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WESTERN CLARION

SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

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

NUMBER 673 — VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1912 — Subscription Price PER YEAR $1.00

Legislative Library

THE LAW OF PROGRESS AND OF RETROGRESSION

As Disclosed By a Careful Study of the Growth and Development of Human Society.

Man is the product of his environment. When the environment was a natural one only, man was a naked and an almost brainless savage. Because of physical weakness, compared ith most other animals, the necessity for mutual aid was one of the first lessons learned. This enforced associaton and the necessity for communication was the reason and the cause of the first vocal sounds, growing, finally, into language and, next picture writing, culminating in script. These same necessities acted and interacted on the brain development and, once started on the road,, man outdistanced all other animals in growth of intelligence and brain capacity. In this way man reacts on this environment, modifying and altering it, as compelled so to do, by his necessities. Under the term environment is included heredity, the sum of all past environments, or, in other words, a record of all past developments indelibly fixed in the latest of the species, but the characteristics of the parents appearing in no particular order. For the satisfaction of his primeval wants the necessity of tools led to invention. These wants gratified lead to others in the course of the upward development requiring still more invention, so that man's progress can be traced along the lines of technique. But no tool, no machine, no process such as smelting iron or weaving of cloth, no idea even, ever was invented or discovered until the necessity for such was irresistibly pressing upon mankind. Nor did these inventions come spontaneously, but only after long preparation, many and successive failures. They were born in the bullness of time only, and after all obstacles and difficulties had been overcome. Sometimes these obstacles proved insurmountable and a people remained frozen for long periods at one stage of development, accumulating experience, gathering force for another epoch of advancement. Sometimes retrogression occurred and nations and races perished. The discovery of processes and the invention of tools and machines led to the subdivision of labor, which, in turn, divided the people into classes. This gave rise to privilege and it was to fix the status, to defend the privileges and to perpetuate the inequalities of class society that the state was brought into being. So the history of our so-called civilization is merely the history of dominant classes enforcing their will on the lower classes through the instrumentality of the modern state. As changes took place in the system of wealth production, a previously inferior and weak class would gradually grow in wealth and influence and powerful antagonisms would be generated, resulting in social unrest and upheaval until the old order was overturned and the new class admitted to participation in government, that is, in the control of state to perpetuate their privileges to rob. Hence it is that wherever progress is, it is invariably accompanied by unrest, upheaval and revolution and the students of history now tell us that progress comes through social antagonisms. This gives us the key to all the political movements and revolutions of our own and past days, and the violence of the antagonisms engendered can be taken to mark the extent of the progress of some class hitherto easily suppressed.

Man is a complex animal, and it can easily be conceived that a society might be making material progress, economically, and at the same time be standing still socially and morally, or even retrogressing. At the present time, in an economic system based on capitalism, it looks as if moral and social standards were rapidly loosing the firm fibre of our forefathers. The morals of any society are the standards fixed by the ruling classes and if a farmer or laborer appropriate a saw, a wrench or a shovel, the legitimate or legal ownership of which vests in a railway corporation, and feels rather proud of his acquisition, instead of being ashamed of his act, as his grandfather would have been, it simply means that the present generation is insensibly altering the mental attitude towards the institution of property and thus preparing the ground for the last and great revolution, which will abolish classes and the necessity of the class state. Before every great revolution of the past there has been observed a similar relaxing of moral standards and after every such revolution a reconstruction period and a strengthening of the standards to harmonize with the altered relations. At the same time, could we presuppose the perpetuation of the capitalist system for say two hundred years more, at the present rate of moral degeneration, we would become a race of human tigers, social rattlesnakes or animated skunks long before the end of the accursed system. Degeneration is now going on rapidly at both ends of the social fabric. The poor are becoming unfit physiacly, morally and mentally, while the life led by the rich is leaving them a race of neurotics.

The yearly, even daily, display of the growing antagonisms between the workers and the great capitalist corporations is an unfailing sign that soon this nightmare of horror and tragedy of failure, known as the capitalist system, will be rotten-ripe for the last and greatest of all the class revolutions, which will forever emancipate society from the rule of inequality and privileged classes under the guise of the state. When society thus becomes free from this incubus which had its origin in decaying barbarism, it will soon cure its moral and social ills by harmonizing these institutions with a sane system of wealth production and distribution.

MARKSIZZO.

LOCAL VANCOUVER
Propaganda MEETING
Every Sunday Evening
Empress Theatre

DOES LABOR PRODUCE ALL WEALTH?

This will be the subject for debate to be held after the business meeting of Local Vancouver 69 is over. The local comrades intend to take up the S. P. of C. platform and debate on it clause by clause every week. The debate will commence 8:45 every Friday in room 206 of the Labor Temple. Everybody welcome.

To combat the decreasing population the municipal council of Paris intends to expend $40,000,000 in building economical houses. The plan is to reserve these houses, which are to be up-to-date, for large families who will pay rent according to the number of children.

At least half of these homes will be set aside for families of three or more children. A four-room flat will cost $80 a year, while three-room flats will rent at $66 and two-room flats at $45. There will be a reduction of one-fourth of this sum to families having more than three children.

All sorts of further advantages are being planned in proportion to the number of children in a family, and in this way it is hoped that race suicide will be discouraged.

Experience seems to show that "Language" organizations are not a success. While our foreign comrades were individually members of the party, it was possible to educate a large number to the futility of begging western capitalism for reforms. But as separate locals they seem to cling to the ideas formed by the backward condition of capitalism in their home countries. As such they are ever a source of weakness to the Socialist Party, which, however, is now being gradually removed by their elimination. The idea that slavery can be reformed seems to fool many good people into walking backward.

The capitalist class are very anxious that working men and women shall not join the Socialist Party. Hence we have reform, progressive and other people's parties.

The capitalists through their prostitute press are always telling us that there is work for all who want it. As the capitalist never works, it must be taken as a sign that he knows better. He leaves all the dignity of labor for his slaves.

SOCIALISM AND MOTHERHOOD.

"What do we want for women?"

We want a system of society so organized that when any mother goes down into the valley of death to bring forth a new life she will be surrounded with every comfort, luxury and convenience possible in this civilization. There shall be in attendance the most scientific physicians and the most skilled surgery that human anatomical philosophy has been able to produce, to the end that the child may be perfectly born.

The care and environment of the mother in the past shall have been such that in the new life there may be inherited no physical, mental or moral deficiencies.

She shall be in a position to give her yonng a constant and tender mother's care, not until, but long after, they have arrived at the age of entry into the great institutions of learning, which shall be the most exhaustive known to educational science, to the end that the boy or girl may become the most useful factors possible in a future generation.

She shall have the pleasure of knowing that when her son shall have grown to manhood he shall have the untrammeled opportunity to do honest labor and receive the full product of his toil.

That her daughter shall be the recipient of a mother's reward from society sufficient to amply provide her with a livelihood so that the storms upon the sea of life may not drive her into the arms of a man whom she dislikes for economic protection.

And lastly, she shall be consoled with a mother's greatest satisfaction —that fatherhood and motherhood may be entered into by her children with as great comfort and security as with her.

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Winnipeg socialists are earnestly requested to give a hand in the distribution of leaflets which takes place every Sunday morning at 10:30 from the headquarters at 5281-2 Main Street, room 2. We need the help of a least a dozen slaves to take part in their emancipation. Winnipegers are ready for the dope if you will only make it possible for them to read it.

The Soliaalist party is an educational party, and it's up to the members to do the educating. Let us have no more of this leaving it to the other fellow; let us get busy ourselves and we will be surprised at the result.

Why be scared of losing your job? It is better to be a fighter than to stand idly by allowing the master class to do as they like with your class. From now on the Socialist party of Canada will need fighters, and if you can show your ability as a fighter we will try and use you if your boss refuses to use your labor power.

Now then, we want to increase our bundle of leaflets. We want to put a piece of literature into the hands of every wage plug in this city.

We want to make Socialism an issue in this city by the next election. We can do it with your help.

Don't leave it to the other fellow. Be on hand Sunday morning.

Socialism will not be a dead issue in Canada next election if you grab at the opportunity to get ten new readers at ten cents apiece.

When you send in that bunch of new subs see that you have the correct name and address and also make sure that we can easily decipher the name and address.

The Worker and the Machine

In making bread boxes, three workers can do the work of thirteen boxmakers by the old methods.

In leather manufacture, modern methods have reduced the necessary number of workers from five to fifty per cent.

A carpet measuring and brushing machine with one operator, will do the work of fifteen men by the old methods.

In the manufacture of flour, modern improvements save 75 per cent of the manual labor that once was necessary.

By the use of coal mining machines 160 miners can mine as much coal in the same time as 500 miners by the old methods.

One boy, by machinery, in turning wood work and materials for musical instruments, performs the work of twenty-five men by the old methods.

In the manufacture of boots and shoes, the work of 500 operatives is now done by 100—a displacement of wage earners of 80 per cent—by aid of machinery.

In the cotton mills in the United States, the manual labor has been reduced about 50 per cent. Now one weaver manages from two to ten looms, where one loom was formerly tended by one worker.

In the manufacture of brick, improved devices save one-tenth of the labor; and in the manufacture of fire brick, 40 per cent of the manual labor is displaced.

In the manufacture of agricultural implements, 600 operatives, with machinery, including 18 classes of wage earners, do the work of 2,145 wage earners, without machinery, displacing 1,545 workers.

The introduction of machinery in the manufacture of children's shoes, during the last thirty years, has displaced six times the manual labor now required, and the product of manufacture has been reduced 50 per cent to the consumer.

In the manufacture of wall paper, one worker, by the aid of machinery, does the work of 100 workers by manual labor; and in cutting and drying paper by machinery, four men and six girls do the work of 100 operators by old methods.

In manufacturing gun stocks, one man, by manual labor, was able to turn and fit one gun stock in one day of ten hours, while three men by a division of labor and the use of machinery, can turn and fit 125 to 150 gun stocks in ten hours. This displaces the work of forty-four to forty-nine wage workers.

Do you know what this means for the worker, this constant, this almost miraculous improvement in machinery? When thousands of men are displaced by the installment of a new machinery in a factory, it means thousands of men out of work, thousands of men tramping the streets looking for work. Thousands of men lengthening the bread lines of our great industrial centers.

And thousands of men out of work and clamoring for a job means the lowering of wages for those who still hold their jobs, because competition always cuts down wages.

The invention and improvement of machinery today means hunger and misery for great armies of working men and women.

And yet the machines are not to blame. It is the private ownership of the machines that is to blame. The factory owner is in business for profits. He puts in an improved machine that does the work of a hundred skilled workmen and can be operated by unskilled workmen. He saves the wages of the former and cuts down the wages of the latter. He is "making money." That is what he is in business for.

This is what they would do: They would cut down the hours of labor so that all could work, and they would share equally, according to the amount of labor, the increased product of the machine. With the hours of labor cut to the minimum, and a proportional distribution of the increased product, the machines would, instead of making slaves and beggars of the workers, become their servants, doing their work for them, and securing a better living for them.

Now, the question is: Why don't you working men and women OWN the factories and the machines? Why don't you turn them to YOUR good? Why do you permit yourselves to remain slaves to them and their few profit-making owners?

The Socialist party stands for the collective ownership of the machines of production. The Socialist party says that the workers shall own the tools they work with. The Socialist party is pre-eminently a working class party. It is the only party through which the worker can gain control of the means of life. The only party that will free him from slavery and give him the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The Socialist party is also an organization of thinkers. Not until the workingmen and women THINK can they be free.

It is to their interest, then, first to know of the existence of such a party, then to read its literature and learn its meaning, and, finally, to join its ranks and vote its ticket.

When the majority of the workers have done this, the machines, which have come to serve the people and not to enslave them, will be theirs.

—The Progressive Woman.

AN EXAMINATION OF INDISPUTABLE FACTS

Showing Political Action By Working Class Is Only Means to Break the Bonds of Wage Servitude.

The world today is seething with unrest. No matter at what country we look the fact is obvious that the world's workers are discontented with their lot. In the United States, England, Germany and even in "prosperous" Canada strikes and lockouts are of frequent occurrence. Nor is this a matter of wonder to those who understand the conditions of labor and the economic structure of the society of today.

This economic structure we will now briefly examine and endeavor to point out the position of the workers, organized and unorganized, in present day society. In the course of our examination we shall have occasion to point out the limitations of organize labor and hope that labor leaders and others will not imagine that we are attacking their "interests."

In examining any subject from a scientific standpoint it is always necessary to bear in mind the fact that to every law there are exceptions. Science takes a large number of facts having the same general nature, groups them into one general idea, so to speak, and from their general nature deduces a "general law." Having once arrived at this "general law," the other, and seemingly contradictory facts, are then examined to see if they show any signs of being subject to the "general law."

As an example let us take the law of gravitation. This law is that "all bodies will fall to the earth at the same speed," and when we try the experiment with such bodies as iron, stone, wood, coats and boots, etc., we find that this is true. When, however, we try it with a feather, we observe that this body falls more slowly and, finally, gas does not fall at all but rises. Do we, then, say that the law of gravitation is not true. Not in the least, but look deeper for the causes, and find that it is only because the gas is lighter than air that it rises. And we can deduce from a simple experiment that the gas is subject to the law of gravitation. Suppose that in a glass we have placed some oil and then put water into the glass. The oil will rise to the top of the water and it is the same with the gas, it simply rises to that position in the air where its weight is equal to the air.

All this does not appear to have much bearing upon the economic structure of society, but it was necessary to show that scientific examination can leave out certain facts and arrive at a true conclusion without any danger of being trapped, provided it assembles the broadest group of facts and from them deduces the "general law."

We will now dive into the subject by stating that present day society is based upon selling and buying. This is patent to all, as also is the fact that we workers have nothing to sell except our labor power. If it were not so then we would not be workers, for no one would work, as the word is commonly used, if he could get a living by other means.

The law which governs buying and selling is known as "supply and demands," and works in the following manner: If the supply is greater than the demand, in other words, if there are more goods to be sold than there are people who will buy, then the price will fall. On the other hand, if demand exceeds supply, or when more people want to buy than there are goods to be sold, then the price will rise.

To borrow an illustration from Karl Marx, supply and demand are like the two sides of a scale, because they swing above and below a central point. This central point is known as value.

The combined action of supply and demand govern prices and are always tending to bring prices to the level of value. The measurement of value is "the amount of social labor time necessary to reproduce the article or articles under consideration."

In selling anything the seller will always try to get as high a price as he can; the buyer will try to buy as cheaply as he can, so that without considering the state of the market we may say that things will exchange at their value on the average. Reference to the illustration of gravitation will show that we can; without danger of error, leave out of consideration the action of supply and demand as also we are not wrong in omitting to regard the case of the seller getting a higher price on account of the ignorance of the buyer, or vice versa. These facts bear the same relation to the law of value as did the gas to the law of gravitation.

Now that we understand the manner in which supply and demand operate and their relation to the law of value we are able to proceed to the principal object of our investigations, namely, "labor power."

At the risk of being tedious we will state what has been so often explained, that labor power exchanges at its value. That is to say, we get only enough to keep muscles in good working condition and bring up two or three little slaves to take our place when we die or are cast upon the scrap heap of unemployables. To those who judge the world from the jottings in the capitalist press and from the writings and saying of trades unionists, or even from their own limited experiences, the truth of the above statement is not apparent. The capitalist press would have us believe that the workers are well to do and that those who are poor have become so because they spent too much; the trades unionists endeavor to tell us that we can raise our wages by combining together; those who judge things from their own circumstances have usually been fortunate in their jobs and very limited in their expenditure and are, therefore, limited in their knowledge, lack of physical wants bringing in its train a lack of mental development.

With the first and last we may have occasion to deal at some future date, but for the present we are only concerned with trades unions and organized labor of every kind. We realize also that we are treading upon dangerous ground, not because what is said here is not generally known, but because we are stating a truth and that is often very bitter. However, we will mix a little sugar with the pill that it may the more easily be swallowed.

The advocates of trades unionism tell us that, by combined action, we can raise our wages, shorten hours and better our conditions, both at home and on the job. In order to be clear we must examine these phrases.

The money that we get at the end of the week or month is not our wages. When we are getting a certain amount of money, say two dollars a day, with which we can buy a given amount of the necessaries of life, so much for rent, a certain size house, and spend a little on tobacco and whiskey, we then have a definite wage. But if the price of any of these things rise and our money remains the same, then our wages have fallen. On the other hand if the prices fall, then our wages have risen—a very exceptional occurrence. This shows us that our money is only wages in relation to what it will buy. It also reveals something else. Better conditions on the job or at home or shorter hours are increases in wages. Since that is the case we can combine the statements of the union advocates and need merely examine the question of wages in relation to supply and demand and the law of value.

Before going further with the inquiry it must be stated that profits are the difference between the money paid the laborers and the price obtaind for the product. That being the case, an increase or decrease in the price of labor power means less or more profit to the employer, other conditions remaining the same.

Now let us look at the general result of an increase in the price of labor. To avoid repeating further on we will assume that the laborers have gone on strike, and, after being out of work for a period, have gained an increase in money. What effect has this had upon the working class? Let it be remembered that we are not dealing merely with sections of workers, but the working class, not merely with the working class of one country, but with the working class of the world. One section of the workers does not interest or concern us, because one section cannot help us.

We saw above that an increase of money mean a reduction of profits. Then our capitalist friends who have just given a rise to their workers have less profits; hence they must spend less. It follows from this that work-

(Continued on page three)

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

POST OFFICE ADDRESS, LABOR TEMPLE, DUNSMUIR ST.

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

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1912.

SIGNS AND PORTENTS

Never was the productive power of human labor so great as at present. Never was it such an easy matter to provide ample of the necessaries of life to satisfy the material needs of all than now. The growth and development of the tools of industry down through the ages and the ultimate harnessing of nature's forces to furnish the motive power to operate them has resulted in bringing forth such an enormous volume of wealth that the markets of the world are fairly surfeited and glutted therewith.

Modern implements of industry have so enormously increased the productive power of labor over that of the remote past that it has long since become impossible to afford continuous employment to all who are forced to depend upon the sale of their labor-power for their sustenance. There is, consequently, an army of unemployed workmen in the market, an army that is continually growing in numbers and becoming each day a more threatening menace to the security of those workmen who are still in employment. It is unnecessary to point out the depressing influence the presence of this mass of unemployed must have upon wages. This is felt by the workers in all lines of industry, and in spite of the most heroic efforts they are unable to prevent the general downward trend.

In spite of the most prolific wealth production the world has ever known, poverty and discontent was never more widespread than now. Never were strikes and other evidences of industrial misery and discontent among the workers more frequent, or of greater magnitude, than at present. Never were more energetic and unscrupulous measures resorted to by a ruling class to hold its slaves in continued subjection than are being used during these days of most glorious civilization.

The social horizon is replete with signs and portents of a rapidly approaching change that must be most sweepingly revolutionary in character if humanity is to rid itself of the incubus that now presses it down into the swamp of poverty and wretchedness in the very presence of the plentitude of wealth its working class brings forth. That incubus is the present form of ownership, and control of the means of production—land and machinery—and the consequent control of the products of labor. In other words, the rule of capital.

Upon every hand is to be found evidence of a significant awakening among the world's toilers. Industrial misery is forcing the issue. It reflects itself not only in the strike and boycott, but in a political revulsion against the rule of capital that presages disaster to the present ruling class in its rapine and robbery of labor.

There can be no peace in human society until the working class arises to the mastery of its own means of life. The shackles of slavery to capital must be broken and its brutal exploitation of labor brought to an end. It is the working class that must do the job for it is the only portion of human society that has an interest in so doing. The balance of human society fattens and battens upon the enslavement and conseuent degradation of the workers and will use every effort to prolong its existence by retaining its right to rule and rob.

Let the change come peacefully, if it will, but swift and sweeping if it must. Whatever it may cost the working class will have to pay and the signs and portents bashing along the horizon strongly indicate that payment will be made in coin that is red, and drawn from its own veins. In fact, the working class is now paying, and has always paid, for its own slavery in the same coin—its life blood.

The change will come. All signs point to its near and rapid approach. Let it come.

We have a few leaflets left of Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. Let us send some of you fellows living in those small towns some. They will only cost you twenty cents a hundred. Make way for the revolution.

A PLAIN STATEMENT OF FACT.

For Consideration by Socialist Party Members and Readers of the Western Clarion in General.

The Western Clarion is the official organ of the Socialist Party of Canada. It is at present under the direct control of the Dominion Executive. Unless the revenue is considerably increased in the near future the Committee will find itself unable to finance the paper and it is only a matter of time until it will be forced to suspend publication. In order that the Clarion readers, and more especially the party members, may understand the situation, a clear statement of the facts of the case becomes necessary. In stating these facts I wish it distinctly understood that it is extremely distasteful to me to mention my peronal connection with the publication of the paper, and I only do so for the reason that it is imperative in order that matters may be made plan and understandable.

The Socialist Party of Canada possesses no printing plant of its own. It is therefore compelled to obtain its printing from some job shop. The weekly issue of the Clarion is at present from 4,500 to 5,000 copies. This would cost in any shop in Western Canada about $85, with a charge of about $7.50 for each additional thousand copies that might be required. In addition to this must be added the cost of maintaining the mail list and mailing the paper, i. e., wrapping, addressing, etc. This would amount to approximately $15.00 per issue, making the total cost of printing and making ready to be turned into the post office, $100 per issue. The most I have ever received for publishing the Clarion has been $60 per issue and that has been only for the last five months. I have never yet received a penny for the mail list and mailing during the seven and a half years since I took up its publication. To say nothing of the cost of mailing, the average loss per month upon the publication of the Western Clarion since January, 1905, has been over $100. If the mail list was added this amount would be increased by at least another $40 per month.

To meet this shortage has required the earnings from a volume of job work turned out by the shop that is by no means small, as well as an experience in "frenzied financing" that has been far from pleasant. Having had enough of it, I was forced to notify the Dominion Executive Committee that from July 1st of this year I should continue to print the Clarion only at the figure determined by the Vancouver Printing Board of Trade. As already stated this would be about $85 per issue at the present circulation.

The revenue of the paper is not sufficient to cover the cost. It could easily be made to cover it if a little energy were expended by the party members and others interested in extending its circulation. That is the only sort of assistance asked for. It is the only kind that is any good. Two or three thousand added to the circulation would go a long way towards making the pathway easy for those responsible for its continued publication. This should be immediately provided for by the purchase of sub cards at the prices stated elsewhere in this issue, or by new subs at the regular rates.

It ought not to be necessary to urge upon the membership activity in this matter. It should be forthcoming voluntarily and would be if we were at all alive to the importance of maintaining the only means of carrying on effective propaganda that is possible in this land of magnificent distances at present.

Another thing worthy of mention is that something like $300 of unpaid accounts are to be found upon the Clarion books. It does not particularly lighten the burden of financing by allowing these accounts to remain unpaid. The Dominion Executive is not so flush with funds as to be able to carry a lot of accounts indefinitely. They should be paid up promptly. It is just as easy to do so as to let them drag along. In fact, it would save both expense and annoyance if all advertising, bundle and leaflet orders were paid in advance.

If you wish the Clarion to continue publication get busy and do something substantial in the way of getting subs. The sooner you do it the better.

Bear this in mind: that I am making no appeal to you. It is up to you to do as you will. I merely give you this brief statement of facts and that, too, without sanction of the Dominion Executive Committee, or any one else. Whatever you do will be perfectly satisfactory to me and I hope equally so to yourselves. For my part, however, I would rather fight than lay down.

E. T. KINGSLEY.

Local Vancouver 69 have lately taken a vote of its members to decide the most suitable night for business meetings and the result gives the majority in favor of Friday, so the meetings will continue to take place on Friday, 8 p.m. sharp.

Remember, unles you respond to this offer the Western Clarion will go out of business in a few weks. Fifty-cent sub cards for thirty cents, dollar sub cards for sixty cents till the 16th of July.

CZAR OF RUSSIA SALOON KEEPER.

St. Petersburg, June 10.—Who is the world's greatest liquor saloon keeper? I do not mean the best known figure in the throat irritation business. "Mr. Dooley" is an easy first in that galley. But considered from the viewpoint of rank and dignity in the philosopher of the Archley Road is a bad second to Nicholas II., Czar of All the Russians, and despotic ruler of more than a hundred and sixty million subjects.

Nicholas is not the only man of highest rank ever employed in the lucrative trade, but owns a larger number of wine storesd and spirit saloons than any other individual in the universe. He has over 30,000 kabaks—Russian for drinking saloon—has complete control of 4,000 spirit factories and distilleries, and rakes in a yearly total of between $306,000,000 and $400,000,000 by selling vodka to the dutiful soakers of his realm.

He is the real liquor king—unique in the history of the civilized world. The latest statistics prove that the Czar's vodka revenue of 1910 was just $6,000,000 more than that of the year before. His managers expect and hope that the next returns will show a still larger increase in the traffic.

This business is, in fact, the Czar's monopoly. His subjects, who are fond of a joke, call vodka "monopol," and to drink to the "Little Father," who farms the liquor trade is an action that covers desire with the cloak of loyalty.

No Competitors Allowed.

None are allowed to compete with him, under pain of heavy fines, and even, on occasion, imprisonment. The poorest subject who doles the spirit out of a bottle for money pays $200 to the Czar, so jealous is he of his monopoly. No distillery in the empire may sell their spirits to anybody else, at home or abroad, without his special permission—which is never never granted till the petitioner has spent large sums in greasing the palms of the Czar's officials.

Drinking saloons are opened by imperial command in Russia. There must be at least one in each hamlet, no matter how small. Larger villages have a minimum of two, lest the moujik be weared and turn home without leaving his quota at the Czar's store. In the more civilized communes a strange thing happened a short while back. The elders of the neighborhood in question realized that the scourge of the country-side was not famine, but ignorance and vodka, which depraves men, women and children till they can think of nothing else. They therefore arranged to shut down half the saloons and get the people to spend money on a school or two and a few agricultural machines instead. Many communes took up the idea with zest. But the government drove them back to the drinking hells, the police ordered the saloons to be reopened and the village schools closed, and fined the communes for abolishing drink and starting education. Drunkenness pays too well. That is what the government said when the communes protested; and they were about right. Moreover, a fuddled brain does not worry about reforms.

Suicides on the Increase.

Russia's national drink is distilled from potatoes and cereals in such a way that the proportion of sulphuric acid to spirit as nine to ten. It is very strong, fiery and always swallowed neat It easily affects the brain of drinkers who consequently often become vodka mad. Fierce quarrels and stabbings are the common sequels.

Reaction brings suicidal depression. Hence the large numbers of suicides in Russia, which have increased in proportion with the advance in vodka consumption. In April the suicides in St. Petersburg alone during one night reached the total of twenty-five. Men in touch with the working and peasant classes are horrified at the heavy list of drink victims, for 80 per cent of the town population become confirmed drink fiends before they are 25 years old, while 45 per cent of the girls between 7 and 12 fall into the vodka habit.

So while the government pays just three and one-half cents per head for education in one year, each citizen leaves sums varying from 36 cents to $7.50 in the Czar's drinking saloons. His portrait hangs on the walls to remind all comers of their duties toward imperial revenues.

But apart from the enslavement of the people, the advantage is not altogether on the credit side. The Czar's army suffers much from the vodka fiend. General Koppen, who has been trying in vain to propagate ideas of temperance among the troops, says that 95 per cent of the crimes committed by soldiers are done when they have been drinking heavily. Each regiment of 2,500 men swells the Czars's receipts for vodka by $24,000 a year.—Vancouver World.

Your local is distributing leaflets. If circumstances prevent you from helping, you can always send someone in your place.

Get into the game. Ten subs for a dolar till the 16th of July.

A CENTURY OF HELL.

This century is being celebrated as a "century of peace." Well they have got to show me where the peace comes in. Germany has just adopted a naval programme that has staggered the world, in which they plan to build 61 Dreadnoughts with an increase of 15,000 men, making 80,000 men for the navy alone. She has incured a debt of $190,000,000 since 1900. England of course follows suit, and has $32,500,000 on hand for the increase of her navy, and so the mad rush goes on not only in armaments but in the mills, mines, factories and railroads, rushing madly ahead for profits, slaughtering millions in the rush, wearing out the lives of millions, crippling workers by the millions, never ceasing, always increasing in tensity. When will it stop? How can it be stopped?

Surly we will not leave it to the very men who are at the head of affairs to remedy it. They have had ample opportunity to do something for humanity, but no, it is their object to uphold the present system. Profit and markets is what they want, and we as members of the working class have to supply the profits and markets for them. Does it benefit us any? Have we gained anything faterial by getting markets for our masters? Have we got better food, clothing and shelter since increasing our master's wealth? No. Then it's up to the workers themselves to refedy this system.

In other words the workers have got to abolish the present system and inaugurate a system of productioon for use instead of for profit—a system that will not need a single battleship or a single soldier to get or protect markets. There will be no necessity for children to tend machines, and the slaughtering of millions will cease. Why? Because the working class—the only useful class in society—will have control of things and you may be assured that the working class will have a system that will benefit them and nobody else. They will see to it that nobody is living off their sweat and blood. They will not have to fight for markets as the workers of the world have a common interest and realize that we need some of the commodities that every other worker produces. In that day we shall be able to celebrate a "century of peace" but at present we cannot for the last century has been a century of hell and nothing else.

HAPPY.

We are frequently amused, when running our eye over the House of Commons order paper, at the kind of question which Ramsay Macdonald and Keir Hardie are constantly addressing to Ministers. When they are not thinking of the forcible feeding of the Suffragettes, their minds are invariably thousands of miles away from the workers whom they are supposed to represent. Here, taken at random, is a specimen of Ramsay Macdonald's solicitude: "To ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he is now in a position to make a statement as to whether the Masai are moving northwards from the present territory." What on earth does the British working man care about the Masai, and whither they are moving? We suspect that, if consulted on the topic, he would in very terse language indicate what, in his opinion, is their proper objective.—John Bull.

Whenever we see fit to abolish the private ownership of the exploiitng industries, this exploitation will cease. We will get the full value of our labor. We will guarantee ourselves an opportunity to earn a living. Involuntarily poverty will be a thing of the past.

We have only ourselves to blame.

If we lived in a country where the workingman had no vote, it might be otherwise.

But in this country the average workingman has a vote the same as a Capitalist. The workingmen outnumber the Capitalists and their satellites many times. The workingmen can therefore bring exploitation, poverty and economic uncertainty to an end whenever they wish. They can do it by voting the Socialist ticket.

If you do not vote the Socialist ticket, quit growling because you are deprived of everything worth while.

You are getting what you voted for

Comrade A. G. McCallum starts off with a dollar fifty towards the Ontario Campaign Fund. Who's going to swell the list?

J. A. Teit of Spences Bridge, B. C., gives ten dollars towards the Clarion maintenance fund. Who's next?

The official returns from Edmonton give the Socialist candidate 413 votes.

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES.

Due Stamps, each	10c
Platforms, English, per 100	25c
Platforms, Foreign, per 100	50c
Due Cards, per 100	$1.00
Constitutions, each	5c
Receipt Books, each	10c
Warrant Books, each	25c
Buttons, each	40c

Socialist Party Directory

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

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

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Socialist Party of Canada, meets every alternate Tuesday, at 429 Eighth Ave. East. Burt E. Anderson, Secretary, Box 647, Calgary.

SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE, S. P. of C., invites all comrades residing in Saskatchewan to communicate with them on organization matters Address D. McMillan, 222 Stadacona Street West, Moose Jaw, Sask.

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

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

LOCAL VANCOUVER, NO. 69, S. P. of C. Headquarters, Room 206 Labor Temple, Dunsmuir Street. Business meeting every Friday in the month at 8 pm Reading room open every day. Socialist and Labor papers of all countries on file. Secretary, S. Lefeaux.

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

LOCAL FERNIE, S. P. of C., HOLD holds educational meetings in the Miners Union Hall every Sunday at 7:30. Business meeting first Monday in each month, 7:30 p. m. Economic class every Sunday afternoon at 2:30. H. Wilmer, secretary, Box 380.

LOCAL ROSSLAND, NO. 25, S. P. of C., meets in Miners' Hall every Sunday at 7:30 p.m. E. Campbell, Organizer. Will Jones, Secretary, Box 125. Finnish branch meets in Finlanders' Hall Sundays at 7:30 p.m. A. Sebble, Secretary, Box 54, Rossland, B.C.

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

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

LOCAL VERNON, NO. 38, S. P. OF C.—Meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m., in L. O. L. Hall, Tronson St. W. H. Gilmour, Secretary.

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

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

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

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

LOCAL CUMBERLAND NO. 70 S. P. of C. Business meeting every Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Economic Class held twice each Thursday, 10:30 a.m. (for afternoon shift), 8 p.m. (for morning shift). Propaganda meeting every Sunday 3 p.m. Headquarters: Socialist Hall, opposite post office. Financial Secretary Thomas Carney, Corresponding Secretary, Joseph Naylor.

VANCOUVER LETTISH LOCAL No. 58. S. P. of C.—Business meeting every first Sunday of the month and propaganda meeting every third Sunday. Free word for every body, at 512 Cordova Street East, 2 p. m. Secretary, Ad Kreekis.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LOCAL LETHBRIDGE, ALTA., NO. 18, S. P. of C. Meets first and third Sundays in the month, at 4 p.m., in Miners' Hall. Secretary, Chas. Peacock, Box 1988.

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

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

LOCAL OTTAWA, NO 8, S. P. OF C. Open air meetings during summer months, corner McKenzie Avenue and Rideau Street. Business meetings, first Sunday in month in the Labor Hall, 219 Bank Street, at 8:00 p.m. Secretary, Sam Sturgess Horwith, 16 Ivy Avenue N.E., Ottawa. Phone 277.

LOCAL GLACE BAY, No. 1 OF MARITIME—Headquarters in Rukasin Block, Commercial St. Open every evening. Business and propaganda meeting at headquarters every Thursday at 8 p. m. Alfred Nash, secretary, Box 158; Harold G. Ross, organizer, Box 505.

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

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

PLATFORM

Socialist Party of Canada

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SUBSCRIPTION CARDS

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

CORRESPONDENCE

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE LINE

The Western Clarion,

Comrade—I thought I would take a little time off, and write you a few lines to express my approval of Comrade Gribble and his work here.

He has given us three Sunday-night lectures here, beginning May 19, which were decidedly interesting and instructive.

The first one dealth with "The workers' position in Capitalist Society." There were about 500 people attended this lecture, and despite the warm weather, he held their close attention from 8:20 p. m. till about 10 p. m., which, I consider, a rather unusual thing to happen in Portland, as we have made a practice to close the meetings at about 9:30, and the warm weather, too, being here, it was entirely successful.

The next two lectures dealt, respectively, with "Production and Value of Wealth," and "The Power of the Workers," both of them being as successful as the first.

He has a class in Economics every Friday evening, with an attendance of between 40 and 50, with an assurance of more later.

The comrades here, (as was mentioned in Comrade Gribble's letter to you), are not as high, on an average as some of the Canadian comrades must be, with a splendidly instructive paper, such as the "Clarion," and with such men as Comrade Gribble to teach Economics to the comrades for the time that he has, but if Comrade Gribble stays here for a few months we will have a much higher average than we have at present, and if he stays longer, I think we will rank as high as any of them.

The boys and girls are all willing, yes, eager to learn more, and he just fills the long-felt want that we have had here for a long time.

We have been getting, since Gribble came here, 100 copies of "The Clarion" per week, and even the I. W. W.'s, who are opposed, generally to our views of political action, say that it is a fine paper for teahcing the working class the Economics of Socialism, they also say that "Gribble is the best lecturer they ever heard," which is saying something, considering the stand he takes, in regard to their ideas. Comrade Gribble in getting dates throughout the state and I hope and beileve he will raise the height of knowledge by the time he gets through with them. "The Clarion" is making good down here and we expect to double the order soon.

Yours for education,
Branch 1, Local Portland.
ELMER F. BUSE,
Secretary.

FROM R. TAYLOR, VICTORIA, B. C.

To the Editor, Western Clarion.

Sir,—Having, in your issue of May 25th, seen a brief account of a miners' strike in Belgium, and knowing the Borinage district fairly well, I thought a little further knowledge of the place and people would interest your readers. I am not a bit surprised at the miners striking there. Their miserable pay and long hours have driven them to despair. Wages vary from 30 cents per 10-hour day for women (who screen coal and push tubs about on the surface) to one dollar ten cents per day of 10 hours, 6-day week, for hewers, to help a little towards housekeeping. The women and children have to work, too. Children in Belgium can start work at the age of 10 years, though I have seen many in rolling and rod mills who were not even that age. I was certain of that from questioning them, though they don't like people to know this. No free houses or coats there, as England. There was a strike of 7,000 miners at Mons near the Borinage district in May, 1910. The trammers asked for an advance of wages. It was refused. They struck, but their funds soon ran out and they resumed on the old terms. A new law came into force there on January 1st, 1911, shortening the hours of labor in mines to 9½ hours per day. Sanitation in the villages around was bad, and overcrowding everywhere, but the people were cleanly withal. From a hilltop near Paturages 70 heapsteads of mines are visible, and seven and one-half million tons are sent to surface annually. In a schoolroom near, men are taught the use of the Draeger life-saving apparatus for use in mines. The weight of this clever apparatus is 15 lbs., carried suspended from the shoulders and on back and chest. The gentleman who was our host whilst in this district is a thorough Socialist, Monsieur L. Pepine, mayor of Paturges and member of parliament for the district.

Yours fraternally,
R. TAYLOR.

Subs at ten cents for three months and we don't care how many you send in. They will cost you two bits after the 16th.

We are reducing the cost of education to counterbalance the high cost of living. What, you can't live on education. Well we can.

LIKES IT.

Tacoma, Wash., June 13, 1912.
The Clarion:

Comrades,—Many thanks for the bundle of samples you sent me. I have been reading them carefully and I must say the revolutionary note struck by the Clarion is refreshing indeed in these days of soapy reform and fictional claptarp. I had never before read the platform of the S. P. of Canada—it is surely as clear and simple a declaration of the working class program as I have ever seen in print.

Dan Ronald, who is, or at least was, a member of the S. P. of C., has been with us for some time, and we have been making good use of him, you may be sure.

I am sending you a little sheet we get out for free distribution. If possible I shall try to rustle you a few subs to keep the good work going.

Yours for ours,
HARRY LEWIS,
Sec. Local Tacoma S. P.

ALBERTA ORGANIZER'S FUND.

Previously acknowledged	$12.80
T. Engels, Calgary, Alta.	.50
C. H. Carter, Calgary, Alta.	.50
Nichleson, Calgary, Alta.	.50
Jno. Bender, Calgary, Alta.	.50
O. Peterson, Calgary, Atla.	.25
Tieling, Calgary, Alta.	.25
I. W. W., Calgary, Alta.	.25
Geo. Wilson, Calgary, Alta.	.25
	$15.80

Fraternally, Your Comrade,
BURT E. ANDERSON.

HOW THEY COME

Everything is ready for the big rush of subs. We are looking forward for at least 100 a day, can you supply them?

The money derived from these subs. will have to be used for organization work to be started in a short time. We must have ready cash to start out on this scheme, which means the building up of the socialist movement in Canada, and will be the biggest thing ever undertaken by the S. P. of C. Don't wait until we have disclosed the whole scheme, but dig in right now, the more funds we have the bigger the surprise will be. The sub. list has a better showing this week although these were sent in before the cheap rate was announced.

Here are the trail blazers for the week:

G. Westlin, Strathcona, Alta.	12
D. A. Maclean, Calgary, Alta.	5
A. McKellan, Medicine Hat, Alta.	3
C. M. O'Brien, Organizer	2
Geo. Grazier, Moose Jaw, Sask.	2
A. Stewart, Moose Jaw, Sask.	2
S. Gage, Winnipeg, Man.	2
B. Heilingher, Montreal, Que.	2
Sam Horwith, Ottawa, Ont.	2
Colin McDonald, Vancouver, B.C.	2

Singles.

A. S. McCall, Gibson's Landing, B. C.; A. E. Tipper, City; A. Manson, Nelson, B. C.; W. Bennett, City; E. H. Dalmar, Stavely, Alta.; Wm. McQuoid, Edmonton, Alta.; F. Kissack, Sovereign, Sask.; J. Smart, Winnipeg; A. Paterson, Winnipeg; J. Watson, Winnipeg; W. H. Stebbings, Winnipeg; W. Green, Toronto, Ont.; W. K. Bryce, Demaine, Sask.; Lew Williams, Toronto, Ont.; D. Diamond, St. Catherines, Ont.; H. C. Ross, Glace Bay, N. S.; J. Pilkington, Enderby, B. C.; R. Tune, Petone, New Zealand; Joe Powe, Rainy River, Ont.; S. Lefeaux, City; W. J. Churchill, City; Abe Karme, City.

Bundles.

Alfred Benar, Moose Jaw, Sask., 10; R. M. Rousell, Bellevue, Alta., 25; Local Edmonton, 100; Local Glace Bay, 25.

Toronto gets to third place this week. Winnipeg still climbs steadily on in the attempt to wrestle the honors of first place away from Vancouver. North Battleford gave five others a boost by sliding down the list. Now is the time to boost your burg by taking advantage of our special sub. rate. We are going to get some special articles by Com. Gribble, so it's up to you to take advantage of this by getting the Western Clarion into the hands of the wage slaves of your city.

This is how they stand:—

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

SPECIAL OFFER TO READERS

Till July 16

THE Western Clarion

will be sent to any address in Canada, Great Britain or New Zealand for

Three Months FOR Ten Cents

SUB CARDS

Five Yearlies FOR Three Dollars

Ten Six Month FOR Three Dollars

Ten Three Month FOR One Dollar Fifty

Sub. Cards Good After JULY 16

THE HARLOT'S MARCHING SONG.

BY JOYCE KILMER.

When arc-lights gleam in fevered streets and mock the glare of day.
A mighty army comes from camp to march along Broadway,
A host of women—some are wan, and some unearthly fair,
They scatter through the busy town and seek for plunder there.

Each is a soldier, tried and true, sworn knight of good King Lust;
Each does her sovereign's bidding well, as loyal soldiers must,
It seems to me that this brave band that nightly plods along,
Is chanting loud, that all may hear, this goodly marching song.

"O Master Manufacturer! O Master Financier!
If you would see what made you rich, look at your victims here.
We girls worked in your factory and happened to survive;
Most of the kids you killed, you know, we're all that are alive.

You took our youth and innocence, our sight and blood and health,
And made them into merchandise, and so you got your wealth.
You starved and wrecked and ruined us, but this job pays right well,
And since we've worked for you, kind sir, we're not afraid of hell.

O Master Financier, you have a lovely daughter there.
We know she's good and innocent—as pure as she is fair.
But make her work at three a week in that big mill you own,
And leave here there a year or so, and see to what's she grown!

Perhaps she will have died by then, some lucky devils do;
But otherwise she will have left and looked for something new.
The something new that children find who know your tender care,
Is very old, it's our rich trade—our bodies are our ware."

Then from the crowded tenements, where women are for hire,
In filthy dance-halls, reeking stews, I heard a ghastly choir,
From painted faces, splotched with sin, from weak and rotting tongues,
This chorus rose, and floated high, on breath from putrid lungs.

"O Master Manufacturer, how goes your Sunday school?
Go, tell the kids that God is love and teach the Golden Rule.
We girls once tried to work for you; you drove us to this trade,
So tell your Sunday school about the harlots you have made!"

We want 1,000 of you to send in ten new subscribers by July the 16th.

DO IT NOW.

Now, Comrades, it's right up to you! The Clarion needs you and you need the Clarion.

If you let the Clarion go out of existence you will be sorry when it is too late.

But there! There will be quite a number who will be glad, perhaps, Your inaction is explained on this score, but I don't think so. I put it down to your damned laziness and apathy, your willingnes to let the scattered and willing few do all the work of hustling subs.

Just look back a few numbers of the Clarion and see how the same names recur again and again, from Ross of Glace Bay on the Atlantic to Tipper of Vancouver on the Pacific; notice the work that is being done by Kinnear of Toronto (I'd like to know him, and will some time), twenty at one time, and keeping it up. Some of these comrades, who are frequently sending in subs live miles away from anyone else on the prairie, yet they are able to do something in this direction; thus Anderson of Dewberry, for instance; see his name appearing again and again. You see, having been all over Canada, I happen to know the kind of places these comrades live in, and how lonely they are. Go to it, Comrades, I am not asking you to do what I don't or can't do myself.

I can, and this is no boast—the proof is in the Clarian sub-list—get subs every place I am, if I stay long enough, and I'll give you an infallible recipe how to do the job—DO IT.

The only way to do a thing is to DO it. How? By keeping at it. Pick out those who seem likeliest subjects; bone them for a sub every time you see them and they're bound to come through at last. Take a pride in it; do it for your own satisfaction.

Say, "I'm not going to let others overwork themselves, and, in addition, have to dig down in their pockets because I'm not doing my share."

Hold your head up, throw your chest out and say, "I am too proud to fail to do my class-conscious duty."

If, after doing it, you feel a little pardonably stuck on yourself when you see your name in the list of hustlers in the Clarion, that will hurt nobody and you will have done the movement good.

The writer used to feel that way, but has got over it long since.

Comrades, if you know as well as I know what a number of pretendedly sympathetic individuals are really wishing the death of the Clarion, your resentment alone would make you act energetically. Not only those who openly favor reforms on the party platform, the type who formed the Socialist (?) Fakeration of Canada, but even a treacherous individual here and there who makes great pretensions of being ultra revolutionary, and who holds a card in the S. P. of C., particularly one odoriferous scamp whom I could name if the Clarion would allow me.

Now, comrades, get after them while the workers have a little money.

Undoubtedly there is a little more going among the workers in Canada than on this side of the line—you'd realize this easily if you were here—so get out after it while it is like that.

Tell you, comrades, I going to get the Clarion spread on this side of the line, by bundles chiefly.

Bundles are as good as sub here, as a cent postage is charged on singles crossing the line.

Portland is the start with a bundle of a hundred, which is likely to be increased.

Shall be working my way down the coast to San Francisco, and shortly afterwards you'll hear of a hundle order from there.

Let the Clarion die? Perish the thought! Let the Clarion die? It's unthinkable!

The Clarion is universally admitted the best educational Socialist weekly on the continent printed in the English language, and we mustn't let it die, for the credit of our party, for the credit of ourselves, for the sake of our enslaved class, for our own satisfaction in having a means of telling our class what is the matter with society. If the Clarion does die, we who have done what we could to keep it alive will bitterly regret the fact but will be free from self-reproach, but you who have appreciated its worth, but done nothing to show your appreciation, what will you feel like. GET BUSY. WILFRID GRIBBLE.

J. S. Dennis of the C. P. R., says thousands of men are needed in the west for railway and other work and that the demand is 50,000 in excess of the supply. Dennis is a tool of the C. P. R. and it can only be expected that he should lie for his masters. Dennis should come to Vancouver and see the city chain gang, members of which have come west on the lying statements of such tools as himself and the capitalist press, and being unable to find work have been pulled up as vags and sent to work on the chain gang to help build up the city. Maybe other cities will be built up in the same way. They will with the help of Dennis, Sutherland, Borden and McBride.

Get rid of that tired feeling and take a trip around town and hustle subs.

HINTS TO PARTY MEMBERS.

It is not necessary to be on hand early when an outdoor meeting is to be held, come around when the speaker has got half way through his talk, then stand away back and smoke.

Do not, under any circumstances, try to sell any books or pamphlets at outdoor meetings, that is a job that only the speaker should be asked to do. It is not advisable to read books by Karl Marx, Engels, Kautsky or Bebel, these are all foreigners, and moreover how can any one in another country know of the conditions in "your own" town in Canada?

If any local preacher states that he is a "Socialist to a certain extent," by all means attend his church and try and get the rest of the Local to do so.

Let the organizer or secretary of Local do all that there is to do in connection with Local. Do not even bring a chair or soap-box for the speaker, you might make the organizer mad.

If you rent a headquarters, under no circumstances should you turn up half an hour ahead of meeting time to dust chairs and put the room in order. Leave that for the secretary to do, he likes it.

It is not a good idea to subscribe for the "Western Clarion." In the first place, if you read and study it you may come to understand the science of Socialism. This is superfluous. And again, if the Local takes a bundle, be on hand when the same is opened and take a copy, you will thereby save the sum of one dollar per year.

Never attempt to speak from the platform or soap-box. That should be left entirely to the "speaker of the evening" and the organizer, and they would be jealous if you were to attempt to make a "speech."

It is not in the least necessary to take a bit of notice of what is said during the study of economics or industrial history. The all important thing is that you bring your pipe and tobacco with you and lots of matches and draw up near the stove and have a real good time talking about your "job" between smokes.

If the instructor calls you down for inattention to the subject under consideration, tell him that he is impractical. If he still persists in his chastisements, quit the movement, and say that he is a "fakir" and an "impossibilist."

Never forget that the very best way to reach the greatest man of the most intelligent wage-workers is to go on a boozing trip round town and, when you get half shot, begin talking "Socialism" in the various bar-rooms.

When the gas bill and the rent more than absorb the assets of the Local, it is well not to either pay any dues, or even to turn up to any meetings until such time as the secretary has settled all accounts. This proves that you are the stuff out of which heroes are made.

It is a great drawback to have read any good books or history or economics—these questions should be left entirely with "speakers." So long as you come and have a good time listening to discussions you are doing useful work.

The business meeting is the place to air your pet views on religion. Try and convert the rest of the Local if possible. Remember that all good men, from Adam down to the latest fledged preacher, were "Socialists in their hearts."

The distribution of leaflets on Sunday mornings should be left to the "officials" in the movement. Your dignity might suffer if any person should see you, then again, stay in bed with the wife. You need the rest Sunday mornings.

Then again—(but what in hell's the use!)

W. D.

Brantford, Ont.

Bear in mind that we cannot send out less sub cards than the number specified in the special ad. Also bear in mind that the idea is to sell these sub cards to you at a reduced rate so as to get some cash in. We will not extend the date, so get your cards now.

We don't care how much you sell the sub cards for, we are selling them forty per cent. below their value to you. Get busy.

Comrades in the suburbs of Vancouver, such as South Hill, Burnaby, Collingwood, North Vancouver, Cedar Cottage, etc., can send in subs at the special rate and can also purchase sub cards at the special rate as long as the subs are not for the city of Vancouver.

The British Columbia Methodist Conference have passed resolutions against the encouragement of militarism in Canada, and yet Premier Borden and Col. Sam Hughes are working like hell to encourage the spirit of militarism. Shame on them.

JOB WANTED

Young English Socialist, (24), desires situation on fruit or mixed ranch in B. C. First class references. Geo. Soane, 912 19th Avenue West, Calgary.

EMPTY-BELLIED PATRIOTISM.

Scene.

The Thames Embankment, London, Eng. Time 7 p. m.

Stranger walking along, accosted by another stranger who had an ex-military look about him, who asks: "How are chances of bumming a supper off you?"

First Stranger: "Where did you have dinner?"

Ex. M. Man: "I didn't have any."

First Stranger: "Where did you have breakfast?"

Ex. M. Man: "I didn't have any."

First Stranger: "Where are you going to sleep to-night?"

Ex- M. Man: "Oh, shut up you fool, here is the King coming," taking off his cap, and shouting, "Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!"

Forgetting all about his hunger while gazing on his King.

AN EXAMINATION OF FACTS.

(Continued from page one)

ers who would have enjoyed the loan of a job (if a job can be enjoyed) will now be out of employment or working for shorter time. It is to be understood that this is the tendency, but does not of necessity take place immediately, as other forces may be at work to modify the tendency. Now these workers who lack employment are looking for a job and the masters will see to it that advertisements are freely distributed, showing the high wages (?) paid in the industry where the rise has taken place. Hence extra competition for the jobs will again bring down the price of labor power.

Let us, however, look at the matter from another respect. The workers who got the rise now have more money to spend and will naturally wish to have a broader life, a better standard of living. Here, too, there is a tendency but of a different and opposite kind. Prices will rise, owing to increased demand, other conditions being equal, and they will rise in proportion to the increased demand.

Thus far we have considered an increase of money resulting from a strike without having considered the causes of that strike. Since we are dealing only with the general nature of things we are justified in making the following statement: "Strikes are the result of a decrease in the standard of living, a falling off of the real wage." It is quite true that some unions are spry enough to take advantage of the market and force a higher price, but that is a special case, as was the gas in relation to gravitation. Now a decrease of the real wage, an increase in the cost of living, may take place from many causes, but it is necessary here to deal only with one cause. As the cost of producing gold varies, as a given quantity can be produced in less labor time, so the standard of measure will alter in its relation to the things which can be bought with gold. In other words, when $1.00 can be produced in less time it cannot buy so much of other commodities as before, provided their cost of production has remained constant. Now it takes a long time for commodities to adjust themselves to the standard of measure, some a longer period than others, and experiences show that labor power is the last commodity to become so adjusted. For the benefit of those who doubt we will say that United States government figures tell us that the cost of living had risen to 11 per cent during the decade 1898 to 1908, but that wages (money wage) had risen only 7 per cent. and government figures will not show its worst side.

We have now shown many forces acting in society to keep the price of labor power at its value and have finally quoted figures which reveal the fact that labor organizations cannot do more than keep it at that value. We must now state that the condition of affairs is worse with unorganized labor than with organized. This is an age of collectivism or co-operation and the individual must go to the wall. Therefore it is well to be organized. But as the individual man goes to the wall so does the individual group. Hence it is wise to be organized, not in a lot of small sections, but in one big union. But when going into the union or whilst in the union, in season and out of season let us bear in mind that unions organized on the industrial field have their limitations, that they cannot as a general thing raise the real wage of the workers and hence that it is necessary to have some complementary organiz[illegible] we really desire to be better off.

This complementary organization is a political one. Realizing the limitations of organization on the industrial field only, the Socialist Party organizes on the political field. To those aristocrats of labor who are contened with their lot or are satisfied with trades union armour alone, to those whose ambition does not soar above a bundle of hay and oats to eat and a stable to sleep in, we say keep out. To those who are discontented with existing conditions we say study the trades union movement and if you can find a case of general improvement in the workers show us where we are wrong; if not, study our movement and throw your lot in with our.

S. K READ.

The Socialist AND The Sword

LEAFLET NUMBER TWELVE.

From "War—What For?" by Geo. R. Kirkpatrick.

A sword is a three-foot razor with which the working class obligingly and stupidly cuts its own throat in war.

War is a fools' festival in which the working class crucifies itself in the service of capitalism in the name of patriotism.

Patriotism is perfect and glorious in proportion as the starved slave is willing to fight for a fat master.

Patriotism (of this sort) is a brainless, blinding fever that employers and bankers, bishops and politicians eloquently recommend for others, but cunningly never catch themselves—at present under capitalism.

Capitalism, strutting and staggering under the insane burdens of militarism,—capitalism, the present industrial despotism, is motived by robbery, dreads discussion, seduces culture, flatters the foolish, needs the sword, glorifies force, sneers at tears, pretends peace, fattens on war and teaches patriotism to slaves.

For half a hundred centuries this hate-laden madness called patriotism has paralyzed and blinded each new generation of the working class, rendering them the easy, self-slaughtering dupes of a crafty ruling class.

Thus have the workers been duped and stung till now.

Till now.

Light breaks—now. This is the sun-flooded morning of a new era—for the working class.

Slaves see—now. And therefore, this mocking farce, this hideous tragedy, called war, grows clear in the brain of the working class.

The slave is studying capitalism, and therefore he sees the meaning of capitalist patriotism, and as the slave understands capitalism and its necessary patriotism, he understands war.

And as the wage-slave understand war he understands that
Capitalists WANT wars,
Politicians DECLARE wars, and
Workingmen FIGHT the wars.

In all parts of the world the working class are accepting the Socialists' definition of war:

WAR IS WHOLESALE, SCIENTIFIC SUICIDE FOR THE WORKING CLASS IN THE DEFENSE OF THE ECONOMIC INTERESTS OF THE RULING CLASS.

The SOCIALIST Party is OF the working class, FOR the working class and BY the working class—and, therefore, the Socialist Party in every country the sun shines on is opposed to wholesale throat-cutting contests between deluded and betrayed groups of the working class for the amusement and profit of fat-pursed social parasites of capitalism. Socialists strive to socialize society, and have faith in peace as a condition of rapid social progress; and, therefore, they are consistently and persistently against war. "NO MEN TO BE MURDERED AND NO MONEY TO BE WASTED IN WAR" is their slogan all around the world.

The Socialists recognize that war is not social, and is not fraternal, and is not fair; they see that VICTORY ALWAYS GOES TO THE SUPERIOR IN FORCE, absolutely regardless of the moral merit of the armies and questions involved; they see that war is savage resort to brute force, and that, therefore, war does not measure or mete out justice, but simply measures the warring countries' comparative equipment in tiger and savage, cannon and cash.

Socialists observe groups of capitalists seeking and threatening war for FOREIGN markets for goods which the workers produce, but which their WAGES WILL NOT PERMIT THE WORKERS THEMSELVES TO BUY AND ENJOY. And this the Socialists teach diligently to the working class—to warn the working class. Socialists see groups of profit-lusting capitalists, ready with swaggering armies and navies, in many parts of the world, greedily grabbing territory on which to grind and rob still more of the working class. This also is patiently explained to the working class by the Socialists—ever opposed to the slaughter of the toilers. Socialists observe sleek and crafty capitalists everywhere lolling, smiling and safe in their elegant offices and homes, cunningly forcing their liick-spittle capitalist governments to protect capitalist investments in foreign lands, by wars if necessary. This, too, is tirelessly explained to the workers by the Socialists—to warn the toilers, ever eager to save the blood and tears of the working class.

The Socialists understand that International Farce, called The Hague Peace Conference; they note the pompous pretense and the laughable impotence of The Hague Conference of Cowards who are too shrewd to go to war, too brainless to prevent a war, and too emasculate and prostitute to warn the WORKING CLASS against war. The Socialists point out that that Conference was originally and vigorously promoted by the blood-stained Tsar of Russia, who, though a member of the Conference, when a war seemed to suit his economic interests, with mocking irony promptly spat on the Conference and inaugurated the bloodiest war of modern times—all in the blessed name of "patriotism," of course. The Socialists mark well the Italian Government, member of the Conference, scorning the Conference when it suits Italian capitalist interest, and, with the holy blessings of the Church, engaged in a horrible capitalist war, laughing at The Hague Conference, dignifying its brutality with the cheapened phrase, "Christian patriotism"; the Socialists draw aside the curtain and strip the hypocrite's mask from the most noisy, foxy and distinguished member of The Hague Peace Conference, Andrew Carnegie, and remind the world, especially the working class, that "patriotic" Andrew Carnegie and his "patriotic" steel company sold steel armor for battleships to the Russian Government at one-half the price they charged their own dear country for the same armor. That "thieves' banquet" of glittering plutocrats and prostitutes, cunningly called The Hague Peace Conference—that also is explained by the Socialists to the workers of the world.

The Socialists see all the governments of the world that are members of The Hague Peace Conference, without faith and faithless, shrewdly mouthing the words "Patriotism" and "Peace," yet feverishly increasing their armies and navies, preparing for wars in which to win a lion's share of the world's profits at the cost of the blood and tears of the working class. All these things, and more, the Socialists explain to the working class—to WARN the WORKING class.

The Socialist Party is the vanguard of the working class in its grand march upward to freedom. The Socialist Party is the First Regiment in the silent and bloodless war for peace—armed with information and discussion instead of ignorance and dynamite; armed with the printing press and the ballot instead of the Gatling gun and the bullet. The Socialist Party is boldly warning the WORKING class of the world against war—URGING THE WORKERS TO REFUSE TO GO TO WAR.

Wars, modern wars—in almost ALL cases—are between jealous groups of the parasitic ruling class in their swinish international scramble for territory, markets and profits. In these wars the workers cut their own throats (ignorantly shouting "Patriotism!"), and wade in their own blood (ignorantly shouting "Patriotism!"), while the crafty capitalist class, at home, safe and far from the firing line, clap their soft hands together, wink knowingly, and cunningly shout "Patriotism!"

In war the workers' blood is spilt, the workers' tears are despised, the workers' children are orphaned, the workers' wives are widowed, the workers' lives are robbed to pay war taxes and war bonds and war bond interest, the workers' health is blasted, the workers become the hobbling cripples insulted with stingy petty pensions while distinguished, high-salaried judges (whose lives are never risked where the cannon roar) are fattened on pensions of thousands per year. In war the workers have nothing to gain and all to lose. The workers are learning these things well, very well. The Socialists are striking these facts of warning into the brains of the working class in all parts of the world. Indeed, even the best informed and most distinguished ENEMIES of the Socialist Party in all the world admit that the Socialists are persistently and effectively warning the working class against war.

But the GREAT war is the CLASS war, the CLASS STRUGGLE—the war between the capitalist employer class and the wage-earning working class—between the exploiting class who OWN the INDUSTRIAL FOUNDATIONS of society and live on profits, and the exploited class who productively USE the INDUSTRIAL FOUNDATIONS of society and live on wages—the industrial war, in which the employers struggle to beat down the price of labor power and the workers struggle to force up the price of labor power. THIS IS THE FUNDAMENTAL WAR, the SOURCE of war, the war without an end—while capitalism lasts. In this war of clashing CLASS interests other wars originate. And in this struggle rises the Socialist Party—the political organization of the working class, the political right arm of the working class, the legalized army of the working class, with which the working class is cunningly (intelligently) seizing the political powers of society, and thus legally getting into legal position for strategic SELF-DEFENSE—to legally CONTROL the industrial foundations of society for the benefit of all who are willing to work—to give to all who are willing to work EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY TO WORK, and to give to every worker the value of his applied labor power, undiminished by rent, interest and profits.

The Socialist Party lives and strives to FREE the working class—lives and strives, nationally and internationally, TO PLACE THE FEET OF ALL THE PEOPLE FIRMLY UPON THE INDUSTRIAL FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIETY; strives to CONNECT EVERY LIFE WITH THE SOURCE OF LIFE, by making every member of society a joint owner of the industrial foundations of society; that is, a joint owner of the dominant means of production.

The Socialists are rousing, teaching, warning, moving the workers of the world. Mankind feels this international impulse, thrills to warless Socialism. Civilized mankind is rapidly rousing from a race-cursing spell. Soon every red-throated cannon on earth will boom no more—silenced forever. The tears of the war-robbed widows and war-orphaned children and the blood of the world's strong men will cease to stain the earth, and never again on great battlefields will foul birds feast on the shattered corpses of working class youths torn from the trembling embrace of fond mothers and forced to face the storms of lead and steel—to stupidly decide (for their masters) which country is the superior, AS A FIGHTER.

The SOCIALISTS proclaim to the whole world: WE DO NOT WANT OTHER PEOPLE'S BLOOD AND WE REFUSE TO WASTE OUR OWN. IF THE MASTERS WANT BLOOD LET THEM CUT THEIR OWN THROATS.

WAR—WHAT FOR?

In another column will be found, under above heading, a clipping taken from a book written by Comrade Geo. R. Kirkpatrick—same title. This clipping is to be used as a leaflet, and every one who desires a copy of the work from which it is taken can obtain same from this office for $1.20, postage prepaid.

This work of Comrade Kirkpatrick's is the most seathing condemnation of the brutal game of war ever written. It strips the mask of patriotism and pious pretense from the thieves' game and leaves it exposed in all its demoralizing and vicious horrors. It should be read by every one who has the interest of himself and his family at heart. It will show him what answers to give when next his rulers demand cannon food.

Remember, "War, What For?" by Geo. R. Kirkpatrick; $1.20, postpaid. Address, Western Clarion, Vancouver, B. C.

THE AGE LONG STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM OF PRESS

(Continued from last issue)

more important ones were the Bradlaugh-Besant case of the Knowlton pamphlet, W. T. Stead's "Maiden Tribute" case, Reynolds Newspaper prosecutions, David Nicol case of libel, the Freethinker case, in which G. W. Foote received twelve months, and his helpers, Ramsay and Kemp, nine and six months, respectively, and the recent case of J. W. Gott and Stewart, imprisoned for distributing tracts which had circulated for years unchallenged, and which contained nothing more dreadful than a few gibes at superstition.

* * * * *

Such, in brief, is the history of the struggle for an emancipated press, a history that is little known today, presumably because it did not lend itself to the noise and glamour of civil warfare. The participants on the side of justice were beings who, for the most part, were incapable of treading upon a worm, leave alone employing dynamite to attain their object. That was because humanity was the inspiration of their acts—

Not Revenge.

Contrast the recent utterances of "Captain" Tupper at Liverpool and Tillet at Glasgow, wherein they each advocated individual murder, with the dying words of James Nayler:

"There is a spirit which I feel, that delights to do no evil, nor to revenge any wrong, but delights to endure all things in hope to enjoy its own in the end. As it bears no evil in itself, so it conceives none in thoughts to any other."

The speech of a man who had been tortured with redhot irons and scourged with whips.

Our "martyrs" of today do not compare very favorably with those who lived of yore. Then, it was indeed an act of heroism to label oneself Atheist or Freethinker. To-day, the assumption of such opinions only excites pity in the really learned, and gaping curiosity in the ignorant.

The organized superstitution called religion is precisely what De Leon called it—"Politics ambushed behind religion." It is a portion of the state machinery used, primarily, to anesthetise the slaves. With the extinction of capitalism, class ownership in the means of life will cease. When that day arrives it will be no longer necessary to clog up the thinking apparatus of anyone as no useful object will be served by so doing. So, obviously, the race of "cloggers" will automatically die out, and their chloroform—superstition—will die with them. This is recognised now by all really scientific minds, who are interested in dethroning wrong and establishing a system of social justice, and so their labours are given to the economic movement with the complete assurance that if the substance is destroyed the shadow will disappear.

* * * * *

The object of this article is to show, primarily, the manner in which the freedom of the press was won in the past. It was by the untiring devotion to the cause of freedom of men and women who, in spite of "law," "legality" and other sacred things, bravely upheld the gospel of the poet—

"Where Right is Right, to follow Right,
Were wisdom in the scorn of consequence."

We live now in an age when it is universally believed to be possible to say almost anything one likes about abstract things. Such latitude is the legacy to us from the pioneer pigmy-crushers of former generations. The age of tyranny is not yet over, however, and so long as it lasts, every stronghold captured must be tenaciously held. The malice, envy, cunning, and bigotry of those enthroned upon the seats of power are veneered by a studied affectation of tolerance—

They Are not Extinct.

Behind the veil of urbanity there lurks the vulture and the coyote, snarling with impotent rage and ready to swoop upon its prey when an opportunity affords. There is only one safeguard—defiance. The price of liberty is eternal vigilance. By reprinting the prosecuted "Open Letter to British Soldiers," the Socialist placed the hirelings of the laws on the horns of a dilemma. By attacking the S. L. P. with its party-owned press, the authorities knew what the result would probably be—greater publicity given to the proscribed article and a certain repetition or series of repetitions of the "crime." On the other hand, not taking action was tantamount to an admission that we were guilty of no offence whatever. IF WE ARE NOT GUILTY, THEN NEITHER ARE THE OTHERS, and their supporters, in and out of Parliament, should insist either on our prosecution or liberty and compensation to the others. We are inclined to believe, as we write (April 2nd), that neither will happen, and for this reason. The pretext that "mutiny" was the basis of action has fallen flat. Already the sentences of the victims has been reduced. The authorities found they had bitten off more than they could conveniently masticate—but, this is the point. They made an attempt to wrest from the race one of its priceless heritages—freedom of expression, and were tion. The very fact that printed matter of a much more mutinous character had circulated for years with its disseminators unmolested, proves that the motive was such an one. That the attempt was unssuccessful (inasmuch as the Socialist has not been penalised), was no fault of theirs. To those who think otherwise, let the following facts speak for themselves.

On turning over an old volume of Richard Carlile's Republican, the writer came across a letter, dated April 8th, 1825, sent by Carlile to the King, Windsor beginning:

"Sir,—A Christian of the name of George Hale, is making himself conspicuous in an endeavour to enforce a practise consonant with the more rigid and more moral profession of Christianity. He has lately been imprisoned, and liberated without trial, for circulating tracts among the soldiers at Woolwich, shewing that Christianity does not sanction war."

Now, one passage in the Syndicalist letter reads:

"'Thou shalt not kill,' says the Book. It does not say—unless you wear a uniform."

In the Hale case (nearly one hundred years ago) distinct mutiny was preached, inasmuch as the tract decried warfare to soldiers—yet the culprit escaped.

In the Syndicalist, Scripture is quoted not to deter the soldier from his duty on the field of battle, but to exhort him not to slay his kith and kin at home—and the authors here get a vicious sentence. The obvious reason for it is that "mutiny" was only a pretext, the real object was to crush freedo mof expression, and were Blatchford's advice adopted, every advanced newspaper in the kingdom would be snowed under inside of a year. What good would that do the workers?

No! the cause of working class emancipation depends upon two things—the stubborn refusal to relinquish the smallest privilege already gained and a determined, militant, class-conscious organization. Lying down in a fool's paradise dreaming about "Chirgwin" and the milky way only leads to softening of the brain.

John S. Clarke in Edinburgh Socialist.

Are you one of the 400 who will send in one new yearly reader for the Clarion each month, or do you expect the other fellow to do his part and yours too?

F. PERRY
TAILOR
Removed from 58 Hornby St. to LABOR TEMPLE.

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