Battleford. Secretary will answer any communications regarding the movement in this Province. L. Budden, Secy., Box 101, North Battleford, Sask.

MARITIME PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee, Socialist Party of Canada, meets every second and fourth Sundays in the Cape Breton office of the Party, Commercial Street, Glace Bay, N. S. Dan Cochrane, Secretary, Box 491, Glace Bay, N. S.

LOCAL GREENWOOD, B. C., NO. 9, S. P. of C., meets every Sunday evening at Miners' Union Hall, Greenwood. *Visiting Comrades invited to call.* C. Primerlle, Secretary.

LOCAL FERNIE, S. P. of C., HOLD educational meetings in the Miners' Union Hall, Victoria Ave., every Sunday evening at 7:30. Business meeting first Sunday in each month, Miners' Hall at 2:30. W. L. Phillips, Secretary, Box 504.

LOCAL ROSSLAND, NO. 25, S. P. of C., meets in Miners' Hall every Sunday at 7:30 p.m. E. Campbell, Secretary, P.O. Box 674. Rossland Finnish Branch meets in Finlanders' Hall, Sundays at 7:30 p.m. A. Sebbie, Secretary, P.O Box 54, Rossland.

LOCAL MICHEL, B. C., NO. 16, S. P. of C., holds propaganda meetings every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. in Crahan's Hall. A hearty invitation is extended to all wage slaves within reach of us to attend our meetings. Business meetings are held the first and third Sundays of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the same hall. Party organizers take notice. A. S. Julian, Secretary.

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

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

LOCAL REVELSTOKE, B. C., NO. 7, S. P. of C. Business meetings at Socialist headquarters fourth Thursdays of each month. B. F. Gayman, Secretary.

LOCAL SANDON, B. C., NO. 36, S. P. OF C. Meets every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Sandon Miners' Unior Hall. *Communications to be addressed* Drawer K. Sandon, B. C.

LOCAL VICTORIA NO. 2, S. P. of C.— Headquarters and reading room, 1319 Government St., Room 2, over Collister's gun store. Business meeting every Tuesday, 8 p.m. Propaganda meeting every Sunday, 8 p.m., at Crystal Theatre.

LOCAL VERNON, B. C., NO. 38, S. P. of C. Meets every Tuesday, 8:00 p.m sharp, at L. O. L. Hall, Tronson St W. H. Gilmore, Secretary.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, B. C., NO. 45, Finnish. Meets every second and *fourth Thursdays in the month* at 2237 Main Street. Secretary, Wm. Myntti.

LOCAL SOUTH FORT GEORGE, B.C., No. 61, meets every Friday night at 8 p.m. in Public Library Room. John McInnis, Secretary; Andrew Allen, Organizer.

LOCAL VANCOUVER No 1, S. P. of C.— Business meeting every Tuesday evening at Headquarters, 213 Hastings St. East. J. A. Macdonald, secretary, 1724 Alberni St.

LOCAL COLEMAN, ALTA., NO. 9, Miners' Hall and Opera House. Propaganda meetings at 8 p.m. on the first and third Sundays of the month. Business meetings on Thursday evenings following propaganda meetings at 8. Organizer, T. Steele, Coleman, Alta.; Secretary, Jas. Glendenning, Box 63, *Coleman, Alta.* Visitors may receive information any day at Miners' Hall from Com. W. Graham, Secretary of U. M. W. of A.

LOCAL EDMONTON, ALTA., NO. 1, S. P. of C. Headquarters 622 First St. Business and propaganda meetings every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. sharp. Our reading room is open to the public free, from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Secretary, A. Farmilo, 622 First St.; Organizer, W. Stephenson.

LOCAL CALGARY, ALTA., NO. 4, S. P. of C.—Business meeting every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock at the headquarters, 429 Eighth Ave. East, between Third and Fourth streets. F. Tipping, Secretary.

LOCAL REGINA NO. 6, SASK., MEETS every Sunday, Trades Hall, 8 p.m. Business meeting, second Friday, 8 p.m., Trades Hall. B. Simmons, secretary, 1909 Garnet St., P.O. Box 1046.

LOCAL BRANDON, MAN., NO. 7, S. P. of C. Headquarters, No. 10 Nation Block, Rossar Ave. Propaganda meeting, Sunday at 8 p.m.; business meeting, second and fourth Mondays at 8 p.m.; economic class, Friday at 8 p.m. Secretary, T. Mellalieu, 144 Third St., Brandon, Man.

LOCAL LETHBRIDGE, ALTA., NO. 13, S. P. of C. Meets first and third Sundays *in the month,* at 4 p.m., in Miners' Hall. Secretary, Chas. Peacock, Box 1983

LOCAL MOOSEJAW, SASK., No. 1, S. P. OF C.—Propaganda meetings every Sunday, 7:30 p. m., in the Trades Hall. Economic Class every Sunday, 3 p.m. D. McMillan, Sec. Treas., South Hill P. O., Sask.; A. Stewart, Organizer, South Hill P. O., Sask. All slaves welcome.

LOCAL No. 1, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, S. P. OF C.—Headquarters 528½ Main Street, Winnipeg, room 2, next Dreamland Theatre. Business meeting every Sunday morning, at 11; economic class Wednesdays, at 8 p. m. Secretary's address, 270 Young Street. Propaganda meeting every Sunday evening in Dreamland Theatre, Main Street, at 8 o'clock. Discussion invited.

LOCAL OTTAWA, NO. 8, S. P. of C.— Business meetings the first Sunday in the month at 3 o'clock p.m. at headquarters. Secretary, Sam Horwith. Headquarters, 36 1-2 Rideau Street. Phone 277. Address, 322 Gladstone Ave.

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.

LOCAL SIDNEY MINES NO. 7, of Nova Scotia.—Business and propaganda meetings every second Monday at 7:30 in the S. O. B. T. Hall back of Town Hall. William Allen, Secretary, Box 344.

UKRAINIAN SOCIALIST FEDERATION of the S. P. of C., is organized for the Ukrainean workers to the revolutionary principles of this party. The Ukranian Federation publish their own weekly organ, "Nova Hromada" (New Society), at 443 Kinistino Ave., Edmonton, Alta. English comrades desiring information re the Federation, write to J. Senuk, Fin. Secretary.

PLATFORM

Socialist Party of Canada

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

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

So long as the capitalist class remains in possession of the reins of government all the powers of the State will be used to protect and defend their property rights in the means of wealth production and their control of the product of labor.

The capitalist system gives to the capitalist an ever-swelling stream of profits, and to the worker an ever-increasing measure of misery and degradation.

The interest of the working class lies in the direction of setting itself free from capitalist exploitation by the abolition of the wage system, under which is cloaked the robbery of the working class at the point of production. To accomplish this necessitates the transformation of capitalist property in the means of wealth production into collective or working-class property.

The irrepressible conflict of interests between the capitalist and the worker is rapidly culminating ina 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 program of the working class, as follows:

1. The transformation, as rapidly as possible, of capitalist property in the means of wealth production (natural resources, factories, mills, 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 Part yis 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.

SUBSCRIPTION CARDS

5 Yearlies - - -	$3.75
10 1-2 Yearlies - -	4.00
20 Quarterlies - -	4.00

CORRESPONDENCE

CALL TO ARMS!

Local Dewberry, Alta., No. 36 wishes to call the attention of all reds to the fact that we are putting up a candidate to contest the constituency of Alexandra in the next provincial elections and will be glad of any help either in the way of money or speakers. Donations may be sent to the undersigned and will be acknowledged in the Clarion.

We consider there is a good fighting chance here—had Com. A. Budden for a series of seven meetings and were delighted with his work to say the least (would cut out praise if we thought it might lead to swell-head but think perhaps Alf. is proof against it). We surely can recommend him to any locals wishing to spread effective revolutionary dope. Also had the old war-horse Com. O'Brien for a couple of meetings. More power to both comrades!

Help will be much appreciated as the opposition to us is as strong as capitalistic ignorance can make it, but we are making a big dent in it and election day will find us ready. We are spoiling to send up a side-kicker to help Charlie out in his single-handed scrap with the Alberta "Executive Committee of the master class."

Submitted on behalf of Local Dewberry.

W. H. ANDERSON,
Secretary.

"IN THE CARIBOO."

South Fort George, B. C.
Feb. 24th, 1912.

Secretary Provincial Executive,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Comrade:

We have held two propaganda meetings in Fort George during the past month and the boys over there are about to apply for a charter which we think should be granted.

The two towns are four miles apart therefor as Fort George is the headquarters for a large number of farmers and workingmen, a local at that point will prove convenient. We have been doing a great deal of educational work in this section of Cariboo, which will prove useful in the future.

If things brighten up industrially and the country settles up a bit Fort George will be a strong Socialist center.

Yours in Revolt
JOHN MC INNIS.

SOCIALISTS ATTENTION.

An election has been sprung upon us in B. C., are we ready for it? What has been done since the Dominion elections? Not 10 towns in B. C. have held propaganda meetings and least of all not one has done any organization work. We as a Party are to blame. We have let things slip by too easy. A little energetic propaganda for about a month before election is all that has been done. We've got to start right now. Here is an offer. How many of you in Canada will accept it. From now on a 4 page leaflet will be published every two weeks easily read, well printed, good sound stuff, it will make one of the best means of propagating Socialism that has been used in this country. How many of you will help turn your local into an organization for the distribution of these leaflets. The first leaflet to be published will be Comrade Gribble's article "What we want" that was published in the July Magazine number of the Western Clarion.

We want to be guaranteed an output of 10,000 copies per issue. 10 locals ordering 1,000 each will guarantee it. Get your Local into shape or go out of business. This is one of the best ways of getting to the workers, its up to you to start in right now. You cannot devolp speakers or it seems that way as we find Locals all over the Province clamoring for speakers. ou cannot even put your own members into shape to become candidates. you've got to send away for them. What's the matter with you? We know the bosses are severe on Socialist agitators but whats to prevent you from getting up early Sunday morning when your boss is abed and distributing a hundred or so, leaflets? What's to prevent you Saturday afternoon or evening getting out whilst your boss is taking a trip to the country in his stink-wagon? As I stated last week there is no excuse. The revolution will only be brought about by persistently doing something that will tell. Here is the offer. It means a lot of work at this office for us, but we will sit up all night, all the week and get these out if you will only show us that you mean business at your end of the line. These leaflets will be issued at $1.50 per thousand if we get our guarantee, otherwise we might as well go out of business. Send in your orders you can send the long green afterwards, let us see where the up to date locals are. Let us see where that little bunch of comrades in some small town that are sick of this rotten system are. Start in right now for a determined capture of the House at Ottawa by the next Dominion elections. B. C. Locals can have this leaflet ready for this present campaign if they buck up. Don't ask questions about the leaflets as we will turn out the right stuff from here. Now act.

W. WATTS.

HOW THEY COME

Another poor attempt at sub hustling this week. This is the time of year for spring cleaning, why not try and get the cobwebs off the brains of a few thousand slaves?

HERE'S THE FIRING LINE

J. P. Kinnear, Toronto	20
A. Budden, OrganizingAlta	8
F. Tipping, Calgary, Alta	6
D. McDougall, Winnipeg, Man	5
J. C. Turner, Fernie, B. C	7
Chas. A. Watts, Keewatin, Ont	3
Ed. Fulcher, Brandon, Man	3
Ashton Howe, Montreal, Quebec	3
C. M. O'Brien, Edmonton, Alta	2
W. B. McIsaac, Ymir, B. C	2
T. E. Mason, Montreal, Quebec	2
C. Carlson, Brandon, Man	2
A. E. Tipper, City	2
F. Bedford, Sunnydene, B. C	2

Singles—H. C. Besant, Red Deer; T. Cassidy, Revelstoke; W. Byatt, City; J. A. Teil, Spences Bridge; W. H. Anderson, Dewberry; T. Matthews, City F. Bumpstead, Victoria; R. I. Matthews, City; J. Watson, Winnipeg; A. T. Higgins, Brandon; M. Lightstone, Calgary; W. L. Birkett, Courtenay; J. McMarran, Medicine Hat; D. Galloway City; J. McInnis, S. Fort George; Thos. C. Makepeace, Lacombe, Alta.; D. McLellan, Merritt, B. C.

Toronto gets the best of Winnipeg. New Westminster climbs a notch. Nelson means to make Gribble go some. Glace Bay and South Hill, Sask., also come on the list. This is how they stand:

Vancouver, B. C	1
Victoria, B. C	2
Brandon, Man.	3
Edmonton, Alta.	4
Calgary, Alta.	5
Toronto, Ont.	6
Winnipeg, Man.	7
Fernie, B. C.	8
Moose Jaw, Sask.	9
New Westminster, B. C	10
Montreal, Quebec	11
Nelson, B. C	12
Cumberland, B. C	13
South Fort George, B. C	14
Silverton, B. C	15
Ottawa, Ont.	16
N. Battleford, Sask.	17
Regina, Sask.	18
Glace Bay, N. S.	19
South Hill, Sask.	20

HERE AND THERE.

(By Watts.)

A movement is on foot in Kansas to amalgamate the different church organizations, which if successful will mean about 500 sky pilots looking for other jobs.

* * *

The municiple campaign is on in Milwaukee. The issue is already defined. Socialism versus anti-Socialism. Milwaukee's Socialist administration has made good and the chances of re-election looks good.

* * *

A woman doctor says the "feebleminded should be segregated," Liberal and Conservative voters please take notice likewise you poor deluded mortals who support the Province, World, Herald, Telegram, Truth and the rest of the capitalist trash.

* * *

The Mexican rebels have again captured Juarez and several other towns, one of which places them in control of the plants that supplies power and light to the city of Mexico.

* * *

The worst has happened. No, let us say "the best," in England, 1,000,000 workers on strike, some people says it always has been and always will be, but this strike looks different.

* * *

We have a few bound volumes of 1909 and 1910 Western Clarions left we are offering them at $1.50 a volume for a quick sale.

Send in your orders for 1911 bound volumes at once.

No, the Liberal party is not dead, its ranks will be filled by the would be reformers. The Liberal party's platform embraces everything from a new dinner pail to the abolition of graft and a little direct action thrown in.

Why not get the full product of your toil by voting the Socialist ticket. There is enough of you in B. C., to do the trick, we will be supported by the rest of the workers of the world.

There are 56 Mayors, 146 Aldermen, 160 Councilmen, 18 State Representatives, 1 Congressman, and other elected officials numbering in all 1,039 in the United States elected on the Socialist ticket.

It was only a few weeks ago that Vancouver held the record for Russian tyranny, now its Lawrence, Mass.

Well, well, well. The Republicans last hope is brave Teddy. Of course, you must bear in mind, J. P. Morgan and the Wall street bunch want him as president.

Of the 5 men who asked for speedy trial, charged with taking part in the free speech fight here, 4 got 3 months apiece and one discharged.

R. P. Pettipiece is calling for volunteers to hold down his job whilst he is in jail.

Local Victoria intends to distribute 500 Clarions a week during the campaign, what about you?

"The fact that the Census Board has ascertained that the average weekly wage in Cleveland is $12.61 does not impress me as being bad at all when viewed from an economic standpoint," said Professor Bailey. 'I think such an average wage is really excellent. It is more than the strikers at Lawrence get. I do not see why any economic readjustment is needed so long as wages keep as high as that."

We fully agree with the Professor. Wages do not want to be readjusted. But I wonder what the Professor would say to the abolition of wages.

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10 of the members of the late B. C. Government remind me of sympathisers, who come to the Socialist meetings says Hear, Hear, and then goes and works like hell for his boss the rest of the week and forgets the class struggle.

THINGS IN GENERAL.

Things look good around Brandon Local these days, 200 sub cards purchased and sold in three months. That's going some, eh?

Brandon Trades Council in its semi-monthly vaudeville show, kicked because the city council bought some land for (possibly) speculative purposes.

They did not think it "right" for the city to engage in real estate business. "Oh, Pshucks"! not right, what humbug.

A delegate thought there was a "Semblance of graft in it." What degree of wickedness a semblance of graft is I don't know, but I do know that graft or no graft the workers get skinned of all they produce over and above their keep. Graft or no graft is not a question for us to worry about, but after the surplus value.

The silly season in Brandon Journalism is here. Some good reporter is showing the plugs that he knows nothing about Socialism and does not know enough to keep his mouth shut.

A "degradation" of the "Social and Moral Reform League" waited upon the Government asking them to take a referendum on "Banish the Bar." The aforesaid quacks wish to pull down the rotten tree of Capitalism by tearing off a decayed bag or two. The minister for education told the "degradation" that the way to stop the liquor traffic was to cut out the profit on it. Guess he hit the nail on the head pretty good. Wonder where he learned it.

As he is the representative for Brandon, maybe we had something to do with it. Oh, well we're not claiming the credit.

The "Social and Moral Reformers" don't wish to abolish the manufacture and sale of liquor, so they say, but only the bar and "treating." However, they appeared before the license commissioners at Brandon and protested against a new wholesale license being granted in this burg.

"A million for Manitoba." How glorious, we won't need to eat then just fill ourselves up with inspiration and thanks, to think that we are citizens of such a province.

A modern Klondyke at Minitonas, I guess there's more gold in exploiting wageslaves than in digging at Minitonas. I guess the "free citizens of Lawrence, Mass., now on strike will soon be able to see that they are really wage slaves. If not, that little action of the police in not allowing them to send their children out of town should show them.

Free men, yet not allowed to send their children out of town to visit their friends. Then hauled up in court for neglect of them. Who says that the powers of Government are not used by the masters to keep down the workers.

Need for Political action you bet.

ED. FULCHER.

I regard the rights of men and women equal. In Love's fair realm, husband and wife are king and queen, sceptered and crowned alike and seated on the self-same throne.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Western Clarion
B.C. Executive Com.
Dom. Executive Com.

Labor Temple, Vancouver, B.C.

"ON SAVING."

Comrade Wright says in his article in 656 on Saving: That the reason why the workers are poor and cannot save in "The Model City of Gary" is because they pay from 20 to 25 per cent. more for their commodities and receive 20 cents and 30 per cent. less than in Chicago.

In other words to solve the industrial problem, go to Chicago. Well Comrade Wright like all other reforms and solutions when you've had some you find that they are worthless. I've had some. I went to Chicago and the last stage was worse than the first.

Such an instance is only sporadic and can not be cited as a rule. Why the workers can not save is because competition for jobs causes them to sell their energy, on the average, at what it costs them to produce it. So they are just a part of the capitalist mechanism and receive no more than any other machine, that is just enough for their needs.

ED. FULCHER.

WHAT SOCIALSIM MEANS.

By Frank B. Norman.

The object and meaning of Socialism is to abolish the wage system, bag and baggage.

It means:

That man shall no longer be employed at wages by another.

That man shall have by right and opportunity the privilege to employ himself, that his daily output in full shall be his remuneration or reward.

That the boss and owner and the dividend leech shall step down and out, and give up their usurped right to compel other human beings to do their will—for to allow them that privilege is wrong, and it is against all the law of love and justice that one should be subject to another's will.

That it shall be impossible that the means of living, such as land, mills and factories, the means of education, transportation, etc., which are the tools of production, shall be owned by one set of people to be used for profit and the exploitation of another set.

That we shall set up in the place of that damnable system a new system of producing the things needful for man, where those things shall be produced for man's use only as he has need of them.

That every man shall be an equal owner in the tools of that production, where every man will have an equal right to the use of those tools without the consent of another, and shall have a right to their use as much or as little as it pleases himself only.

That is the object and the meaning of Socialism summed up in a nutshell—that and nothing else.

Just think it over my fellow slave and shopmate; think of the bitter lot of ourselves and our own children; think of our miserable shacks and our filthy factories, the long hours of toil subject to another's will, and the awful uncertainty of the future; think what fools we must be to raise one finger to hinder the ushering in of that better system from which will flow life and joy, culture, education art and luxury, and all the good and beautiful things of life for all who care for them.

It is up to you, my fellow slave; the tools are all at hand and lying idle, waiting for you to shake off your fear and lethargy. You have nothing to lose, and everything worth living for to gain.—Weekly People.

WORKINGCLASS MAN BUTCHERS.

The workers are meek and modest and humble and docile, and are always gullibly ready to obediently do whatever their crafty political and industrial masters order them to do.

Whenever the capitalists want war and the politicans declare war, the flim-flammed, bamboozled working man straps on a knapsack, shoulders a rifle (or takes a policeman's club), kisses his wife and children good-bye, and marches away to fight a war he didn't want, a war he didn't declare, a war that belittles and wrongs him by injuring his class—and marches away to butcher other working men whom he doesn't know and against whom he has no quarrel.

He yells, kills, and slaughters—because—simply because—because some crafty crooks, called "prominent people" tell him to do so. He screams and is slain, he yells and is slaughtered—simply because he does not understand the sly, devilish trick that is thus being played upon him and his class.

Young working men are shrewdly flattered into joining the militia and the army, in order to help the capitalist class force the working class to keep still and starve; or accept cheap food, cheap clothing, cheap shelter and cheap furniture as all their share for all their work for all their lives.

Suppose the working man has a son in the local militia company, and suppose Mr. Workingman goes out on strike for two or three more nickels per day with which to buy better food for the young militiaman's own mother and his little brothers and sisters.

This young man in the militia company can be ordered to shoot or bayonet his own father who, on strike, is struggling for a few cents more with which to buy better food for the humble mother and hungry little brothers and sisters—if the father on strike doesn't keep quiet and remain docile while the local industrial masters starve him back to his old job at his old wages.

The capitalist holds the whip of hunger over the working class father's back, and the working class son holds a rifle at his own father's breast. The father must surrender.

Thus the young militiaman wrongs his own class, outrages his own father, helps humble his own little brothers and sisters, and spits in his own mother's face.

The war is the class war.

The militiaman and policeman are local soldiers ready for orders to shoot their neighbors, friends and relatives in the struggle for existence. In the industrial civil war the capitalist class starve, seduce and bribe the working class to fight both sides of the battle.

The rulers rule. They think—and win by thinking.

Think it over, young man. Be loyal to your own father and mother, and your own brothers and sisters, and your own class. Be class loyal.—Labor Call, Australia.

Know *Why* Socialism is Coming

Don't be a socialist unless you know *why* you are one. *Know why* Socialism is coming. Trace the economic development of civilization through from slavery to the present and *know why socialism is inevitable.*

Victor L. Berger says:

"A few socialist phrases is not sufficient to make a scientific socialist. In order to know WHY SOCIALISM IS COMING, a socialist should have an idea of evolution, he must know history, he must know something of economic development.

We as socialists are vitally interested in the development of civilization. History for us is not a collection of shallow village tales, the story of coronations, weddings and burials of kings. For us the true lesson of history is the story of progress of mankind by gradual steps from brutal slavery to enlightenment, culture and humanity.

The manner in which one system has grown out of another, feudalism out of slavery and capitalism out of feudalism is most suggestive of the manner by which the Socialist Republic will gradually develop out of the present system.

To show how the Socialist Republic will gradually develop out of the present system, the Library of Original Sources has been published. It is a treasure mine."

The Library of Original Sources

(In the original documents—translated)

clears away the bigotry and superstition that has accumulated around religion, law, government, education, etc.—brings to light the naked truth and *shows why socialism is coming.* This wonderful library gives the authoritative sources of knowledge in *all* fields of thought—socialism philosophy, science, education, etc. The rock-bottom facts which for centuries capitalist writers have deliberately kept from the people.

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By William R. Shier.

Do you want to surrender your personal liberties, to forego the pleasures of civilian life, to have your freedom arbitrarily restricted?

No? Then do not join the army.

Do you want to lose your self-respect, to throw your manhood into the gutter, to become a machine responsive to another's will, to belong to a murderous institution that insists upon unquestioning obedience?

No? Then do not join the army.

Do you want to cringe before men who may be no better than yourself, to submit without protest to snobbery and graft, to be subjected to the insults and extortions of a clique of petty officers, to be denied the rights of citizenship, to expose yourself to all the moral rottenness of barrack life, to run the risk of contracting loathsome diseases?

No? Then do not join the army.

Do you want to become a professional murderer, to kill men with whom you have no quarrel, to make cripples and widows and orphans of those who have done you no harm, to turn yourself into a fiend who chief business it is to spread misery and death at the behest of a master class?

No? Then do not join the army.

Do you want to die of fever in distant lands, to sacrifice your life upon the altar of trade, to become the dupe of self-seeking capitalists, to help club foreign peoples into buying the surplus products of American manufacturers, to engage in bloody was that financiers may float huge government loans, to endure indescribable hardships for the enrichment of money-lenders, army contractors and unscrupulous politicians?

No? Then do not join the army.

Do you want to shoot honest working people who are striking for better conditions, to help reactionary governments keep the oppressed and disinherited masses in subjection, to stand in the way of social progress and human uplife?

No? Then do not join the army.

Do you want to see men's brains spattered upn the ground, their heads shot off by cannon balls, their arms and legs crushed to pulp, their bellies ripped open by vicious bayonets, their bodies writing in terrible agony, their lives blighted by the brutalities of war?

No? Then do not join the army.

Armies are made up of working people If working people should refuse to enlist there would be no armies. If there were no armies there would be no wars. So stay away from the recruiting offices and urge others to do the same.

The textile workers of Lawrence, Mass., are being civilized by the same methods that will be used to Christianize the Chinese.

Hardy Bay

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CHINA AND JAPAN RE DEVELOPING AN INDUSTRIAL SYSTEM to supply the world from their mills, mines and factories; the captains of industry all over the world have spent millions to help wake up the Orient; the same men indirectly caused the building of the Panama Canal to handle the slow freight and resources of the Orient for the markets of Europe.

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THE ASS BRAYS AND THE PROPHET BUTTS IN

The writer was once told by a well known member of the Socialist Party that he had the "Revolutionary itch." He did not resent this because it was true, and long before and ever since he has been scratching, so to speak, to make possible and visible on the outside, the dreams of the NEW INDUSTRIAL order that has taken possession within.

He has watched the growth of this movement from a mere handful of earnest men and women to a mighty army of protest. During that wonderful campaign of 1896, when a great psychological wave was generated on the idea of "free silver," he stood to one side and smiled as it went by, for at that time he was a Socialist and understood there could be no lasting good come from such a movement, even though it were victorious. He was even glad when it failed and the "GOLD STANDARD" fastened its slimy coils around the American people, for beyond the darkness he saw the light, not in the "patching up of the old garment, but in the building of a new industrial order founded on NEW PRINCIPLES and administered with a new purpose.

These years of service, before and since, the present organization was born constitute no valid claim to leadership in a movement that springs from the great principle that society should be governed by the PEOPLE. The writer is today only a humble member of the RANK and File, and as such only does he desire to be heard, but the "urge" to speak comes from his desire to keep this movement, for which he has spent many of the best years of his life, clear and uncompromising.

Just now, in his judgment, the movement is in the most critical time of its existence. It is approaching power, and power is dangerous unless properly directed.

The essence of the Socialist movement is not in its numbers, but in its principles. As long as principles are kept clear, numbers are desireable.

With victory in sight, however, "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." The master class are not to be easily dethroned. They well know they are powerless to meet the Socialist movement in an open fight, and not being able to stop this irresistible force they will sooner or later attempt TO DIRECT IT IN SOME WAY SO THAT IT WILL MISS ITS MARK, and that mark is their beautiful wage system of exploitation.

The master class has never feared "reform." You can "tinker up" their old system all you please so long as you don't disturb their skin game at its fountain head. In fact they are at a point now where they rather welcome any attempt to make their rotten old regime seem less barbarous and inhuman.

Campaigns for municipal ownership of the "garbage plant" and such like measures will make them smile benevolently—and wink their other eye. The one thing that makes a cold shiver run down their fat backs is the demand for "Unconditional Surrender," the mighty voice of protest against the SYSTEM itself, the method of exploitation.

Now listen: The only power that can save our movement from going through a wasteful period of "office-seeking for the sake of office" is the enlightened RANK and FILE.

Theer are many so-called leaders in the Socialist movement today who have the "office itch," and have it bad. They are willing to sacrifice the great principles of the revolution for the sake of capturing something in sight, and their efforts to switch the movement from its primary purpose—the destruction of the wage system—to a program of "patching up the wage system," will be aided and abetted by the cunning agents of the master class itself.

This is no dream, comrades. The master class is hard pressed right now and knows that it must do something—and is getting busy. Not the spirit of unrest, of dissatisfaction. The system totters, and it must be saved at any price—and that means COMPROMISE.

The ass is willing to capture every office in sight. IF such capture can be effected on a revolutionary program that is straihtforward in its statement of principles and offers its immediate demands as merely palliative measures, and states frankly that very little can be done to relieve the misery of the working class as long as the WAGE SYSTEM lasts. But when the movement swings into a campaign with "practical politics" as its motto and "immediate demands" at the mast head, beware!—the reaction will inevitably come, for as long as the wage system lasts you CAN'T MAKE GOOD TO THE WORKING CLASS.

Better, far better, to get 100 clean, class-counscious, intelligent Socialist votes on an uncompromising platform of PRINCIPLES, than to sweep the city and capture everything in sight on a program of compromise and half-way measures.

My ears may be large enough, but, my working-class brother, lend me yours for a few moments. After you have captured a CAPITALISTIC OFFICE for, usually, some "leader," but we will say now a member of your own class, what do you expect him to do with it? The very best he can do is to HONESTLY ADMINISTER THE CAPITALISTIC MACHINERY. Ill admit that this will be a new experiment and perhaps worth while, and the capture of the office, if PROPERLY captured, will be helpful to the propaganda, and all that. It may even result in some minor advantages to the working class in the great class struggle now on.

But with the wage system still in power, as it WILL BE, so very little good will come from this experiment in actual alleviation of the woes of the working class that, UNLESS THIS MATTER IS THOROUGHLY EXPLAINED BEFOREHAND, the ultimate REACTION will work positive injury to the real movement for industrial emancipation.

The fellow with the "office itch" will stick for a program of "great promise" to the "dear pepul," he always has—it's a part of his very nature. It's up to the rank and file to see to it that the real program is RED—and these other measures are given out truly for what they are worth as merely tentative reforms.

—

And now the Ass is edged to one side, and the Prophet says, "Let me speak a word:

"I see in the near future a great scramble for office. I see the old citadels of the master class besieged by the new movement of the working class, a movement full of life and vigor, a movement that brings forth heroes and martyrs from the common people, a movement full of HOPE. I see the country swept by this movement and city after city captured. I see the hopes of the people raised to a HIGH DEGREE of expectation. I see the new officers taking their seats and I listen to the shouts of "Hosanna" from a million voices. I see them swing off with firm purpose to do something worthy of the cause they represent. I see them butt their heads against the wage system to little or no avail. I see their "constituents" watching them with almost bated breath. I see a look of disappointment coming over their faces, I catch a murmur of disapproval. I see the master class using every possible means to thwart the purposes of the peoples representatives. I hear the murmur of discontent and disapproval growing day by day as the same old grind continues for those who toil. And finally I see a reaction. The "system" either subsidizes the people's representatives or else makes them a laughing stock to be replaced by its own men, tried and true to the rule of graft. Men and women lose heart again. But I see deeper than this. I see the REAL REVOLUTION gaining headway on the failure of reform, I see a new hope come again for the workers and a new determination to be or not to be; I see this new movement gather its forces into a mighty voice of protest, I see new lines being formed of the rank and file with REVOLUTIONARY PRINCIPLES at the head. I see them pass up all reform, all compromise, all subterfuge, all policy, and march straight at the heart of the capitalist system of exploitation, the wage system. I hear their shouts of victory, and the world is flooded with light, my eyes are full of tears, I can see no more—I am satisfied."

After the "Prophet" has gotten all that out of his hide there doesn't seem to be much use of the Ass adding anything.

Think it over.—The Prophet and the Ass (a Red monthly magazine editted by G. H. Lockwood, Kalamazoo, Mich., 50 cents a year).

THE FUTURE SOCIETY.

I seem to see through the mists of the present the clear, bright radiance of the years which are yet to come. Gone, then, are the antagonisms of sex and of class—gone are the unmeaning conventionalities which now cramp and hinder the free development of the human soul. In the place of Prejudice, Justice—in the place of Ignorance, Wisdom—in the place of Selfishness, unbounded Love. I see woman co-equal with man in all that makes for her true womanhood. I see man co-equal with woman in all that makes for his true manhood. I see these twain waking hand-in-hand down the paths of Time, their eager faces ever turned to see round them troops of little children, of youths and maidens, whose lives are one long long song of human joy, and that song, its chorus swelling from every nation, is the grand future anthem of free and emancipated woman, of noble and regenerated man.—Herbert Burrows.

MOTTO FOR MINISTERS.

Open your mouth and shut your eyes,
We'll give you something that's mere surmise.

—Lire.

"We are spending more than $400-000,000 for militarism and the effects of militarism, and only $200,000,000 fo. the entire public school system. We shall get," said the speaker, "just what we are preparing for. It is useless for certain men to cry 'peace, peace,' as long as we are voting tremendous sums for the support of a standing army."—Victor Berger in House at Washington.

B. C. PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

Continued from page one

actly why they were there,—just to walk up and vote in support of the government and nothing else, was the function of that great majority. Twenty of the Conservatives majority had not contributed one lone idea to legislation in the last three years. That was a crime to the best interests of the people who sent them there. (The Speaker here called him to order. He must not speak disrespectfully of members of the House). When those 20 members withdrew after the session they would leave no trace behind them but their signature in the financial department. (The Speaker again objected). The member for Newcastle then took up the understanding between Brewster and himself as to the moving of resolutions. The former had appealed to the Premier to suspend the rules for his benefit and had been refused.

He (the Speaker) thought the best way was to give Brewster all the rope he needed, on the principle that he would be hung when he had finished, and so he had agreed to second anything he needed. If the Premier had consented to suspend the rules in that particular he would not have been under the necessity of doing so, and because he did so he brought the Premier down on his head. The Premier's manner sometimes gave the impression that he desired to throttle all discussion or investigation, and on the first occasion that offered had endeavored to place him (the speaker) in as false a position as possible, as if he stood for Brewster's fake ideas. In the nature of things it was necessary that what the Premier said would reach farther than what he (the speaker) said, and the report was passed on that the member for Newcastle was endorsing Brewster's views and changing his own. When he (McBride) did that his action was altogether too small for the important position he occupied. He (McBride) had endeavored to read him out of the Socialist Party, but that party was not in the keeping of any one man, and there were not enough men in B. C. to read him out of it. When the Attorney General answered criticism he went straight for it and then dodged round it as gracefully as a lady in a ball room, but the Premier used different methods. He built up a position of his own as being that occupied by his opponent and then proceeded to demolish it. That was the process used in endeavoring to read him (the speaker) out of the Socialist party for having supported Laurier. It was needless to say that there was no justification for that statement by the Premier.

The man who shifted his neighbors landmarks had many things called down on his head in the "good old Book."

As long as anything in line with common action with Brewster was concerned he would take it as long as he did not compromise himself with the Socialist party.

The new Forest Act was in committee again at the evening session on Monday, Feb. 19.

Parker Williams endeavored to amend the Act in the following clauses:

Clause 126. To amend by striking out the words "other than a fire set under permit under the provisions of this Act." Under the clause at it stood if a fire occurred on leech land, which had been started with a permit, the owner was solely responsible for controlling it, but, if by design or accident it started without a permit the government would, if certain conditions were complied with, pay half the cost of subducing it. His amendment would place the person with a permit on the same good footing as the man who had none.

Ross refused to accept the amendment.

Williams pointed out that every inducement was offered to start fires without a permit, and his amendment would make it more profitable to burn with a permit but Ross refused to listen and the amendment was lost.

To amend Sec. 130, by restricting the power of officials to arrest without warrant" any person 'found" violating the act, by inserting the words "persisting in" after the word "found."

Ross refused this also and it met the same fate.

To amend the same clause by including "farmers engaged in harvesting operations" among those liable to be pressed into service to fight bush fires. The same amendment had been introduced by Williams the previous week, and Ross had requested him to reintroduce it in altered form, as "harvesting operations" was too vague. Williams said on this occasion that he had been unable to improve it. A rancher might be crippled by being taken away from getting in his crops to protect the property of a timber baron five miles away. As far as he could see it would have to be left in the hands of the fire-warden as to what constituted "harvesting operations."

Ross said that his heart went out to the farmer in that position, but although he had tried himself he had been unable to draft an amendment to suit the case. He hoped that the administration of the Act would fall into the hands of men of wise discretion.

Williams said that he was not too confident that in the majority of instances the agents would be any wiser than anybody in the House, but if the Minister would give the assurance that the fire-wardens appointed would be men of ordinary good judgment he was willing to let it go at that. The amendment was defeated.

Section 130, line 11—To amend the section by striking out all the words after the word "fire" in the eleventh line, and insert in lieu thereof the following words: "and the compensation for such compulsory assistance shall be not less than fifty per centum higher than the sum determined upon by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council as remuneration for voluntary service in the same capacity."

This amendment refers to those who are to be compelled to give their assistance in bush fire fighting and not to the regular staff.

Ross refused to accept it, saying that it must have been introduced with an eye to the coming election, and for newspaper reports.

Williams retorted that he was never more serious, notwithstanding the fact that he was trying to make the Act less distasteful to the average man, he was getting very little success.

Ross raised the point that the amendment entailed an expenditure of revenue, and was therefor out of order.

Williams said it was not a private member had no right to introduce a Bill entailing an expenditure of public money, but when such a Bill was introduced by the government a private member had power to amend it.

Ross stuck to his point and appealed to the Chairman. Williams said that if the President of the Council (McPhillips) would give his opinion in favor of Ross' contention, he would withdraw the amendment. McPhillips said that he was not prepared to say that it was out of order. He rather thought that it was in order. The chairman of committee (Thatford) then ruled the amendment in order and Ross appealed to the Speaker, who was called in and gave his decision in favor of the Minister.

Williams then moved to insert the following as a new section.

"131. Any farmer or settler clearing land adjoining or contiguous to land held as 'wild land' or as 'coal land' under the 'Assessment Act,' or as timber lease or licenses, shall, upon satisfying the Government Agent, Fire Warden, or other competent authority, that his operation would be facilitated thereby, obtain an order directing the owner or lessee of any such above-described contiguous lands to assist the said settler controlling any fires when set out, or, in lieu of this, to clear a satisfactory fire-guard around or partly around such 'wild land,' 'coal land,' timber license, or leasehold: Provided that the costs of any work ordered by this section may be apportioned by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council."

Ross raised the same point of order against this amendment. Williams offered to cut out the last two lines to meet the objection. Ross replied that the Act as it stood provided for certain classes of burning. The amendment would add another and increase the import entailed.

Williams said that the Bill ignored the necessity of using fire for land clearing and this would be the only section dealing with farmers clearing land. When a settler went into the bush he was hampered in every direction. He could not expect to get a permit to start a fire if the adjoining wild land was not being cleared, and if the owner of the wild land sold out to one who would clear it, the latter's operations would be aided by the former's, and he should bear some portion of the cost of the operations of the settler.

Ross refused to accept it, and the amendment was lost.

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