WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE

The WESTERN CLARION

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING CLASS ALONE

ROCKFORT & DANIELL

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Legislative Library

SOCIALISM THE HOPE OF THE WORLD

In your moments of relaxation, in those few hours when you are at liberty to ponder and think, have you never wondered why or how it is that the conditions under which you live are in the main irksome and irritating. Has it not often occurred to you that, work as you will, you cannot make enough to live as you know you should. That your wife is not as well dressed as you would have her. That your children are not getting the education and culture you know is their birthright. That your home (the place so dear to your heart) is yet lacking in many essentials which go to creating that proper environment, without which life is hardly tolerable. Are there not many, many articles of comfort and elegance you have often wished for, and wished for in vain, knowing that the limitations of your income absolutely forbid the purchasing of them. How many books, pictures, furnishings and the thousand and one articles which go to make up "the house beautiful" have you coveted, knowing them to be beyond your wildest dreams?

This is hard, no doubt about it, but there are those to whom the purchase of the next meal or how to collect the price of a night's lodging are problems as hard to solve as the furnishing of your home is to you. Open your daily paper, and you will find that the same irritating conditions prevail elsewhere, that there is abroad a feeling of unrest and dissatisfaction which in many places is causing serious riot and disturbance. It is pointed out to you that the bread lines in our great cities continue to lengthen, that the ranks of the unemployed are swollen to amazing proportions; that the tenement and slum quarters are overcrowded to suffocation, and rotten with filth and disease. You read that the dens of prostitution and vice, the dives and gambling hells are multiplying with terrible rapidity; that the food stuffs you are forced to buy are adulterated with vicious dopes and unwholesome embalming fluids, and that they are put up under conditions absolutely revolting. You are given to understand that public men are daily prostituting their powers and offices to the services of one or other of the huge corporations which control the state. You know that the government departments and finances are battened upon by a horde of insatiable and voracious parasites whose sole aim is to get rich quick, even if they wreck the country in the process. You are told that the mills and factories are closed down because there is a glut of coal, iron, of steel, of flour, and of textile goods. That the warehouses and wharves are overflowing with manufactured wealth which cannot be sold owing to the lack of foreign markets, yet, in your streets and upon your homesteads men and women starve and die for lack of a little of this overplus. You hear from every pulpit in christendom priests and ministers expounding the doctrine of the "Prince of Peace," yet the nations are engaged in a mad race to outvie each other in the building of battleships and the equipping of mighty armies. Your periodicals and magazines are forever publishing articles whose authors stand aghast at the amazing poverty of the workers, or weep with rage at the licentious revels of the ultra rich.

These utterly diabolical conditions you know really exist despite the futile vaporings of pre-election orators, and you know that they grow steadily worse instead of better. What have you as a citizen done to alter these evil conditions?

You have no doubt voted ever since you could use the franchise for one or other of the historic parties, Liberal or Conservative, Republican or Democrat, or it may be you have given your vote to some reform movement, some people's party, or farmers' political league, and still, as I have said before, economic conditions grow steadily worse. The conclusion is then justifiable that the old parties either cannot or will not move to ameliorate existing evils.

Since this is so, since you cannot refute this plain statement, is it not time you looked around for some saner, safer system of government than the one we at present suffer under? If this present horrible hurly-burly, this murderous, rapacious exploitation of the worker by the non-worker is the fruit of generations of Liberal, Conservative or Democratic rule, is it not time you sought out some method of abolishing them? For this is an undeniable fact, that it is the determination of the non-worker to exploit the labor of the worker which is responsible for all the misery under which mankind staggers today. It matters not if the parasite be rich or poor, if he does not create any wealth he must, in order to keep alive, live upon the labor of a fellow man. The factory lords, the oil barons, and the captains of industry are the exploiters par excellence. The wealth they have already filched enabling them to grind the worker to produce his utmost in their interests. The tramp, the hobo, the convict, the hold-up man or woman, the sneakthief must be kept and are kept out of the toil of the working mass.

Politicians have in the past and will in the future tinker with reform; we have inebriate homes, reformatories, workhouses, church missions, and higher in the scale, railway commissions, interstate commerce commissions, government wheat graders, inspectors of this and inspectors of that, anti-trust laws, temperance laws, and so on, but still conditions are getting worse, laws are evaded, inspectors bribed, commissions defied, all in the interest of that modern juggernaut whose name is profit. These reform laws must fail in that they are unscientific in conception, clumsy in operation and must be administered by venial officials. They are efforts to patch up the effect of capitalist exploitation while failing altogether to reach the cause.

The foregoing is a gloomy picture, but worse is to follow if capitalism be not arrested in its murderous march. The world is face to face with a terrible crisis, which, if not rightly dealt with, must inevitably precipitate a dire calamity, a calamity so vast and appalling, so far-reaching in its effect as to plunge mankind into barbaric conditions once more.

Believe me, this is no exaggeration, no perverted dream of a disordered mind; the times are full of signs and portents. The storm clouds are banking low and dark upon the horizon, the air is charged with electric fluid and the question of the hour is, how soon will this terrible cyclone burst upon us? How soon will mankind, the worker on the one side and the hired assassin of capitalism on the other, be locked together in a death struggle? How soon will revolution, bloody and terrible, break in upon us?

There is, however, one gleam of light in the stygean darkness, one beam of hope to which thinkers and workers look for salvation, and that is the adoption and application of common sense economics, in a word the system evolved by the great Karl Marx and preached throughout the world by the International Socialist Party. A system of economics whose sole aim is the total elimination of the practices of usury, of rent, of interest, and of profit; whose desire is to give to the worker all the wealth he shall produce or the equivalent thereof, and whose ultimate aim is the establishment of a co-operative commonwealth where every man shall toil, not that he may in time be able to live upon a fellow man, but that he may be of the greatest use to the community at large.

Will you not then spend a little of your time in enquiring into the way and means by which such a happy condition may be realized? Study the Socialist literature (you can obtain it in your own town for the asking), and I am sure if you are amenable to reason and logic you cannot fail to admit the justice of its assertions; you will be confounded by the knowledge of economic conditions possessed by its teachers, and your heart will be touched by the profound sympathy and benevolence of its professors. In conclusion, let me say that if you will but join us, if you will add the weight of your brains and prestige to the movement, you will have done your duty as a citizen to avert disaster and advance civilization. You will have done your all to provide a better state of society for your children and their children, and what more can you do? To slightly alter St. Paul, "Greater love hath no man than this, that he give the best he has for his fellow man."

ALFRED BUDDEN.

Battleford, Sask.

ILLEGAL ADVICE.

The man who desires to better his condition deserves better things, but the man who is contented deserves all he's going to get.

* * *

If you have not discovered it yet, you have it to find out, that the class war is no mere phrase but the sternest thing you've ever had to face.

* * *

The capitalist class in England has no doubt felt more securely settled in the saddle, for did not Socialism die a horrible death when the senate of Oxford 'Varsity fired Professor Hird of Ruskin College for refusing to teach temperance instead of political economy (Socialism)?

* * *

Whatever is necessary for our well-being is right, and vice versa.

* * *

It is not intelligence that many men lack; it is principle, especially when they have pinned their allegiance to some hoary old institution. The last thing in the world they want is the truth.

* * *

There is no necessity for you to work so hard, you chump shrdlunup such a thing as labor-saving machinery invented; all you've got to do is to use your vote so that you and your class shall possess the same.

* * *

As long as you think as your bosses want you to, you'll think how dignified is work! What a blessing is hard work!! How sweet is a crust of bread to the honest son o' toil!!!

* * *

Don't be a mule any longer. Do your own thinking, and study your enemy and see where you can hit him a kick.

* * *

Wage-labor offers the working class nothing but an ever-increasing measure of misery and degradation.

* * *

The productivity of machinery is ever increasing, labor-displacing devices are ever being introduced, the "ancient" as well as "modern" nations are now using all the means science and invention can give to them for wealth production, but—the world gets no bigger and jobs are ever getting fewer. Think it over, sleep on it. Then think it over again.

* * *

Get wise to it, and then put your neighbors wise, so as to shorten as much as possible the period of your toil and poverty.

* * *

You have sinned, sinned grievously, against yourself, against your own folk, old and young, and against your fellow workers by voting L. or C. at every election.

* * *

Your only hope of absolution now is to get into this fight body and sleeves and scrap like three men.

Mac will furnish you with a sub. book upon application.

* * *

After a year's earnest study of the Western Clarion, the comrades in your Local may pronounce you fit to stand in public and hold forth from a soapbox, and thus you will atone for your past, and have the satisfaction of knowing you are following in the footsteps of much better men.

THE FO'C'S'LE BARRISTER.

HIS HOLINESS AND THE LADIES

Thoughtful students of the politics of the day will have observed that His Holiness the Pope has made two significant pronouncements. The first about three months back bade all Catholics to leave the Socialist movement. The second, quite recently, has anathemized the woman's suffrage movement. These pronouncements, of course, are perfectly in harmony with the policy of the churches, and in regard to the second item the following few facts may be of use to Clarion readers.

In the very earliest days of Christianity the question as to whether woman was human or merely animal was one that taxed the wits of argumentative theologians to their utmost limit. We find, in the fourth century, a council of the church gravely debating the question, "Ought women to be called human beings." Although the council eventually decided that they were entitled to that privilege, we find in the next century that they were, in all Christian lands, placed in the markets as articles for sale. This deplorable condition of affairs lasted until the tenth century. In that century Christian women gained a great privilege, viz., the right to sit at the same meal table as their husbands.

But the church, not satisfied with thus humiliating our mothers' sex, acquiescing in the general structure of feudalism, blessed, aided and abetted and indulged in the financial benefits of the horrible law of Marchetta, Droit de Seigneur, or Droit de Jambage. The writer has no hesitation in exposing lightly the details of this horrible and particularly Christian law.

The law of Marchetta, which was in vogue throughout Christian feudalism from 500 A.D. to 1550 A.D., provided that the feudal lord had the right to make any woman on his estate his mistress for three days immediately following her marriage. This was the limit of ecclesiastical bestiality and was the cause of many uprisings during the years of its enforcement.

The law of Borough English by which the youngest son became heir to property took its inception from the results of Marchetta, which naturally threw doubt upon the parentage of the first born.

The clergy used Marchetta as a means of extracting money from the newly married man, as they, owning this right, generously agreed to sell it to the husband for a sum.

To Canadians it must be intensely interesting to know that the edicts of Marly transferred the law of Marchetta to Canada, when the French were in complete possession of that land.

Woman has then escaped from this degraded position, and as she climbed each step of that long ladder the church has attempted to fling her back. This last pronouncement of the Pope is in perfect harmony with the historical policy of the churches and will spur on all true revolutionaries to more ardent fight for the economic enfranchisement of man, woman and child, regardless of color or caste.

F. M. T.

WHOM THE CAP FITS.

"A party having any regard for its principles should surely look to it that able men—those, therefore, most powerful for leading—should be straight, even more than the ordinary rank and file—and hence, if they go wrong, should be the more inexorably expelled. A party that is worth its salt can always afford to lose a man or two without collapsing, but it cannot always afford to have a powerful leader inside incessantly pulling the wrong way. Here, again, we ask, is the object of the party to hold together for the sake off office, emoluments, or party tranquility, or for the sake of its avowed aims?"—"Factitious Unity," E. B. Bax.

WHAT CAPITALISM HAS DONE FOR THE WORKER

Speaking in Finsbury Park a few Sundays ago, a member of the Anti-Socialist Union boldly asserted that the position of the worker today was far better than it has been during the last 500 years. The worker was in a better social position and got a larger share of the wealth produced.

When asked to substantiate his statements by giving his authorities, he, of course, failed to do so. As a matter of fact the contention that the working class are better off under modern capitalism than they have been during the past five centuries is disproved by history.

What was the position of the laboring population during the middle ages? In the twelfth century the manorial system prevailed throughout England. The manors, of which there were altogether over 9,000, were composed of several hundred acres of land. One part was held by the lord, a part was divided amongst the other inhabitants, while large tracts were held as common land. The villeins, who formed about 38 per cent. of the population, each held some 30 acres of arable land and a house in the village. Next came the cottars or borders, who formed 30 per cent. of the population, each holding from 5 to 10 acres and a cottage. Below these came the slaves, who formed only 9 per cent. of the population and disappeared entirely after the twelfth century to become cottars. In return for the cottage and land the cottars and villeins rendered so many days' service to the lord, but were left with plenty of time to use at their own discretion. De Gibbins says, in his "Industrial History of England," "It was from this cottar class with plenty of time to spare that a distinct wage-earning class like our modern laborers arose who lived almost entirely by wages." After a time the labor rent was found expensive and was finally commuted for a money payment. Professor Thorold Rogers tells us that a landless man at this time was considered "an outlaw, a thief, one registered in no manor."

After the "Black Death"—the great plague of 1348 which swept away a large portion of the laboring population—there was an attempt by the lords to commute the money rent for the old labor rent, owing to the rise in wages. But this attempt failed and culminated in the Peasants' Revolt. In consequence of the scarcity of laborers after the plague, wages began to rise. This brought into existence the Statute of Laborers, which sought to prohibit the laborer from receiving and the employer from paying, higher wages than had been paid prior to the plague. Both employer and employed were punished for infringing the law. But in spite of this Act, wages rose 50, and even over 100 per cent., while the cost of the necessaries of life remained almost stationary, or even fell, until at the end of the fifteenth century an agricultural laborer could provision his family for a whole twelvemonth with fifteen weeks' work, and an artizan with ten weeks.

Prior to the plague the landowner was also a capitalistic farmer, but owing to the rise in wages and the fall in profits, he gave up farming and let the land to the tenants to till. This gave rise to a large number of peasant farmers or yeomen, but these disappeared during the eighteenth century, giving way to the more economical methods of farming on a large scale and the great enclosures made by the landowners.

During the fifteenth century England had a monopoly of the wool trade, and was therefore able to command a very high price for this product. The landowners, being unable to profitably cultivate the soil, now took to sheep-farming. Large tracts of land were enclosed for this purpose. Hundreds of families whose forefathers had lived upon the land, and whose inherent right to the land had never been challenged, were now turned off. And, as Marx says, "these men, suddenly dragged from their wonted mode of life, could not as suddenly adapt themselves to the discipline of their new conditions. They were turned en masse into beggars, robbers, vagabonds, partly from inclination, in most cases from stress of circumstances." Acts of Parliament were then passed compelling the people to find employment at wages determined by law. An Act of Henry VIII., 1530, says, "Beggars old and unable to work receive a beggar's license. On the other hand, whipping and imprisonment for sturdy vagabonds. . . . For the second arrest for vagabondage the whipping is to be repeated with half an ear sliced off; but for the third relapse the offender is to be executed as a hardened criminal and a danger to the common weal." As many as 7,000 were hanged for this offence during the reign of Henry VIII., and about 600 during the reign of Elizabeth.

Although wages had risen considerably until the end of the fifteenth century, in spite of the Statute of Laborers, they began to fall again at the beginning of the sixteenth century. This was due chiefly to the depreciation in the value of the currency and the consequent rise in prices. The law relating to wages was still in force and the justices in Quarter Session never failed to use it in the interest of their class. The cost of living now rose enormously, while wages followed at a snail-like pace, and then never in proportion to the rise in the cost of the necessaries of life. By the eighteenth century wages had fallen so low that it was deemed necessary to supplement them from the Poor Law fund, and this dole from the parish often exceeded the amount paid in wages.

Speaking of the condition of the laboring population during the middle ages, i.e., up to the end of the fifteenth century, Professor Thorold Rogers says, "they ate wheaten bread, drank barley beer, and had plenty of cheap though perhaps coarse meat. Mutton and beef at a farthing a pound,—take what multiple you please for the increase in prices, and twelve is a liberal one—were within the reach of far more people than they now are. The grinding, hopeless poverty under which existence may be just continued, but when nothing is won beyond bare existence, did not, I am convinced, characterize or even belong to medieval life."

But a change had taken place in the condition of the workers by the end of the eighteenth century.

With the increase in the means of production came the increase in the poverty and misery of the mass of the people. The invention of the spinning jenny by Hargreaves, of the water frame by Arkwright, the mule by Compton, the power loom by Cartwright, and the steam engine by Watts increased the productive power of labor to an extent previously undreamed of. And see the "reward of genius" that fell to the lot of Compton: he died in 1827—in poverty! But these inventions enabled the capitalists to heap up untold wealth by forcing the hand loom weavers—who were now reduced to a terrible state of poverty—into the mills in competition with their own children. De Gibbins says, "It was not until the wages of the workman had been reduced to a starvation level that they consented to their children and their wives being employed in the mills. But the manufacturers wanted labor by some means or other, and they got it. They got it from the workhouses. They sent for parish apprentices from all parts of England, and pretended to apprentice them to the new employments just introduced. The mill-owners systematically communicated with the overseers of the poor, who arranged a day for inspection of pauper children chosen by the manufacturers then conveyed in wagons

(Continued on P.

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OUR HIGH ETHICAL IDEALS.

"There is a point, however, where party members should properly interest themselves in a comrade's occupation. If a man is a proletarian and a scab, he must be denied admission to the Socialist Party should he apply for it, and if already a member thereof he must be expelled. Likewise, our party cannot admit to membership a rack-renting landlord, and should any capitalist member of our Party make war on union labor we would be in duty bound to compass his expulsion.

We are living in the midst of capitalism. We Socialists cannot be perfect. But we should have higher ethical ideals, and higher social standards, than our non-Socialist fellow-citizens."

The above gem, whose advent into our sanctum made that dank and dismal rat-hole ring with the silvery laughter of the "Old Man" and all the staff, was found in no less a document than the official bulletin of the U. S. Socialist Party, and is from the facile typewriter of Ben Hanford. Otherwise it might be food for laughter alone and not for reflection.

This recalls to our mind an incident which is, no doubt, already recorded in the annals of the history of the class struggle in the industrial field. That is, the occasion upon which we, together with a number of other obstinate mules, balked at the mouth of the mine and refused to proceed any further upon our way of toil until an offending mule, who refused to be branded with our union label, should be unhitched and turned out to seek fresh fields and pastures new. Our just demand having been acceded to by our mule-skinner, one of the adroitest that ever plied the lash, we proceeded rejoicing on our way to coin ourperfectly superflous energy into surplus value in the bowels of one of the worst death traps in the country.

Our own yoke-fellow at this time was a particularly uncultured and stupid-appearing mule of the Finnish variety whose knowledge of English had, till then, been chiefly manifested by the infrequent utterance of only the simplest cuss-words necessary to our occupation. That day, however, while we were reclining at ease on some lumps of soft coal in a snug, damp cross-cut, munching the appetizing fodder contained in our nose-bags, while waiting for the smoke of our shots to thin out sufficiently so that we could resume our labors without actual asphyxiation, our fellow-mule, like Balaam's Ass, spoke up and delivered us a lecture, the sum and substance of which was: "Don't soak the scab, educate him. He's my brother. I know it. He don't. I teach him to know. Then we both fight the bosses. When workers learn this, they come together and we have no more bosses, no more unions, no more scabs."

This Finn, of course, had not such high ethical ideals as Comrade Hanford, but they look a bit better to us. A man who is worth his salt will not scab unless he has to, but lots of them have to, and are even then more worthy of admission to the Socialist Party than those political heelers who at election time deliberately sell their class for something less than thirty pieces of silver, and not a few of them are stanch members of Comrade Hanford's own union, the typos. At any rate, an industrial scab is no worse than a political scab, and most of us have been that at one time or another.

Further, we must not admit to membership a "rack-renting landlord." For the benefit of those whose ethical sense is not keen enough to enable them to recognize a rack-renting landlord by the cut of his poop, would Comrade Hanford kindly explain at what point in its giddy upward career renting becomes rack-renting?

We were always under the impression that it was one of the rules of the game for landlords to get as much rent as possible, just as it is for typos to get as much wages as possible, and it would also seem logical that a landlord who would be guilty of undercutting his fellows in rents would be barred out of Hanford's Socialist Party under the head of "scab."

Of course it is no very high "ethical ideal" that inspires Comrade Hanford's opposition to the scab being a member of the Socialist Party, but rather the somewhat venial motive of making a bid for trade union support, a practice against which the Socialist Party of Canada has wisely set its face, and, we hope, will continue to do so. Not that we are inspired with ethical ideals so high that we would not stoop to this form of political trickery, but merely because it "doesn't pay." Support for the Socialist Party is not to be won in that manner, for the device is too transparent altogether, and when we thus adopt the same tactics as the other political parties, the worker is certainly to be excused for viewing us with suspicion and branding us political pot hunters.

The proof of which pudding is in the eating. Whereas the Socialists of the "British Columbia school" have in the past been frequently censured by their "friends" for their "hostility to trade unions," and those of the New York and Chicago schools have for years been "conciliating the trade unions," yet we have the endorsation of the unions in British Columbia and Alberta while they have not got it in their stamping grounds. Which would go to show that our "hostility" has not scared the timid trade unions very bad and that their conciliation has failed to snare them.

After all, there is but one policy fit, or even expedient, for a Socialist Party worthy of the name, and that is to tell the truth if it cracks the sky. Let us continue doing it.

THE GOLDEN DELUGE.

Lord Rothschild, who is largely interested in the Rand mines and so ought to know, has been telling the French bankers that these mines will in five years be yielding $250,000,000 annually in market values of gold.

The Rand mines, thanks to the Rothschild-Boer war, the outcome of which threw down the barriers to cheaper labor and more efficient production, are run at a profit of 43½ cents on the dollar. Under the spurring impetus of such a profit there is every reason to believe that no effort will be spared to increase the annual yield to the limit.

This enormous increase of gold production in recent years, world-wide as it is, is one of the most remarkable phenomena of our times. All its significance, however, does not seem to have been appreciated. It is just this increase in gold production that has been responsible for the so-called rising prices of the last few years. So vast has been the increase in the production of gold that it has more than offset even the "labor-saving" of modern machinery in the production of other commodities, and consequently they have appeared to rise in value in comparison with gold. Even after the panic of 1907 they did not fall appreciably, owing to the fact that, under monopolistic production, the price of most of them closely approximated their exchange values, which is, after all, in the main the most profitable price to the capitalist class.

Previous to 1907 wages also "rose," but their rise was, on the average, 10 per cent., or more, less than the rise in other prices. So that the worker was actually worse off in the matter of the things the wages would buy. Since 1907, the increase in unemployment has been taken advantage of by the employers to cut wages heavily, notably in the cotton and steel industries.

The prices of most commodities, other than labor-power, are now again "picking up," and as, under the incentive of the vast profits to be reaped therefrom, the promised increase in the production of gold is bound to materialize, we may expect to see prices go soaring.

Wages have followed upward very slowly in the past, and in the future they will follow more slowly still; for unemployment has now become practically a world-wide phenomenon. There is not a land under the domain of capitalism in which the voice of the unemployed is not now heard. The unsettled and undeveloped regions have been developed practically to the limit of profitableness, and this vent through which a superabundance of unemployed could be ejected has become to a great extent clogged up. So that the worker's sole means of subsistence, his commodity labor-power, will inevitably become more and more a drug upon the market.

The outlook for the worker is, therefore, exceedingly black, but the eventual outlook for the capitalists is even more unpromising. Time after time society has been shaken to its foundations by industrial crises due to an overproduction of commodities. But the impending crisis promises to shatter their edifice completely. The great god Profit is driving his votaries to their doom, to be overwhelmed in a deluge of gold, a flood from which there will be no escape but in the Ark of the Commonwealth.

CATHOLICISM, SOCIAL REFORM AND SOCIALISM.

For the official view taken of Socialism by the Roman Catholic hierarchy, we are indebted to the "Literary Digest," which has published extracts from the Catholic papers on this question, from which we glean the following, which hardly need comment and should be of interest to those who believe that social reform is a "step in the right direction" and those who think we have something to gain by conciliating the church.

The "Catholic Fortnightly Review" laments the growth of Socialism among Catholics and asks: "What are we doing to counteract? PUSHING THE NEEDED SOCIAL REFORMS?"

The following from the "Catholic Sun" is also significant:

"We have no objection to the archbishop preferring Mr. Taft, of course. It is natural he should, being a Republican, but we fear his incessant defending of 'property' and 'vested rights' and all that sort of thing, which Mr. Bryan certainly is not attacking, is just a trifle unnecessary at this juncture. The archbishop himself has admitted that the approaching peril is Socialism, and this being true he is unconsciously making the path of the church in this country a very hard one by perpetually standing up as an advocate of property rights in an hour which finds more than one hundred Socialist dailies and weeklies declaring that the Catholic church is the deliberate friend of capital and capitalists and the foe of labor and common humanity. The Saturday utterances of the archbishop, if correctly quoted, are scarcely of a character to inspire American toilers with a pronounced love for the church. His words would actually seem to prove the Socialists' assertion.".. ....

Roosevelt is reported to have killed three lions already and his son Kermit one. Deponent sayeth not as to whether this occurred in Africa or, like his famous San Juan Hill charge, in the Press.

Sad to relate there is a lamentable dearth of news this week. No Socialists have been reported to have committed murder, suicide, rape, arson or even theft. No divorces among our prominent members. None of them have broke the bank at Monte Carlo. None of them have even had an automobile tire busted on them. Not one of our debutantes has been presented at Court recently, as the Royal Family is at Cannes, or somewhere, resting. We hope they will do better next week.

AS TO CHRISTIANITY.

Dear Comrade Editor:

I have just read with interest the letter from Com. French, and I am moved to take up the cudgels on behalf of the erring comrades who are so wofully lacking in tact, as to tread on the pet corns of some of our religious friends.

For my part, I fail to see any reason for the Clarion or any of our atheist comrades being so careful of these pet prejudices of the more backward Socialists. I say backward, as it is my personal opinion that the man who has lost religion in its entirety is the more advanced and revolutionary Socialist.

These comrades who protest so vigorously, when they are touched at all, never seem to think that there is another side to this question. For instance, when a Socialist gets on his feet, and propounds Socialism as God's kingdom come on earth, or the practical application of Christ's teachings, etc., when he knows nothing of either, he generally considers that his subject is sacred, and infidels who may be far more scientific are warned to keep hands off or it would hurt the movement if the outsiders saw any strife.

For surpassing gall a recent utterance of Rev. R. J. Campbell, is worthy of notice. He sand, "He and his fellow Christians were not going out of the party, it was the materialists who who would have to go out." Is not that like the command of his Master "to love your enemies and do good to those that hate you"?

Then, again, the organ of the Christian Socialists often attacks the atheists in the movement, all of which goes to show the tolerance of these Christian comrades.

They never stop and think that we infidels have as much right to our opinion and as much right to air them on platform or in press, as these other comrades have.

Coming nearer home, I find in Comrades French's letter, that he thinks the publication of such articles as "Balaam and His Ass" is a mistake. Why? Can't a moral be drawn from any fable, whether in the Bible or any other book of riddles?

Further on he says: "If the Bible is a farce, why quote it at all," etc. Then later: "It would be better to show these people from the Bible, that what we are striving for, was the theme of the prophets, etc., and break down their prejudice that way." Yes, conceal the fact that you don't believe in the truth of the stories till after you have undermined the faith of your victim.

Here is a man who wants to see God's kingdom on earth, advocating dissimulation and deceit in order to bring it about, for he asks the infideis to keep dark their real belief and undermine the faith of the orthodox as above. Also, I have found that when you start to quote from the Bible evidence in support of Socialism, plenty of evidence is forthcoming from the same contradictory source to refute that put forward by the would-be teacher.

Anyway, I agree it is a subject best left alone when propounding Socialism, as it tends to obscure the only issue before us to-day. But I cannot allow a letter like Comrade French's to go by without a protest at the selfish way in which many religiously inclined men approach this matter.

Hoping to be allowed the privilege of these lines appearing in print, I am,

Yours in revolt,

F. S. F.

PROSPERITY FOR PATTEN.

Editor Clarion,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Comrade,—Enclosed please find $1.00 for sub. to Clarion.

As high prices is an infallible sign of good times, we should all now rejoice and be exceeding glad. That much respected and indispensible acquisition to modern business methods, the stock dealer, though a considerable longitudinal distance from here, has nevertheless shed his benign influence upon us and put down our bread from 16 to 12 loaves for $1.00, and thus once more practically exemplified our splendid system of competition and profit, which "affords an opportunity for the best talent in the individual." Had it not been for this splendid chance, Broker Patten might have slipped through the world in ordinary blue denims, a common producer of useful things, unknown to fame and undistinguished from the thousands of similarly clad jays, just now demonstrating their "identity of interests" with his in handing to him, to make up his millions of profits, 25c with every dollar they invest in bread.

How many such illustrations will it take to convince the man who, for a certain number of hours' work, received 16 loaves, and who now for a similar number of hours' toil gets but 12 loaves, that it is he who is paying for Patten's deal (steal) at the point of production? Patten has not produced a single grain of wheat, but by simply withholding (in business called a "corner") the abundance on hand, collects from those who did produce it and all other useful commodities, a tribute because of their sheer necessity of obtaining the "staff of life." But Patten did not even institute this system (?), whereby he waxes fat from the lean of others, but is only playing the game placed at his disposal by the very class he collects from.

There are thousands of Pattens daily plying their trade in every town, city and side road, dealing in hats, clothing, boots, lumber, advice, sermons, real estate, etc., etc., and as long as the buyers of bread, boots, etc., are willing and contented to continue the system of profit (something for nothing), why should there not be as many Pattens as the aforesaid producers and buyers of bread, boots, etc., are willing to support? But to change our present methods, and supply bread, boots, etc., for use instead of for profits, would be REVOLUTION! Yet, listen:

Spring is here and nature is working a revolution, a change from the influences of the blasting frosts of frigid winter to the genial warmth of April's welcome sun, and instead of contention, jealousy and discord, there is singing, gladness and harmony among the birds, the branches and the flowers.

Man looks, longs and labors for a change from the blighting effects of man's wolfish competitive inhumanity to man, and lo! his fellow frowns upon him as an enemy to humankind, a despoiler of family affiliations, an agitator, a disturber of the peace, when there is no peace.

AGITATOR.

THE S. P. OF C. BUTTON.

The Dominion Executive is now in a position to supply party buttons to those requiring same. A specially designed button, with the party emblem on it, consisting of a red flag on a white field, with lettering in gold, has been provided. It is a very handsome one and will compare favorably with any fraternal emblem worn. The price is **fifty cents** each. Locals can obtain them at a special rate of **five for $2.00**, which will allow them to retail to their members at a figure which will serve to help their funds. Address orders to the Dominion secretary.

Socialist Directory

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

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

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

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Monday in Labor Hall, Eighth Ave. East, opposite postoffice. Secretary will be pleased to answer any communications regarding the movement in the province.
A. J. Browning, Sec., Box 270, Calgary, Alta.

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee. Meets first and third Mondays of every month, Jubilee Hall, corner of King and Alexander. The Secretary will be pleased to furnish any information and answer any correspondence relative to the movement. Secretary, H. W. James, 326 Hargrave St Winnipeg, Man.

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee. Meets in Finnish Hall, 214 Adelaide St., Toronto, on 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Organizer, W. Gribble 134 Hogarth Ave., Toronto;
P. C. Young, Secretary, 139½ Bleecker street, Toronto.

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

LOCAL VICTORIA, NO. 2, S. P. OF C. Headquarters and Reading Room, Room 1, Eagle Building, 1319 Government St. Business meeting every Tuesday evening, 8 p.m. Propoganda meetings every Sunday at Grand Theatre.
W. G. McCluskey, Secretary, Box 770.

LOCAL NANAIMO, NO. 3, S. P. of C., meets every alternate Sunday evening in Foresters Hall. Business meeting at 7:00 o'clock sharp. Propaganda meeting commences at 8:00 o'clock. Jack Place, Rec. Secy., Box 826.

LOCAL FERNIE, S. P. of C, HOLDS educational meetings in the Miners' Union Hall, Victoria Ave., Fernie, every Sunday evening at 7:45. Business meeting first Sunday in each month, same place at 2:30 p m. J. Lancaster, Sec., Box 164.

LOCAL GREENWOOD NO. 9, S. P. OF C., meets every Sunday in Miners' Union Hall at 7:30 p.m. Business meetings, 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. T. Y. McKay, Secretarp Pro Tem.

LOCAL VERNON, B. C., NO. 38, S. P. OF C., meets every Friday night at 7:30 in Timmins' Hall, cor. of Seventh and Tronson Sts. Business and propaganda combined. Geo. W. Paterson, Secretary, Vernon, B. C.

LOCAL LADYSMITH NO. 10, S. P. OF C. Business meetings every Saturday 7 p.m. in headquarters on First Ave. Parker Williams, Secy., Coburn Siding, B. C.

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

LOCAL PORT MOODY, B. C., NO. 41. S. P. of C.—Business meetings first Sunday in each month. J. V. Hull Secretary, Port Moody, B. C.

LOCAL REVELSTOKE, B. C., NO. 7, S. P. of C. Propaganda and business meetings at 8 p. m., the fourth Thursday of each month in lodge room over old post office, near opera house. Everybody welcome. B. F. Gayman, Secretary; W. W. Lefeaux, Organizer.

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

LOCAL PHOENIX, NO. 8, S. P. OF C., meets every Sunday at 8:30 p.m., in Miners' Hall. James Carson, Organizer; John Appleby, Secy.

LOCAL CALGARY, ALTA., NO. 4, S. P. of C. Meetings every Sunday at 8 p.m. in the Labor Hall, Barber Block, Eighth Ave. E. (near postoffice). Club and Reading Room, McTavish Block, 817 Second St. E. Opposite Imperial Hotel. M. Hyatt, Secy.; F. Hyatt, Organizer, Box 270, Calgary Alta.

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

LOCAL COLEMAN, ALTA., NO. 9. Meets every Sunday night in the Miners' Hall and Opera House at 8 p.m. Everybody welcome. Socialist speakers are invited to call. H. J. Smith, Secy.

LOCAL EDMONTON, ALTA., NO. 1, S. P. of C. Meets every Thursday at 8 p.m., in Trades and Labor Hall, Fourth St. Busness and propaganda meetings combined. J. R. Huntbach, Secy., 161 First St. S.; R. MacQuarrie, Organizer, 623 Second St.

LOCAL HILLCREST, ALTA., NO. 15, S. P. of C., meets every Sunday after Union meeting in Union Hall, Hillcrest Mines, Alta.; Alex. Whyte Literature Agt.; Carl Johnson, Secretary.

LOCAL WINNIPEG, S. P. OF C. HEADquarters Jubilee Hall, cor. King and Alexander. Business meeting every Sunday morning 11 a. m. Propaganda meeting Sunday evening 8 p.m. Everybody welcome. W. Cummings, Organizer.
Jas. W. Amer, Secretary, 748 Victor street.

LOCAL TORONTO, S. P. OF C.—ENGlish Branch. Propaganda meetings held every Sunday 3 p. m., Labor Temple Auditorium. Business meetings first and third Wednesdays of each month, Finnish Hall, 214 Adelaide St. W. Speakers' class meets alternate Mondays and Tuesdays at 134 Hogarth Ave. Economic classes meet every Friday night at 314 Wellesley St. and 619 Crawford St. Woman's Study Club every Monday night at 542 Gladstone Ave. Choir practices every second Thursday; enquiries to C. Bishop, 379 Church St. Speakers supplied on shortest notice to Ontario Locals. Corresponding Secretary, R. Stroud, 619 Crawford St.

LOCAL OTTAWA NO. 8, S. P. OF C., BUSINESS MEETING.—1st Sunday in month at 7:30 p.m. at Roberts-Allan Hall, 78 Ridean St. Propaganda meetings following Sundays at 3:15 p.m. Economic class, Monday night, 8 p.m. Historical class, Friday night, 8 p.m., at 379 Wellington St. Charles Lestor, Organizer.
E. S. Oldham, Cor. Secy., 1030 Bronson Ave.

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

LOCAL MONTREAL, QUE., NO. 1, S. P. of C.—Meets in Labor Hall, St. Dominique street, Sundays at 3 p. m. M. Wayman, Secretary, 175 Quesnel street.

Directory of Western Federation of Miners in British Columbia

Executive Board Member . . . . . Wm. Davidson, Sandon

DISTRICT ASSOCIATION NO. 6.

President . . . . . Jno. A. McKinnon, Rossland.
Vice-President . . . . . Thos. J. McKay, Greenwood
Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . A. Shilland, Sandon

No.	Name	Meeting Night	Pres.	Sec'y.	P.O. Box	Add.
125	Atlin	....	.....	C. Gairns	....	Discovery
194	Camborne	Wed	Wm. Winslow	James Tobin	12	Camborne
180	Grand Forks	Wed	Patrick O'Connor	F. L. Crosson	M	Grand Forks
22	Greenwood	Sat	Charles Birce	Geo. Heatherton	124	Greenwood
161	Hedley	Wed	C. Bennett	T. H. Rotherham	42	Hedley
69	Kaslo	Sat	Mike McAndrews	H. T. Rainbow	391	Kaslo
100	Kimberly	Sat	Joe Armstrong	A. E. Carter	O	Kimberly
119	Lardeau	Sat	Fred Mellette	Chas. Short	12	Ferguson
227	Marysville M. & S. U.	....	B. Lundin	J. Hays	....	Marysville
71	Moyie	Sat	Malcolm McNeill	James Roberts	35	Moyie
96	Nelson	Sat	Paul Phillips	F. Phillips	106	Nelson
8	Phoenix	Sat	R. Silverthorn	W. A. Pickard	294	Phoenix
38	Rossland	Wed	J. A. McKinnon	Geo. Casey	421	Rossland
81	Sandon	Sat	L. R. McInnis	A. Shilland	K	Sandon
95	Silverton	Sat	Robert Malroy	Fred Liebscher	85	Silverton
62	Slocan	Sat	Blair Carter	D. B. O'Neaill	90	Slocan City
113	Texada	Sat	G. B. McIntosh	T. T. Rutherford	888	Van Anda
105	Trail M & M	Mon	Wm. Hesketh	F. D. Hardy	377	Trail
85	Ymir	Wed	A. Burgess	W. B. McIsaac	506	Ymir

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Com. GRUNDY
of Portland

Cameraphone Theatre
58 HASTINGS ST. W. VANCOUVER, B. C.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

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

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES.

Locals may obtain supplies from their Provincial Executives at the following prices:

Charters, each	$5.00
Constitutions, each	.20
Dues stamps, each	.10
Membership cards, each	.01
Platform and application blanks, per 100	.25
Platform and application blanks, (Finnish) per 100	.50
Platform and application blanks (Ukrainian) per 100	.50
Constitution in Finnish, per doz.	.50
Receipt books, each	$0.25
Warrant books, each	.25

SECRETARIAL.

The Dominion and B. C. Provincial Executive meets Monday, May 10, 8 p. m.

* * *

The attention of Alberta Locals is called to Comrade Browning's protest against their present laxity. It might do the members of Locals in other provinces no great harm to read Comrade Brownings communication. The members should not forget that the time to win elections is between elections and not just before them. Short, hurrah campaigns may very well serve the purposes of the old parties, but the right time for Socialist campaign work is all the time. Buck up.

* *

Organizer O'Brien has at length, after his many recounts, of which the last reduced his majority by two votes, succeeded in reaching Saskatchewan. At last accounts he was hitting up all points within reach of North Battleford in spite of snow and wintry weather.

* * *

Organizer Harrington will shortly proceed to Okanagan and Similkameen where the comrades are fully alive to the necessity of having an organizer and are evidently preparing to use him without mercy.

* * *

Organizer Gribble has started for the Maritime Provinces, taking such Ontario points as lie in his way. The Maritime comrades are urged to give him all the assistance in their power.

* * *

Comrade Lestor is now headed West. British Columbia Locals are recommended to make a date for him. To catch him, drop a line to him care of A. J. Browning, Box 270, Calgary.

ALBERTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Meeting held April 27th.

Present—Lawson, Howell, Hyatt, [illegible]ulkner and Browning.

[illegible]ommunications dealt with from [illegible]her Creek, Macleod, Claresholm, [illegible]rmore, and Eckville re proposed [illegible]or tour.

[illegible]solved, that the convention as[illegible]sment be placed in the bank as a [illegible]vings account in the name of this [illegible]committee.

Receipts.

Blairmore	$ 2.00
Calgary	10.00
Eckville	10.00
	$22.60

Expenses.

Dominion Executive	$3.00

A. J. BROWNING,
Secretary.

Box 270, Calgary.

How do you like working as hard as you do, Mr. Farmer, and then having to swap dollars for fifty cents.

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Two for a dollar
SPECIALLY FINE FOR PROPAGANDA WORK.
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A FABIAN REPLIES.

Dear Sir,—

Your Toronto correspondent refers, in his characteristic style, to the recently found Fabian society. As there may be a few of your readers not sufficiently acquainted with the work of the English Fabian Society to adequately discount Mr. Lyon's allusion, I trust you will allow me to put forward a few words in reply.

Not being sure of his definition of an "economic organization," I will state that our special work is research, and the diffusion of the results of that research pointed with the Socialist moral. But a full statement of the aims and forms of work can be obtained from the secretary.

So far from being in any degree the "superior persons" suggested by Mr. Lyons, the great majority of us are as plebian as himself. Our society is open to anyone who accepts the Socialist ideal; the dues are optional, and from those who are unable to contribute, nothing will be expected.

If the Toronto English Local had but extended to us the courtesy of a friendly chat as to our proposed sphere of action, they would probably have saved themselves from the anomalous, if not somewhat ludicrous, position of precipitately excommunicating (presumably in the name of liberty) those of its members who lent their support to a Socialist organization whose work is valued, and gladly utilized, throughout the international movement.

The work of the Fabian Society is especially that of the Sappers, the Engineers, the Service Corps, of the Socialist army. In the sense that we do not constitute another political party we are not a directly political body. whether we are an economic organization I will have your Toronto correspondent. and your readers to determine.

Yours fraternally,
L. INCONNU.

BOUQUET FOR HARRINGTON.

Editor Clarion,—

Things are progressing nicely in this district from the viewpoint of the Socialist Party. We are holding business and propaganda meetings twice a month and are gradually adding to our membership.

About a week ago we had the good fortune to have Comrade Harrington with us. He spoke before the W. F. M. Local and on the following Tuesday addressed a public meeting in the Miners' Union hall. After listening to Comrade Harrington the Local comrades are pleased with the selection the party has made for provincial organizer. That Jack is familiar with the economic and historic facts which underlie the Socialist philosophy is evident to those who have had the pleasure of hearing him speak.

You will hear from us later, Comrade Editor, as we propose to push the Clarion circulation in this district.

Yours for the cause,
JOHN APPLEBY.

Phoenix, B. C.

WON'T LET 'EM SLEEP.

Editor Clarion,—

Now the Alberta elections are over, it seems that most of the Locals have gone out of business. A month ago I sent letters to the Locals toward arranging a tour for Comrade Lestor. Out of some twenty-odd Locals written to, there are only three who have responded to say they can accommodate him. Five have written to say they can't. The others have said nothing.

Right here I wan't to say the Alberta Executive can't do business this way. When the elections are on there is a plaint for speakers, but if a good speaker comes along when there is no election and the executive tries to arrange a tour for him, we get treated to a very chilly reception.

Now, comrades, what are you going to do about it? We are trying to do our share, but what are you doing? We don't do all this work because there is any fun in it, so come along and let us hear from you.

Don't forget the 25c convention assessment; this was due March 31st, so send it along.

A. J. BROWNING.

WHERE THE CARRION IS.

Iron Industry Invited

to locate in Lambertville, New Jersey, on the Delaware River. Railroad and water connections, Free land and sidings and sufficient financial inducement given right concern. Owing to peculiar conditions hundreds of the best mechanics and apprentices can be had at the start.

No Such Labor Proposition Ever Offered.

Lambertville Business League

LESTOR ON THE WAY.

Dear Comrades,—

Since leaving Toronto I have addressed meetings at Cobalt and Port Arthur. The Cobalt comrades are a fine bunch. Tonight we speak at West Fort William. I had the pleasure of meeting Comrade Desmond here at Port Arthur. I have often heard of him in England. He is every inch a man. On Monday I expect to be in Winnipeg.

The comrades would be elevated beyond measure had they had our experience. The movement is growing at an alarming rate. Everything points to a stampede into the Socialist camp in the near future. The situation demands that we should "hew to the line." No "palliation" must be more than ever our watchword. The capitalist class will palliate their own damnable system long enough. We ask for no half loaves. We are uniting to take the bakery.

Yours in revolt,
LESTOR.

NORTH BATTLEFORD LIKES O'BRIEN.

Editor Western Clarion:

Comrade O'Brien spoke here on April 26th to the largest political audience ever gathered in this town. Judging by the calls for literature his speech created a good impression and the people are demanding him back for a second meeting, Monday, May 3rd. No greater compliment can be payed an organizer.

He is away now fulfilling pre-arranged dates at schoolhouses within a radius of twenty miles. The good work he is doing so well will be followed up by further effort, and all speakers within reasonable distance should give North Battleford a date. Will Comrades Pettipiece, Lestor and wife, and others, please take notice.

Fraternally yours,
HORACE COLLINGWOOD,

RUSKIN COLLEGE STUDENTS STRIKE.

The precipitating circumstance of the strike was the announcement made to the assembled students on Friday last in hall by Mr. Dennis Hird, M.A., who has been principal of the college throughout the ten years of its existence, that his resignation had been demanded by the governing body.

The reason alleged for Mr. Hird's removal, the students declare, is failure to maintain discipline in college. But this, they add, is a ridiculous pretence. The real reason is the desire of the university element on the council to bring about the destruction by process of "Oxfordization," of the value of the college is a centre of the Labor movement. Oxford wants to use Ruskin College in order to capture for the middle classes the young lions of the Labor movement. The plan is to substitute for sociology and logic such bourgeois subjects as grammar and temperance. Mr. Hird stands in the way of that intention; therefore Mr. Hird is to be victimized.

RE "WHAT ABOUT IT?"

Dear Comrade Editor,—

I have heard a few complaints lately about there being too much news in the Clarion, namely, the reports of our comrades in the British Columbia legislature, and now there is a complaint from Comrade H. M. McDonald of Toronto of there not being enough news. Who this comrade is I don't know, unless he is one of that name who perfunctorily attended some economic classes we held here a few years ago. I do not know of any one of the name of McDonald who is a member of Toronto Local and I am quite sure there is no one of that name active in its work unless he has become so since I left Toronto three days ago. But it is ever thus, those who do little or nothing to help run the paper are the first to complain of its conduct.

If "Comrade" McDonald will help as I suggested last week to make the Clarion an eight-page paper, we will have room for both "economic essays" and news; what about it, comrade? As for "rising to protest," there is plenty of scope for the comrade to rise in protest against capitalism with the active members of Toronto Local. I would sooner see the Comrade anxious to make Socialist news in the city in which he lives, than displaying anyiety to get news from other lands while he is making none himself as an active party member.

If Comrade McDonald's "plenty of Socialist text-books," etc., doesn't stir him up to use the knowledge he has presumably acquired from their study, he and those like him want a paper like the Clarion to stir them up.

If anyone's "Socialism" consists of a mere curiosity for news of the movement, it is not worth while to study them. I feel I speak safely for the active members of my branch of Toronto Local when I say they want the Clarion continued on the lines it has been run in the past. For myself I say, at any rate, "Keep her just so."

Yours in revolt,
WILFRID GRIBBLE.

PREFERS THE GRIND.

D. G. McKenzie, Esq.,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Comrade,—

Will you allow a member of the S. P. of C., who has been banished from the "Empire on which the sun never sets" to the "land of the free," by the banking capitalists of New Brunswick, to give you his opinion on the publishing of the Clarion?

Having just read Comrade H. N. McDonald's short communication in your issue of April 17th, I wish to state that at least one of your readers likes the Clarion as it is, likes "the stuff that cuts no ice," and likes the "weekly grind of essays, on economics, etc."

This is the season of the year when workingmen cannot afford to get ice to cut, and if they wish to learn the reason why, they must go to a paper which teaches economics, and not one which merely informs us that the number of votes cast by a Socialist candidate in a certain ward, in a certain city, in a certain province, has increased from thirty-one to forty-two. We know now that Socialist sentiment is growing, most of us think we know why, but very few of us know the whole reason.

It is certainly pleasant to turn from the New York Call, or Milwaukee Social-Democratic Herald to a paper which gives us not only amusement and entertainment, but education, which is of much more importance to us all. As an educational force, the value of the Clarion cannot be estimated. It has built up and educated the most revolutionary body of class-conscious workingmen in the world, and it has not stopped the good work. "The weekly grind of economics" comes as a welcome relief to the frivolous matter in most of Socialist as well as capitalist newspapers and magazines. "The weekly grind of economics" furnishes a subject for one evening's study as the other newspapers furnish subjects for an evening's recreation.

Therefore I move as an amendment to Comrade McDonald's motion, that "the weekly grind of economics" be continued till its work is accomplished, and till the co-operative commonwealth is ushered in.

Yours in the revolution,
CLARENCE V. HOAR.

CLARION FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(April 1st to May 1st, 1909.)

Expenditures.

Printing (5 issues)	$226.00
Mailing	10.55
Office supplies	3.25
Binding and expressing annuals	32.45
Total expenditures	$272.25

Receipts.

Subs	$187.15
Cards	51.50
Total receipts	$238.65
Deficit	33.60
	$272.25

33 LIES

From the Outlook Article by Theodore Roosevelt Against Socialism.

These will be answered by Robert La Monte in the May International Socialist Review, in a way that will satisfy every man of common sense as well as every student.

"The Ornament of Big Nose" is the title given by Mary E. Marcy to the second of her stories of the cave people. These stories are admirably adapted to show young people the necessary connection between the mode of production and people's habits and ideas. Manuel Sarabia tells in the May Review how he escaped the clutches of the bloody Diaz, while Arthur Scales, in an article, entitled "The American Inferno," tells what happens to free-born American citizens when they happen to be workingmen without money and to fall into the hands of "our" police.

John Murray's third instalment on the "Mexican Political Prisoners" is the best of the three, and drives another nail through the mask behind which Diaz is seeking to hide his atrocities in the United States. No capitalist paper has yet dared tell the truth about this butcher of the south—too much American capital is invested in Mexico. But John Murray's array of facts and his relentless logic are shedding a flood of light upon the career of this man with "thirty thousand executions to his account." W. B. Rubin, one of the foremost lawyers in Wisconsin, who has long fought and won the battles of the union man in and around Milwaukee, contributes an article that will interest everybody. It's a little side light on economic determinism (without the big words). May Beals-Hoffpauir contributes a vivid, realistic story, and Prof. Thomas C. Hall writes of "Historical Christianity and Socialism," in his usual charming style. The leading editorial is on the "General Strike in France," and what we can learn from it.

Price, 10 cents. Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago.

A BOUQUET FROM BRANTFORD.

One of the most cheering facts in the present situation to the Socialist, is the way in which the ruling class, with their henchmen and lickspittles, are revealing their enmity to the organized Socialist movement. They are unmasking themselves with a vengeance, and the Socialist movement is made happy thereby, for, as the ruling class and their attendant flunkeys grow more open in defending their class interests, the easier it is to get the workers to recognize theirs. One phase of this can be observed right here in Brantford now.

As we are all aware, the greatest bulwark of capitalist legalized robbery is the ignorance of the working class. The workers produce all wealth—that is evident—but this is where our rulers come in and say that the workers who produce all wealth shall have—what do you think? Why, they actually propose to let you have enough of your produce to live on, and they tell you that you've got to be mighty thankful to get that. If you don't believe me, use your brains and find out for yourselves.

Now, here comes the Socialist on the scene. He tells you that as you produce all wealth you should enjoy all wealth. Moreover, he tells you how it can be done and the way to do it. Read, mark and inwardly digest Constitution and Platform of Socialist Party of Canada!

Naturally the ruling class don't relish this interference with their power to rob and plunder the workers. That power is based on their ownership of the things needed for the social well-being of the community. That ownership is based on the ignorance of the working class. Don't take my word for it, but find out for yourselves. If the workers had as much sense as a ground hog they would not be content with 23 per cent. of their products, as they are getting now. But this is not the point.

The old slaveholders in the day of chattel slavery in the Southern States passed very stringent laws against anyone educating their slaves. We think that we have advanced a whole lot ahead of this, but have we? Let us see.

In Brantford, our chief means of educating the wage slaves to their position in society is through the Socialist press. It is most wonderful to notice the interest that the representatives of the capitalist classes, who run the post office here, show in the Western Clarion and the rest of the Socialist publication. Brantford Local failed to receive its bundle of 25 copies of the Clarion on four occasions in less than three months. The publishers said they sent them, but the P. O. officials could never deliver them. Other comrades complained about not receiving their copies. I myself went around with my "kick."

I stated my case to an assistant clerk at the wicket, he in turn went over to where a baldheaded gentleman of uncertain age was propped up in a place of honor on a high stool in front of a most imposing pile of letters, papers, documents, etc. The shiny-pated one turned out to be a most sauve, not to say oily disposition. This is what I heard him say: "Doesn't get his paper! Dear me. What paper does he say it is? Is it the Appeal to Reason?" I volunteered the information that it was the little old Clarion that I was kicking about. "Oh, yes, to be sure!" purred the greasy-mannered one, stroking his hands together. "But you must remember that Vancouver is a very long way off. It may be a day or two late, don't yer know!" I reminded him that my paper had gone astray; also that the rest of the subscribers had got their copies so that mine would be with them in the bundle. The official became intensely interested in the Western Clarion. "Did any of the other subscribers miss their papers? How many of them came to Brantford? How did I know about the other subscribers getting their papers?" and so on, and so on.

Anyhow, he promised to "look into" the matter; he would speak to the letter carriers—who are mainly appointed because of political pull, ward politicians, parish-pump statesmen and old retired retainers of the ruling class, who can no longer make profit out of their hide in the factories and shops. Thus endeth the first act.

Act II occurred a few weeks later; same old programme: Vancouver was still a long way off. He would "look into" the matter once again. Curtain on act II.

Act III opened last week, same old circus. Vancouver is still as far off as ever. The oily person would again condescend to speak to the letter carriers. Bye-the-bye, one of the same letter carriers took such interest in the Clarion some time ago that he kept it back two and three days to study its contents, then having enlightened himself, took it around to its destination with the remark that "anyone who reads that sort of thing must be hard up for something to read!"

Here and Now

By "LEEDS"

Comrades, you all want a Party button; you all want the workers to vote themselves into power as soon as possible and you all want the Clarion to prosper. By rustling $5.00 worth of subs. for the Clarion you will show how much you want these things and that you are willing to help.

* * *

Comrade George Nickels, of Vancouver, remembers May Day with a contribution of $5.00 to the Clarion.

* * *

Hustlers will please note that all subs. received after Monday in each week are acknowledged the week following. That is to say, subs. recorded in the Clarion each week are those which arrived not later than the Monday previous.

* * *

If any of you fellows way back east don't want to subscribe to the Clarion you had better introduce yourselves to the tall timber. To save trouble, have your sub. price ready to hand over to him and look as if you liked it. Who is it? Why, Comrade Gribble, who fires in a bunch of nine this week.

* * *

Subtract the number of the paper from the number on the label and the result will be the number of weeks before your sub. expires. Look now and see when your sub. runs out, and if it is less than five weeks, renew at once. AND KEEP LOOKING.

* * *

Another pair of yearlies to the credit of Comrade John McInnis, M. P. P., arrive from Phoenix, B. C.

* * *

Comrade W. A. Pickard, secretary Phoenix Miners' Union, No. 8, forwards $14.50, payment in full for card and Clarion bundle. Keep your eye on Phoenix.

* * *

Comrades Lorne Cunningham and Peters report holding their first meeting of the season on the streets of Guelph, Ont., with a good crowd. That's the stuff.

* * *

Local Vancouver reduces that deficit by $2.50, per last month's bundle.

* * *

And Local Vernon does the same to the amount of $3.50, also for Clarion bundle.

* * *

Comrade A. Stewart, Moose Jaw, orders a bundle of five for three months, with prospects of subs. to follow.

* * *

Local Hamilton orders a bundle of six for three months and instructs its secretary, Comrade W. Armstrong, to ascertain the cost of 25 copies or more each week with the intention of engaging a newsboy to sell them on the street. It is a good way to start and with perseverance will bring success.

Another jolt at that deficit by Local West Fort William in the shape of a bundle account.

* * *

Comrade Harrington leaves three subs. in his trail which arrive in good order.

* * *

A sub. each from the following comrades arrive this week:

* * *

A. Clyde, Victoria, B. C.; Roscoe A. Fillmore, Albert, N. B.; H. N. Coursier, Revelstoke, B C.; John Staples, Victoria, B. C.; Hugh Hanna, Vancouver, B C.; F. S. Faulkner, Calgary, Alta.; J. V. Hull, Port Moody, B. C.

* * *

The adverse decisions of judges in reference to the methods of carrying on strikes are but the voice of capital speaking through its agents. "If you don't like it, don't vote for it," is the best advice I have to give.

* * *

Don't waste time "resoluting" against what you voted for. Your vote and that only cuts any figure. The recording of your vote this way or that is the recognized method of publicly showing what you want and what you are prepared to take.

* * *

The police of Buenos Ayres created a riot on May 1st by attacking a body of workers who were celebrating Labor Day. During the fight many were wounded and several killed on both sides. None of the police were arrested for starting the riot, but seventy of the workers were run in for attempting to defend themselves.

Well, fellows, I cannot say that I blame these lickspittles of the ruling class doing what they can to toady to their masters who gave them their positions. I cannot blame the capitalists for seeking to put the Socialist press out of business—for it will be a shame what will happen to the power and privileges of our rulers when the day of working class political ascendency arrives. Speed its coming by subscribing to the Clarion and by getting others to subscribe. Don't be a willing and coward slave forever.

WM. DAVENPORT.

LONDON LETTER

THE S. D. P. CONFERENCE.

The twenty-ninth annual conference of the Social Democratic Party held in The Shepards' Hall, Bristol, England, was concluded last week after a three-days' session There were present at the gathering 140 delegates, representing 117 branches of the party, and they came from all parts of the United Kingdom, even Ireland, for the first time, sent one delegate.

The children of the Bristol Sunday School opened the proceedings with an excellently rendered song entitled, "Welcome."

Comrades E. H. Jarvis, of Bristol, was unanimously elected chairman and the elections of other committees were then quickly disposed of.

Comrades Cook and Sheppard, of the Bristol Trades Council, each delivered an address of welcome, both of which were very unique and interesting.

Comrade E. H. Jarvis made the presidential address, in which he reviewed the history of the movement in Great Britain and gave an excellent exposition of the Socialist Movement.

After the presidential sppeech, fraternal messages were received from various bodies and others were received at a later stage. The rest of the day was devoted to W. Gee's appeal against his expulsion from the Party by the Executive Council. Mr. Gee was one of the ablest speakers of the Party and his expulsion created no little stir amongst the membership, hence the prolonged discussion in regard to him. The action of the Executive Council was, however, sustained by a vote of 128 to 61, which ended a rather long drawn out controversy.

Saturday, after the financial affairs of the Party had been gone over, the following message was sent to the Independent Labor Party assembled in convention in Edinburgh, Scotland. "This 29th annual conference of the Social Democratic Party at Bristol, sends fraternal greetings to the Independent Labor Party at Edinburgh, trusting that deliberations of both conferences will lead to the growth and consolidation of the Socialist forces in Great Britain and Ireland, and the speedy consumation of the social revolution."

A lengthy discussion ensued in regard to S. D. P. members running as Labor Party candidates, and the matter was allowed to stand as heretofore, that is, S. D. P. members are allowed to run as Labor Party candidates.

This seems to be one of the weaknesses of the S. D. P. movement in allowing its members to belong to and be candidates for other political parties. This inconsistency, if allowed to continue, will bring the S. D. P. on the same level with the I. L. P.

Other business, the most important of which was the Poor Law, Decentralization, Women and the Party, and the relations between the Party and its official organ, "Justice," was then disposed of and ended the deliberations of the conference for the day.

On Sunday morning the first business to come up was that of the affiliation of the Social Democratic Party with the Labor Party. After much discussion the vote was put and the motion to affiliate was lost by 125 to 2. Certainly a safe majority. Messages of greeting were sent to the Shop Assistants' Conference, the Telephone Employees Convention and to the French Telegraph and Postal Clerks, who recently won their victory against the French government. Fraternal greetings were also sent to Comrade Tom Mann, who, according to Comrade Ben Tillett, was on trial in Australia for sedition, riot, treason and all the other virtues.

A resolution was next presented calling upon Will Thorne, M. P., to either resign from the Labor Party or the S. D. P., and was hotly discussed and defeated by a vote of 88 to 29. Comrade Thorne was elected to Parliament as an Independent member for the Gas Workers Union, and subsequently signed the constitution of the Labor Party. As he is a member of the S. D. P., but not elected on the ticket of that party, the S. D. P. has consequently no control over him as a member of Parliament, therefore, both he and the S. D. P. are in an illogical position. This is a striking example of the muddled condition of the British Socialist movement at present.

Other business of minor importance was gone into and rapidly disposed of, until a resolution was presented calling upon members of the S. D. P. who belong to Liberal, Radical or other capitalistic political clubs to leave such organizations or the S. D. P. A long and at times heated discussion followed until eventually the resolution was amended so as to read as an appeal to the S. D. P. members to sever all other political conventions.

London was chosen as the place for next year's conference against Coventry, Stoke-on-Trent.

Adult Suffrage, the Socialist Sunday School Union and Minimum Fees for Speakers were dealt with in order named, after which the election of the Executive Council took place. The result was H. M. Hyndman, 161 votes; Mrs. Montefiore, 131 votes; J. F. Green, 123 votes; J. Scurr, 92 votes; F. Knee, 86 votes; D. Carmichael, 79 votes. All these comrades comprise the London section of the Executive, while the provincial section was elected as follows: E. R. Hartley, 151 votes; D. Irving, 118 votes; J. G. Webster, 103 votes; F. Lewis, 96 votes; A. C. Bannington, 94 votes; T. Kennedy, 83 votes. Comrades Scurr, Carmichael, Lewis and Bannington are all new members on the Executive.

Resolutions condemning the Territorial Army and the Half Time system were adopted without dissent, and the following resolution was passed unanimously, "Be it resolved that this 29th conference of the Social Democratic Party, in pursuance of its policy from the date of its foundation in 1881 in regard to India, sends its sincere greetings to the many races and people of Hindustan and wishes them an early emancipation from the despotic and ruinous domination of Great Britain."

A few minor matters concluded the business of the conference. The Bristol Socialist Society Choir sang "England Arise" and the assembled delegates joined heartily in the chorus. The chairman delivered a few excellent closing remarks to which Comrade H. Burrows fittingly replied, and with the singing of the "Red Flag," and ringing cheers for the social revolution, the 29th annual conference of the Social Democratic Party came to an end.

Yours for the Revolt,
ROBT. E. SCOTT.

London, April 18th, 1909.

TOUCHING THE GRAYSON INCIDENT AND R. HUNTER'S COMMENTS.

To an English-Canadian who took as keen an interest in the "Grayson incident" in the British Parliament as is possible for a wage-worker with limited means of obtaining information, it would seem there is more venom displayed against that comrade by his "friends" than by his enemies. The fact of Victor Grayson being suspended from Parliament—the building where the executive committee of capitalism holds its deliberations—is, in the opinion of the present writer, who has no particular use for hero worship, the highest possible certificate of merit as to his obnoxiousness to the enemy of the useful class. It is true, Victor Grayson may have broken the pre-arranged plans of the Labor party; perhaps allowing his own impetuous nature to carry him away at the time. But what of that; the more the bourgeoisie are disconcerted and astonished by unexpected, vicious attacks, the more fear and respect will they have for the toilers. But the glaring, outstanding fact of the whole incident was that not one member of the so-called Independent Labor Party was sufficiently conscious of the class he was supposed to belong to, to back Grayson up, when he was bothering the enemy not a little, which can hardly be overlooked even by the most impartial—it was a magnificent opportunity to exhibit the class struggle going on. Suppose two, three or five, or the whole lot of the Labor Party had stood out and told the puppet sitting in the chair, that they reiterated all that Grayson had said, and anything else they could think of that might stir that gentleman out of his condition of smug self-satisfaction, could they all have been suspended as well, without attracting (in a most undesirable way to the Government) the attention and rousing the suspicions of the most conservative, and sheep-like individual of the working class to the real cause that divides society into two warring classes, giving wealth to the idle and abject poverty and misery to the industrious? I trow not.

This condition of poverty of the class these labor men are supposed to represent is not a thing of yesterday, and the Grayson incident was not a sudden, unforeseen skirmish in the class war. Therefore it is difficult not to have to think these labor men do not represent the proletariat in general, but only the aristocracy of labor, who can pay their weekly assessment to the trade union for supporting a Labor member, else they are traitors and consciously or unconsciously are the tools of the exploiting class. What excuse had they for resting upon their arms and watching, without a single protest, their members being reduced by one? It appears to me the enemy has got them tamed.

If the title of Socialist is so very dear to them, let them use it. If a parliamentary career is what these men have mapped out for themselves, then they represent no one but themselves; if they are true men (which in some cases is very doubtful), submission to the bourgeois ideas of parliamentary good manners will only stultify them in the eyes of the desperate toilers—almost without hope and almost without courage, whose condition cries out aloud, that the whole law factory should be swept aside, that the cause of poverty, which has its genesis in the subjection of one man to another may be tackled in a hostile manner, by men and women whose mental vision is not too much distorted by the ever-present ogre of wage-labor and capital. Should Mr. Robert Hunter read this, he may conclude this scribe is a "semi-anarchist," but I will assure him I seek no man's blood, job-seeking and job-keeping takes all my time.

About "brawny figures with bowler hats and gnarled fists, pleading prettily for small palliatives," a man outside of the British Parliament is hardly in a position to judge without getting the parliamentary reports; but when Comrade Grayson refers to workingmen "blowing the froth off their bad beer and arguing in millions of pounds," he is quite right as to his facts, especially about the "bad beer." Also when he speaks of them as "starved industrial degenerates, who button ragged and shoddy coats over skimpy chests, and splutter about the mur'aklus excess of imports over exports," he hits the nail right on top of the head, Mr. Hunter, as everyone knows who has ever mixed with the English working class and gets his ideas at first hand and not from middle-class Socialists, whoever they may be. Writing in accordance with facts does not necessarily express contempt for one's own class.

To an onlooker who has spent twenty-five years of his life in England among that class which creates wealth and are recompensed with poverty, Victor Grayson more nearly voices the spirit of revolt against existing conditions by the workers than any other parliamentary representative. It may be true, he is merely a "college boy" of only 26 summers and not an adept in the tactics of the wily politician—that's the very boy we working plugs are looking for!

One would think the Independent Labor Party deserved criticism in a "sharp fashion," if, for the sake of political expediency they prefer not to be known as Socialists and set themselves up in contradiction to the Social-Democratic Federation; if the I. L P. is Socialist, its members would be proved to call themselves such, and admit to the bourgeoisie their "guilt"; again, if Socialists they are, why not say so in a straightforward manner and carry on Socialist propaganda without apologizing for it in the title they give themselves. At present they must be luring "desirables" into their ranks whose ideas are those reflected from the ruling class, with the inevitable result that the mass of them must be leavened with effeminate sentimentalists, whose aim is municipal ownership and state Socialism, which mean nothing more for the worker than wages—which he gets now.

Far be it from me to criticize a whole body of men whom I only know through capitalistic newspaper reports, except in one or two instances; but I can hardly refrain from changing Robt. Blatchford's remarks, "The comparative failure of the Labor representatives in the House of Commons is due to the fact that they are workingmen," by adding because they have not made a study of the enemy's capabilities and limitations—capital conditions wage-labor and vice versa, being merely the opposite sides of the same coin.

As for the proletariat "requiring one or two natural aristocrats to lead them," I would repudiate the idea with indignant contempt and fear. As Comrade Louis Duchez remarks in his excellent article in the April number of the International Socialist Review, "the registered impressions left upon the brain cells by the stomach-necessities" is the guiding star, which will keep us on our course; and he rings true again when he says, "The proletarian must emancipate himself, if he is ever to be emancipated, and the leadership must come from proletarian brains."

Comparing Comrade Grayson's expressions with those of Bernard Shaw is doing the former a grave injustice, for he speaks undoubtedly from the standpoint of the proletarian; while the latter speaks from the viewpoint of the middle-class Socialists—I know not how many classes Comrade Robert Hunter divides society into.

Referring again to the quotation of Comrade Hunter's from Robt. Blatchford, saying, "the comparative failure of the Labor representatives in the House of Commons." . . . Whatever is there to be expected from capitalist government; labor-power, long as it is a commodity to be bough and sold upon the market, like to or spittoons, will never fetch anything more than its market price—wages. Therefore it is the capitalist system of production we have to fight and fight to a finish. The most that can be expected, as long as capitalism lasts, is to get as many pure proletarian members into Parliament as possible, drawing pay from the capitalist class-government, and becoming, de facto, organizers of the Socialist Party, as in Canada, preaching up and down the country the class war. In a short time they will soon have all the old political parties driven into the same hole, and their opportunities for flim-flamming the workers greatly reduced, for the latter could then make no mistake as to the hole to be plugged. And even then the co-operative commonwealth dare not be inaugurated upon a majority vote; the revolutionary proletarian membership would need to be such as to make its decisions indeed decisive.

The capitalist class will then be vieing among themselves in offering "palliatives" upon condition that they are permitted to retain the machinery of production and distribution, and—we want that, too! By the time the working class is educated to this pitch, Houses of Lords and Licensing Bills will no longer be problems needing solution.

THOMAS L. BRIGGS.

UNPRACTICAL SOCIALISTS.

The following "gems of purest ray serene" are taken from that mine of inestimable wisdom, "T. P.'s Weekly:"

"H. T. R. S. (Worcester) writes: We have in Myner Collier's last letter a fair example of 'Socialistic inflammation,' and the absurdity of such questions as 'Why should we poor people be denied the right to proper education at our own colleges and universities?' shows how unpractical he is. If 'Socialism can only come when the people are sufficiently enlightened to embrace it,' and 'education of the highest possible form' is to bring it, why do not 'Myner Collier' and his friends rely for the furtherance of their cause upon the 'idle rich' who are not denied this education, for surely they have the best chance to gain this blessed light of Socialism? 'Myner Collier' asks: 'Is it right that I, a miner, should work for other people," etc. I am pleased to be able to answer him and, I hope, reassure him. It is quite right. It is not his business to bother about whether the landlord and capitalist do any work or not. So long as human nature exists there is bound to be a certain amount of misery, discontent, and cries for a better state. The strong and healthy must continue to exert their power, and the weak must depend upon the good nature of their superiors for means to exist."

Comment is superfluous.

WHAT CAPITALISM HAS DONE FOR THE WORKER.

(Continued from Page 1)

boats to their destination, and from that moment were doomed to slavery. Sometimes regular traffickers would take the place of the manufacturers, and transfer a number of children to a factory district, and there keep them, generally in some dark cellar, until they could hand them over to some mill-owner in want of hands, who would come and examine their height, strength, and bodily capacities, exactly as did the slave dealers in the American markets. After that the children were simply at the mercy of their owners, nominally as apprentices, but in reality as mere slaves, who got no wages, and whom it was not worth while even to feed and clothe properly, because they were so cheap and their places could be so easily supplied. It was often arranged by parish authorities, in order to get rid of imbeciles, that one idiot should be taken with twenty other children. The fate of these unhappy idiots was even worse than that of the others. The secret of their final end has never been disclosed, but we can form some idea of their awful sufferings from the hardships of the other victims to capitalist greed and cruelty. Their treatment was most inhuman. The hours of their labor were only limited by exhaustion after many modes of torture had been unavailingly applied to enforce continued work. Children were often worked 16 hours a day, by day and by night. Even Sunday was used as a convenient time to clean the machinery."

It was not until 1802 that the first Factory Act was passed prohibiting the employment of children for more than 12 hours a day, and when in 1847 an Act was passed reducing the hours of women, and of young persons between the age of 13 and 16, it was denounced by John Bright, "the people's friend," as "one of the worst measures ever passed in the shape of an act of legislation."

Thus was capitalism built up, and it cannot be shown that at any period during its reign have the workers enjoyed such a good social position, or secured such a large percentage of the wealth produced as they did from 1750 until the close of the fifteenth century. H. A. Gaylor, in the "Socialist Standard."

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

PLATFORM

Socialist Party of Canada

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

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

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

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

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

The irrepressible conflict of interests between the capitalist and the worker is rapidly culminating in a struggle for possession of the power of government—the capitalist to hold, the worker to secure it by political action. This is the class struggle.

Therefore, we call upon all workers to organize under the banner of the Socialist Party of Canada with the object of conquering the public powers for the purpose of setting up and enforcing the economic programme of the working class, as follows:

1. The transformation, as rapidly as possible, of capitalist property in the means of wealth production (natural resources, factories, mills, railroads etc.,) into the collective property of the working class.

2. The democratic organization and management of industry by the workers.

3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use instead of production for profit.

The Socialist Party, when in office, shall always and everywhere until the present system is abolished, make the answer to this question its guiding rule of conduct: Will this legislation advance the interests of the working class and aid the workers in their class struggle against capitalism? If it will the Socialist Party is for it; if it will not, the Socialist Party is absolutely opposed to it.

In accordance with this principle the Socialist Party pledges itself to conduct all the public affairs placed in its hands in such a manner as to promote the interests of the working class alone.

DON'T BE A SOCIALIST

unless you know WHY you are one. The cause of Socialism has been tremendously injured and retarded by the ignorance of those who talk and write about it without a proper understanding of its principles. The foolish notion of "dividing up" and the story of the "Irishman's two pigs" come from this source. The capitalist writer and the speakers deliberately misrepresent our principles, but if every comrade thoroughly understands Socialism, it will hasten the coming of liberty for all.

"The Library Of Original Sources"

(In the Original Documents--Translated)

sweeps away the bigotry and superstition that has accumulated around Religion, Government, Law, Social Science, etc.—brings to light the naked truth and shows why Socialism is coming. The "Documents" cover as well the entire field of thought.

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TOM CLIFFORD (Socialist Lecturer): "That which I have longingly desired for years, and which I must confess I despaired of ever enjoying—'The Library of Original Sources'—a service to civilization."

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WALTER LOHRENTZ (Sec Longshoreman's Union, Seattle, Wash.: "A boom to the working class who have neither time nor money to secure a university education."

ARTHUR MORROW LEWIS (Lecturer Scientific Socialism): "I regard it as the most valuable part of my library."

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The toilers, the "producers" who are beginning to be disenthralled and think for themselves.

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