



AMERICA IS BEST SO SAMMY SAYS

"Sammy," of the American Federation has delivered himself of another rare concoction of wisdom. His latest is hailed by the capitalist press as "Letter from Samuel Gompers, the great labor leader, in which he compares European labor and industrial conditions with those on this continent: America is best, says Mr. Gompers."

One would suppose that the workers, having been bamboozled as many times by the lickspittle press of the masters, would take the words of Sammy with a few pinches of salt, especially when there is such a scramble to obtain "exclusive rights" to the publication of his learned epistles on the part of capitalist publishers. But we are deceived if we expect the "dear people" to do otherwise than make asses of themselves.

While the erudite Samuel is getting these drops of wisdom off his chest he is enthusiastically acclaimed as a saviour of the common people by the representatives of over two million workers in Canada and the United States. His entrance into the convention recently held at Toronto, we are told, was greeted with applause and the workers tumbled over themselves in the scramble to do him honor. All of which goes to show, as P. T. Barnum is credited with having once said, that "the public (substitute workers) likes to be humbugged and likes to pay well for it."

But let's see what our one time Benjaminite has to say for himself. First—"The masses of Europe are worse off than the masses of America." Rejoice you knock-kneed American wage mules! Your brothers in Europe are getting it in the neck even worse than you are. Sounds a great deal like the solace handed out by numerous parsons and such like when a parishoner gets his leg broken—"Brother, you should be very thankful. It might have been worse. Suppose it had been your neck." Of course you are duly gratified to the omnipotent fellow who saved your neck at the expense of your leg, but somehow you feel compelled to ask why the hell it couldn't have been done without you receiving any fracture at all.

But Gompers falls to tell us that while the European worker is exploited of probably about fifty per cent. of his product our "free" American laborer is skinned to the tune of 85 per cent. or thereabouts. It is possible, but highly improbable, that he doesn't know this. If he does know it, there can be only one construction placed upon his silence. His motives must be the same as those of the afore-mentioned Barnum when he originated his "wild men," etc., to fool the dear people.

We are told that "during my tour in Europe I spoke with many men who once accepted the pessimistic (Socialist) views of the destiny of society as at present organized, but now advocate its gradual improvement through the suppression of its injustices as occasion arises and by the further development of those movements and institutions that already contribute to the common welfare. It is at the same time true that many such men remain to some extent engaged in the practical political work associated with the pessimistic (Socialist) movement."

In other words, these Comrades of ours who are raising hell in the Reichstag and other European parliamentary bodies, have secretly admitted to "Sammy" that they are "safe and sane," "simon pure trades unionists of the Gompers-Bryan variety, presumably having learned wisdom from the great success experienced by the A. F. of L. in its late political activities. Of course as such they should be able to talk and write learnedly of "a fair day's pay for a fair day's work," and the like. Yet, strange to say, we don't read much of this sort of stuff in Kautsky, Hyndman, Ferris, Bebel, etc.

"A member of the party (Socialist) may acknowledge that the theory of an economic trend towards conditions worse and still worse has been disproved by time and that the co-operative state as a conception is but an illustrative dream." In other words, a

member of the party (what's the matter with Sammy? Is he afraid the word Socialist will bite?) may say—"Aw, sure, Socialism's a dream alright. It's all damned rot and nobody will ever see the co-operative commonwealth. We're just puttin' in our time. Nothin' else to do, don't you know."

Isn't it fine that everything seems to be coming Sammy's way? No sooner does he light in Europe than the whole European Socialist movement, presumably overawed by the majesty and volubility of the "great labor leader," immediately becomes a mere opportunist political annex to a batch of simon pure trades unions built on the English-American system. Bootiful! Rejoice, all ye wage-mules, the day of deliverance is at hand!

Sammy devotes many paragraphs to a summary of the good things that the English-American brand of "safe and sure" unions have achieved. Among them he enumerates compensation acts, government insurance, labor exchanges, etc. And he spreads ink in fine style in writing of the great co-operative concerns of Germany, Italy, England and other countries.

But here is the climax—"Nothing more significant presented itself to my eye as a tourist than the difference in appearance of the German cities between the time I visited them fourteen years ago and the present year.

In some of the cities these (the slum districts) have been about completely wiped out." Can Sammy point to a single city in America in which the slum district has been completely wiped out? Nay, more. Can he point to an American or Canadian city whose slums have not increased in size and general ugliness in the past fourteen years? Yet—"America is best, says Mr. Gompers."

But let's work along into this marvelous tissue and see what else he has to say. "The open, new boulevards now run through quarters once the sorry refuge of the poorest stratum of society (wonder where the poor devils went?). In Berlin in the northern section a vast new working-class quarter has been developed. The streets are wide, the dwellings almost palatial (ye gods! let's hike for Germany, Mc) outwardly, the apartments have modern equipment.

An inviting appearance," etc., ad infinitum. And all this in benighted Europe. Workers living in "palatial" residences, slums either already wiped out or fast becoming so, a general air of beautiful content, smiling workers with swelling bank accounts and enlarged incomes. Such is the German working class a la Gompers.

The writer has never visited Germany and probably never will unless he goes in a cattle boat, as his masters are damn careful that he doesn't get the necessary coin. But he has read something of the conditions which obtain there. And after due deliberation he accuses Sammy of having wilfully misrepresented the facts, hit the pipe, or indulged too freely in the stuff that "biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder." Must be the latter, as they haven't "local option" or "Scott Act" in Germany, I understand.

Let's suppose, for argument's sake, that Sam is very truthful. Dear reader, "America is best." So let's take a short trip around town and visit some of the "palatial residences" in which the American working-class resides ("lives" is too plebeian). Note the workers loling in luxurious forgetfulness of such mundane matters as seven o'clock whistles and the like. Now, let's visit one of the beautiful boulevards (got any of 'em in Vancouver, Mc?), once slum districts, upon which the working-class population of New York, Chicago, Frisco, Buffalo, Boston, Montreal, Vancouver, Winnipeg, or St. J. lives (I mean resides). Walk in and partake of the champagne dinners, pink teas, etc., that the workers enjoy. Do you find any of these things in America, the land of opportunity (for graft)? No. But Brother Sam informs us that the wage slaves of effete Europe have all these things.

Yet, gentle Apple, "America is best."

THE AFTERMATH.

The Clarion was well informed when it marked the tomb of the Liberal party "1909." As far as members go McBride is the whole show. But it is permissible to guess that McBride would have been stronger with a smaller following. The timber wolf in small numbers is wary and alert, but when the pack is numerous they become bold and reckless. McBride now leads a hungry horde, the majority of whom know nothing of the lean years of 1904-5-6, when three Socialists sat on the lid, a House nine-tenths Tory (or Liberal, for that matter), and \$5,000,000 of a surplus contains interesting possibilities.

During the campaign it was noticeable that the long suit of every government candidate throughout the province was the much larger appropriations that a Tory member would be able to get from a Tory government, or in other words, that the district would be punished for returning an opposition member. This sheds an interesting light on the endorsement said to have been had, of McBride's railway policy. There are many districts in the interior of the province that cannot hope to receive any benefit from this railway scheme. Now the district that could be influenced by a promise of larger appropriation did not at the next moment become so unselfish as to assume grave risks of paying for a railway for some other district.

On the other hand the district that resented this vicious slap at representative government would be in no frame of mind to entrust McBride or his party with a work of the magnitude that the C. N. R. proposal purports to be. I take it, then, that the results of the elections is not so much an endorsement of McBride's railway policy as it is a tribute to the efficient manner in which the machine was greased.

The result of the elections is somewhat disappointing to every Socialist.

As the defeat of Comrade McInnis leaves us weaker in the legislature, and, although there is little cause for surprise at the loss of one seat in three at a time when the Liberals lost eleven out of thirteen, still this could have been avoided. Three years ago the workers of Grand Forks undertook to put McInnis through. A year ago the writer noticed that the active part of the Socialist Party work was allowed to fall on a few active workers, who by reason of consistent activity, had become "undesirable citizens." It would seem that in this election the workers of Grand Forks—the men who voted for McInnis—relied on McInnis himself and the few "undesirables" to put McInnis through. A hundred working men in Grand Forks and Phoenix intent on electing McInnis would have benumbed the arm and tongue of the old party camp-hounds, but if the active work falls on a few individuals who have first been black-listed and then declared lazy because they had no work, the healer is brave with the hope of graft in sight.

No man that voted for McInnis three years ago could claim to have been disappointed, for his record for consistent efficiency was all that it could be, and there is no closer student in the movement in British Columbia. Three years from now the workers of Grand Forks will again undertake to elect McInnis instead of expecting him to bring about his own election.

—P. W.

GRIBBLE'S TOUR.

Comrade Wilfred Gribble of Toronto, organizer for the Socialist Party of Canada, who has lately been doing good work in the eastern provinces, is now working in B. C. All Comrades in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan wishing to use him should write the undersigned for dates, as he will soon be coming this way on a lecturing and organizing trip.

C. M. O'BRIEN.

Box 647, Calgary, Alberta.

THE VALUE OF A SLAVE

A slave at the present time has practically no exchange value for the simple reason that there has been overproduction in the slave market and a decreasing demand for wage slaves, owing to greater productiveness in machinery.

All commodities which possess an exchange value are exceedingly useful to the master class and overproduction is always nipped in the bud when possible. Why? Because if too great a quantity of any commodity is manufactured or produced, it ceases to have that magic quality called exchange value.

Water, air and daylight have exchange value under certain conditions, but on the average they are use values.

Suppose, again, that Brother Gompers is truthful. He says the workers of Berlin are living in a pocket edition of paradise. In America the workers live in a good large sized edition of HELL. Why the difference, if any exists? Is it because the German workers adopted Sam's plan of rewarding enemies and punishing friends? Or, gentle reader, is it because they kicked every "labor leader" of the Gompers brand black and blue and chased them out of the country? The latter is what they did, and they sent stalwart Socialist fighters into the parliaments and councils of the country to work in the interests of the toilers and nobody else. That's the reason the old parties scramble to throw crumbs in the shape of old age pensions, etc., to the workers. That's the reason Sammy found the lot of the Berlin workmen improved in the past fourteen years.

In conclusion, Brother Sam points out the fact that he has taken all the troubles incidental to writing this and numerous other epistles of a like nature for the benefit, not of his pocket-book (perish the thought!) but of those of us who still hang to the obsolete idea that Socialism is practicable. We are gratified and also squelched by the exuberance of Sammy's verbosity.

ROSCOE A. FILLMORE.

HOW CAPITALISM BREEDS LUNACY

It must be apparent to any observant individual that insanity is on the increase all over the civilized world. In England no sooner is a large asylum completed than the authorities are compelled to look out for another site upon which to build another.

To Socialists the explanation of this is easy to find, but to those who have not yet come to an understanding of the Socialist philosophy it must be extremely puzzling.

It is amusing to listen to the arguments that are advanced to attempt to account for the increase of the mentally diseased.

Prohibitionists of course put it down to drink; religious people to sin and wickedness; but neither the decrease in the consumption of alcohol nor the increase in the number of churches and sky pilots checks the march of insanity; perhaps, rather, they add to the number of lunatics. You never can tell.

Countless millions are spent yearly to keep alive these living dead. From two to three per thousand in the Old Country are insane. The number of hospitals for the insane increased over 100 per cent. from 1890 to 1903 in the United States. It is interesting to note that in proportion to the population there are more white than negro lunatics in the latter country. Take any country you like, Canada or anywhere, you will find that insanity increases in the same ratio as capital. It develops as the system develops.

The writer of this article has spent many years of her life as a nurse in institutions where those who suffer from mental derangement are kept, and the facts herein stated are what have come under her personal observation during her experience in criminal public or private asylums.

It will strike the reader as strange to know that she has never seen any institution where any attempt is made to cure a patient. You all know the effect of environment and can perceive that a person temporarily unbalanced is almost certain to become permanently so when thrown into the company of thirty of forty creatures who are stark, staring mad. Many patients in these places have been former nurses there. It is no uncommon thing to have to nurse one's fellow-nurses.

A fellow-workmate of mine was once suffering from overwork, and was on night duty in a highly nervous condition. She became afraid and feared she would lose her senses. Eventually she put down her lantern in a corridor, went into a side-room and banging the door behind her, thus locked herself in.

She was examined the next morning, and she told the officers that if they would allow her to go home to her parents she was sure she would be all right in a few days. They decided, however, that she must remain as an inmate until she recovered. Naturally she soon got worse and in the long run really became mad, exposed as she was to the gibbering insults of her former patients. At length she came under my charge, and in her sane moments we would discuss the improbability of anyone recovering their mental faculties in such places.

Asylums manufacture more insanity than they cure. In most institutions at 6 a. m. the night nurses go off duty and the day nurses come on. The patients are told to rise. Should one refuse, she is left until the last and then told to dress. If she is still stubborn, it is no uncommon thing for her to be dragged out of bed, enveloped in a sheet and pulled along a corridor and thrown into a side-room. Sometimes the nurses get angry at the trouble she has caused them, and to prevent the marks being visible they fog her with wet sheets. When the doctor comes he is told she has been very violent, and on going to see her he generally finds her as mad as you would be under the circumstances. He tells her she ought to be ashamed of herself, orders her soft food for two or three days, and walks away. The nurses are not altogether to blame. Most of these places are un-

derstaffed and the work must be done that is specified to be done, and the nurses see that the patients do it.

By seven a. m. the patients must be at breakfast, and by 10 a. m. the day rooms, corridors, kitchens, pantries, dormitories, in fact, everything, must be made spick and span, ready for the doctor's visit. This work is done by the patients under the nurses' supervision. A patient who is a good worker is often considered as indispensable to the nurses and stands a poor chance of regaining her liberty. Charge nurses have great power and often keep a woman an inmate of these places by petty reports after the authorities of the institution have certified that she would be allowed her discharge in a certain time should she behave herself.

Some of the patients are temporary lunatics through drink. Very little comes to light regarding the treatment of the inmates of these places, and I do not care to disclose what I have seen, but I would sooner shoot any friends of mine than allow them to become imprisoned within the walls of an asylum.

However, this article is written in order to attempt to show a few of the causes of insanity and not to describe the horrors of a madhouse. Many of my patients were factory girls. These poor creatures spent their time in looking after imaginary machinery. The monotony of their former employment had worked on their nerves to such an extent that they always believed themselves to be at work. Some of these had the sound of the factory machinery continually in their ears, and were always begging pitifully for the engine to be stopped.

Some have been cigarette makers, and were consequently on piece-work before they lost their senses. From morning to night they were making cigarettes out of nothing and calculating the amount of their wages, plainly showing that they had been speeding up to the last ounce before they finally broke down. Hundreds of instances could be given plainly showing that the hustling demanded by the present system is registering its victims daily in the lunatic asylums.

It may surprise you to know that the more refined a woman is in her sane senses the more coarse and filthy her language and actions when she becomes insane. The patients suffering from religious mania can out-swear all others. If it were possible for God to hear their highly colored language when they let the steam off, I guess the old man would go to the infernal regions for a change.

Many women go mad through milk fever, and rarely recover. One peculiarity about these cases is that their past lives are often a blank to them. They generally fail to recognize either their own children or their husbands.

Epileptic cases are numerous and dreadful. Flight is also a frequent source of mental trouble, and so is solitude. On the prairies in this country many lose their senses through the lonely lives they are compelled to lead. They generally begin by talking to themselves and end by being afraid of the sound of their own voices.

The genius and the lunatic are near akin. I have seen the most beautiful carvings done with very primitive tools. Sculpture performed upon soap that even the ancient Greeks themselves might envy. Musical instruments made to produce more melody than they ever turned out when worked by sane hands and brains. I once saw a play staged by a lunatic. He trained every actor and took the leading part himself. It appeared more realistic and made a deeper impression upon the audience than any play I have ever seen. Most lunatics possess infinite patience and genius is the capacity for taking pains.

Insane individuals will frequently be able to perform a feat utterly beyond them in their rational state. One girl from the slums of Manchester could, when mad, play a piano in a most wonderful manner, but when in her normal

(Continued on Page 3)

JUNIUS BRUTUS.

The Western Clarion

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

Subscription: \$1.00 Per Year, 50 cents for Six Months, 25 cents for Three Months.

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

Advertising rates on application. If you receive this paper, it is paid for.

In making remittance by cheque, exchange must be added. Address all communications and make all money orders payable to THE WESTERN CLARION, Box 336, Vancouver, B. C.



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

558 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 1909.

HELP WANTED.

That smooth guy, the regular editor of the Clarion, endeavored to beguile Bill Gribble into taking over his entire work this week, but having had a week's opportunity of sizing the matter up, we didn't fall for the suggestion, compromising by undertaking merely the editorial writing.

There is a great deal more to the editorship of the Clarion than writing an article or two and sitting at the desk using a blue pencil; we will make no attempt to be technical in mentioning a few of the tasks he has to perform. He has to read the proofs; to arrange like matter so that the columns and pages are nicely filled out; to correct the mailing list weekly, picking out slugs of expired subs; to get new ones set and inserted in their proper places.

After doing the thousand and one things necessary before the Clarion is printed, he has to attend to the folding, mailing and addressing. Most of them have to be addressed separately, and in the case of a large number, wrapped singly as well. This takes a great deal of time, and though he has willing helpers weekly, it seems to us he could do with more, and also, it seems to us, the more systematic the help the better. It should not be forgotten that he has also the duties of Dominion and B. C. Provincial Secretary to attend to. As we are only temporarily filling his chair, we can with good grace make the suggestion that any comrades who can do so should render what help they can in getting out the Clarion in order to make a heavy task as light as possible.

THOUGHT AND ACTION.

It is a good thing when members of the Socialist Party get together for the purpose of studying economics, to find out what is real and what is false, to educate and be educated; but all such should keep in mind the need of not only acquiring knowledge, but of DOING something each day of their lives in order to hasten the downfall of capitalism. While it is highly important that we have as many well-versed economists in the Party as possible, it is just as important, if not more so, that every Party member should be a willing spade worker for a part, at least, of his spare time.

The essential thing is that every Comrade should be inspired by the desire to do what he (or she) can right now, be willing to do whatever is wanted to be done that he is capable of doing, whatever that happens to be, to be ready, if he has tried a certain duty and found he is unfitted for that, to do something else that he is fitted for, for we are all fitted for something and can be all equally useful, if not equally well known.

There is a tendency to think that it is necessary to be a platform man to be fully useful in the movement, but, while it is very desirable that as many as possible should equip themselves as such, there are many ways in which Comrades can be just as useful, and we are convinced that it is only necessary to point out these ways and volunteers will be forthcoming. By all means become a speaker if you can, and, if you do, don't be "too good" to do a bit of spade work as well, if necessary, and you have time. Try writing for the Clarion occasionally, but if your contribution doesn't appear don't get sore; remember the Clarion is not out to please even you, but to educate the workers, and try again and don't get sore even if your screed doesn't appear then.

If you find eventually you are not fitted for either writing or speaking, don't decry either of these methods of propaganda. Probably you will have found out in the meantime, having been doing what you can in the spade

work of the movement, what you are fitted for, and inspired by the desire of being useful you will do THAT thing.

The Socialist Party of Canada, in the West, at least, has reached the stage when great attention will have to be paid to the detail work of organization if further progress is to be made. While the Comrades in the East are still engaged in a struggle to keep the movement on a revolutionary basis, the Comrades in B. C. settled that matter for good and all some time since and there is nothing to prevent them devoting all their spare energy to an effectual and direct attack on capitalism.

For this a thoroughly disciplined (self-disciplined) organization is necessary, with, as has been pointed out previously, great and systematic attention paid to detail. We merely point out this fact; it is for the Comrades who have the work in hand to work out the details for themselves.

While we have many ideas in the back of our head as to these details we will not presume to enumerate them here, as space is limited, and their name is legion. The B. C. Comrades have done nobly in every way in the recent election. Many of them, as has come under our own observation, have worked themselves to the point of exhaustion. After the necessary breathing spell after a hard contest, it is for the Comrades to be making ready for the next.

It is a glorious opportunity that is presented to the revolutionary workers in this part of capital's domain. With a crystal clear revolutionary movement as we have, there is no reason except want of systematic organization, why at the next election we should not capture the powers of government in British Columbia, and set the pace for the workers of the world to follow.

Study is good, argument has its uses, but action is in a class by itself. "Not argument but action shall decide." "Men of thought and men of action, clear the way!"

WOULDN'T IT MAKE YOU SICK?

The social and moral reform folks have been at it again. It is the S. & M. Association of Saskatchewan which has been vomiting this time.

Meeting in solemn conclave at Regina under the chairmanship of His Lordship the Bishop of Saskatchewan (a HUMBLE follower of the meek and lowly at so much per annum), the first mess they threw up was as follows:

"Having heard with alarm of the existence in Canada of the agents of the white slave traffic and believing it to be the first duty of the state to protect the citizens, we hereby urge upon the government of Canada the need of more stringent legislation backed by vigorous enforcement, to stamp out this most hideous crime."

Now isn't that original? No one, of course, knew there was a white slave traffic until it was pointed out by the S. & M. bunch of Saskatchewan, who it is evident have just "heard of it."

But they are away off, as usual; it is only a small part of the white slave traffic they are speaking of: The traffic in girls for the purpose of satisfying the sexual needs of the ever-increasing army of celibates, who are celibates, as a rule, not because of free will (which does not exist) but because they realize the increasing uncertainty of life under capitalism, the risk in or impossibility of, setting up a home of their own; or, in the case of the choicest of the victims, for the purpose of their becoming the playthings of the master class, who, having no useful purpose in life, devote their lives to sexual and other excesses. Witness the Platts, the Thaws, the Whites, the King Leopolds, et al. The demand is there, and is catered to for the profit there is in it and for no other reason.

If the men engaged in this traffic could see some other way of making as much or more profit as they make in this way; they would engage in that particular traffic. Their motives are just as "pure" as were the Lord Bishop of Saskatchewan's when he accepted his present well-paid job: They are out for the goods.

We repeat: The demand is there, made by men who have the same sexual instinct as His Lord Bishop of Saskatchewan, and the other social and moral reformers, but who, unlike his Lordship, cannot satisfy their perfectly natural sexual hunger in a RESPECTABLE way. The supply is forthcoming from the army of girls who receive such a small price for their labor power that they can barely exist upon it, and so some of them "fall," their will power gives way—there is limit to power of will as there is to power of muscle—they realize they can get a higher price for their beauty than for their labor power, so withdraw the one from and throw the other on the market.

And the social and moral reformers are going to hand over the job of "stamping out" this "hideous crime" to the government of Canada. What a gang to place trust in for a purpose of this kind! Nuff sed!

We neither know nor care whether these social and moral reformers are sincere in their ignorance or hypocritical in their knowledge, or whether some of them are the one and some the other, as motives don't count. It is actions we deal with, and so we beg to inform them they are, as usual, barking up the wrong tree. The real evil lies in the system of production for profit, which they either do not know how to or do not dare attack.

That is the work of the working class itself, and we can and will attend to it alright. All we ask of His Holy Lordship of Saskatchewan and such as he is to get ready to "stand from under" when we have sufficiently undermined the capitalist system and it comes down with a crash to make way for a better one. This is good advice; it will be safer to take than to reject.

The white slave traffic has to be "stamped out" by the slaves themselves, the wage slaves who, having nothing but their labor power, have to dispose of that in order to get access to the means of life and as that labor power is their very life-force, wrapped up in what His Holy Lordship will tell us is an image of God, so that body goes with it, is the property of the class that buys their labor power, and hence they are slaves.

They are fast learning this and as a result are also learning the remedy—the taking, by any means necessary, of the means of life from the master class, the present owners.

Yes, sooner or later rebellious slaves will do the "stamping out." Be careful you are not stamped upon!

DETERMINISM.

The above is a big word. It is often qualified, especially by Socialists, who have just taken up the study of Scientific Socialism, the word "economic."

What does it mean? It simply means this, that things are as they are because they have to be, that we are what we are because we cannot be anything else, that "free will" doesn't exist, that we are physical automatons, none the less because we are conscious of it, doing what we do because we have to, and thinking what we think because we can't help it.

We will try to make the matter clear in as simple and brief a manner as possible, and for that reason will deal with the individual ourselves. We were born a certain number of years ago because we had to be, we couldn't help it, it was "determined" before we were born, by forces over which we had no control. We took our first yell because we had to and drew our first breath for the same reason. We sought for the right place to get our nourishment from through inherited instinct—a part of determinism. We grew and developed as a result of natural laws—determinism.

As our stature increased our will developed, not "free" will—you see—our will itself is determined—we developed likes and dislikes, appetites and desires, not because we chose to in any primary sense. Even if we admit choice, our choice itself was determined.

We fell in love because we couldn't help it—this is readily understood—and eventually became a Socialist, because we had to, and are doing our best to influence others to become the same because we must.

Just here I suppose we may begin to say "economic" determinism, but after all it is only a part of the whole. Who is to say where natural laws become economic laws, where is the dividing point of organic and social evolution? We are not going to try, not having time.

We are "determined" to do what we can to show our fellow slaves what is the matter with society right now. Most of them don't seem to have time to learn THAT.

When we meet a fellow slave who wants to know more, we are "determined" to teach him what more we know (it isn't much), and then pass him on to some one who can teach him more. We are not as much given to big words and fine distinctions as we were once, as we know better now—this again has been "determined" by experience.

This is a short screed on a long subject, but you have the idea; study it out for yourselves if the wish to has been "determined" in you; it will do no harm if it is also "determined" that you will not develop a desire to air your knowledge after you have got it, or think you have, just for the sake of doing so.

LESSONS IN LAWLESSNESS.

Regarding elections, election laws and laws in general, it seems to be the idea of some Socialists that we are sure to win with the ballot as soon as we have an intelligent majority. Now the election laws are not made for the purpose of allowing the Socialists to obtain the reins of government, and we know that during the last session of the B. C. House they tried, and partly succeeded, in making it harder for a worker to vote. It is only reasonable to suppose that in the future when the Socialists become more numerous, our masters will still

further restrict the franchise. There are plenty of people scattered through the country who say plainly that a man without property should have no voice in making the laws that govern property. That may easily be the next step of our masters, the complete disfranchisement of the propertyless man. Who can blame them? Until third parties are completely eliminated from the running, they won't allow a minority of propertyless Socialists to capture the government.

Take the election here in Fernie for instance. Ross is elected by a minority of the voters, assisted by corrupt methods and the endorsement of the Christian churches. The local option reformers are bucking booze, and they support the parties who use booze to elect themselves to office. They violate every clause in the election act, and what are you going to do about it? But suppose the Socialists resorted to such methods, oh my! what a holler. They (the capitalists) know their friends, the courts, and know that they are taking no chances. They are ALL HONORABLE men.

But when the time comes, as it surely will, when we have an intelligent majority throughout the land, a good safe majority, will it be necessary, will it be sensible, for us to fool and fiddle around with their old elections act? Most of us won't have a vote when that time comes, so what will we care about election acts? There are probably some thousands of men in B. C. who are "citizens," and yet have no vote on account of jumping sideways job-hunting, and there was enough of them in Fernie riding, who held our views, yet had no vote, to have elected Harrington in spite of the corrupt methods of the opposition.

Vote when you can and vote in your interests, but if you place too much confidence in the power of your ballot you are going to be disappointed. Does anybody think for a minute that this has been a popular election in the full sense of the word? Why, probably one-quarter of the old party voters did not know whether they had voted at an election or been to a St. Patrick's Day celebration, when they awoke next morning and started to hunt for an eye-opener, with a taste in their mouth as though a Doukaboour family had just moved out.

Most of the balance of the old party voters did not know that they had voted for their masters, but they had. Popular indeed! Popular with the grafters.

"Workmen of the world unite; you have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to gain." And when you are sufficiently united you won't need to vote for what you want with your master's ballot; you'll just take the world and that's all.

L. E. DRAKE.

NOT UP TO DATE.

Dear Comrade,— Every now and then there rises "a dirge of woe and wall of Comrades; said," about the small circulation of the Clarion. The following gems of thought and original suggestions are submitted to you for the purpose of raising the aforesaid circulation; if you don't use them, on your own head be it.

The fact is you are not up to date, not modern enough, you and your rusty old economics and logic. If you really had the interest of your paper at heart you would invest in a beautiful picture to give away to every new subscriber, say a thought-compelling painting like the "Mule's Awakening" or "Stoney Broken and Hard to Lose"; if these don't catch on try something with a suggestion of royalty about it, say the king of the remote seas, his poodle dogs and harem, or the princess on the toot. All of these gems of art can be had from the publishers in the old country, who will give you a million or so for the trouble of taking them away. Then you should run a page of Pansy or Sunflower or Tulip, wherein he Comrades and she Comrades with matrimonial intentions could disport themselves. How nice it would be to read love lines from Mangy Molly to Pimpety Pete or middle-aged bachelor about 84 years would like to correspond with young lady about the same age with view to marriage. Charming idea, I call it. Next, you want a page where the juvenile sages could propound their weighty views, call it the Prairie Snipes Club or something like that. A serial story would also improve things. Try some of these up to date ones which the stone age Herald or neolithic Times used; they can be had very cheap and wear well. A question department where questions of an innocuous kind would be answered, such as, how many blue beans make five, are tadpoles given to intemperance, or do frogs cough at night, has a flea any sense of humor, are blue jays related to elephants, if so, why? You would find that something of this kind would give your paper a huge boom.

Come on, buck up and keep up with the times; you're slow, me bhoj. Who cares if we ARE robbed or not; what we want is a paper which is a S. P. C. X. K. tract with a temperance right wing and a matrimonial left, comprising altogether a wonderful collection of useful mis-information.

ALFRED BUDDEN.

North Battleford, Sask.

Socialist Directory

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

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Monday. D. G. McKenzie, Secretary, Box 336, Vancouver, B. C.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Monday. D. G. McKenzie, Secretary, Box 336, Vancouver, B. C.

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Monday in Labor Hall, 8th Ave. East, opposite postoffice. Secretary will be pleased to answer any communications regarding the movement in the province. F. Ortoby, Sec., Box 647 Calgary, Alta.

MONTANA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Meets first and third Mondays of every month. Jubilee Hall, corner of King and Alexander. The Secretary will be pleased to furnish any information and answer any correspondence relative to the movement. Secretary, H. Saltman, Room 15, Harrison Block, Winnipeg, Man.

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Meets in Finnish Hall, 214 Adelaide St., Toronto, on 1st and 3rd Mondays. Organizer, W. Gribble, 134 Hogarth Ave., Toronto. P. C. Young, Secretary, 940 Pape Ave., G. Colombo, Italian Organizer, 224 Chestnut St.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, NO. 1, S. P. OF CANADA. Business meetings every Tuesday evening at headquarters, over Edgett's Store, 161 Hastings St. W. F. Perry, Secretary, Box 336.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, B. C., NO. 45, Finnish. Meets every second and fourth Thursdays in the month at 161 Hastings St. W. Secretary, Matt Martilla.

LOCAL VICTORIA, NO. 2, S. P. OF C. Headquarters and Reading Room, Room 1, Eagle Building, 151 Government St. Business meeting every Tuesday evening, 8 p.m. Propaganda meetings every Sunday at Grand Theatre. Jas. McIndoe, Secretary, Room 1, 1319 Government St.

LOCAL NANAIMO, NO. 2, S. P. OF C. Meets every alternate Sunday evening in Foresters Hall. Business meeting at 7:00 o'clock sharp. Propaganda meeting commences at 8:00 o'clock. Jack Place, Rec. Secy., Box 336.

LOCAL FERNIE, S. P. OF C. HOLDS educational meetings in the Miners' Union Hall, Victoria Ave., Fernie, every Sunday evening at 7:00. Business meeting first Sunday in each month, same place at 2:30 p.m. J. Lancaster, Sec., Box 164.

LOCAL GREENWOOD, NO. 2, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday in Miners' Union Hall at 7:30 p.m. Business meetings, 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. Geo. Heatherton, Organizer; K. J. Campbell, Secretary, Box 14.

LOCAL FERNIE, S. P. OF C., HOLDS C. meets every Friday night at 7:30 in Timmins' Hall, corner of Seventh and Tronson Sts. Business and propaganda meetings every Wednesday at 8 p.m. Secretary, Vernon, B. C.

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

LOCAL PORT MOODY, B. C., NO. 41, S. P. OF C.—Business meetings first and third Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. V. Hull, Secretary, Port Moody, B. C.

LOCAL PRINCE GEORGE, B. C., NO. 2, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL LADSMITH, NO. 10, S. P. OF C. Business meetings every Saturday 7 p.m. in headquarters on First Ave. Parker, Williams, Sec., Ladysmith, B. C.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL LADSMITH, NO. 10, S. P. OF C. Business meetings every Saturday 7 p.m. in headquarters on First Ave. Parker, Williams, Sec., Ladysmith, B. C.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

LOCAL SHERBROOKE, B. C., NO. 1, S. P. OF C. Meets every Sunday at 8 p.m., on the street corners and various halls. J. B. King, Secretary.

Directory of Western Federation of Miners in British Columbia

Table with columns: Executive Board Member, District Association No. 6, President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, No., Name, Meeting Night, Pres., Secy., P.O. Box, Add.

C. PETERS Practical Boot and Shoe Maker. Hand-Made Boots and Shoes to order in all styles. Repairing promptly and neatly done. Stock of ready-made shoes always on hand. 2456 Westminister Ave.

TYOLAISET CANADASSA. Jos tahdotte jotakin tietäen tyovaan puoluuteensa ja sosialismin edistyksesta Canadassa, niin tilatkaa kohta.

"Tyokansa" Box 107, Port Arthur, Ont.

PATENTS PROMPTLY SECURED. We solicit the business of Manufacturers, Engineers and others who realize the advisability of having their Patent business transacted by Experts. Preliminary advice free. Charges moderate. Our Inventor's Adviser sent upon request. Marion & Marion, New York Life Bldg, Montreal and Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Se on Canadassa ainoa Suomen kielen sanomalehti, joka taistelee sinunkin puolesta. Edistat tyovaan luokkaa tilamalla Tyokansa.

Propaganda Meeting Sunday Evening, 8 o'Clock City Hall Vancouver B. C.

ECONOMICS—FALSE AND TRUE.

Some people say that Socialism lays down a law of capitalist evolution. It does nothing of the kind. It only discovers the laws of capitalist evolution.

We should preclude a great many misunderstandings and objections by emphasizing the fact that the Socialist doctrine merely discovers what is going on in the evolutionary process of our social system.

Neither can we, if we are true students of the science of Socialism. Socialism is no future state of society; Socialism is now. It is the understanding of capitalism.

Marx has been attacked by many stalwart opponents, particularly as to his theory of value, the revolutionary part of Socialist economics, but he remains absolutely invincible.

Jevons merely gave a new name to the old theory. The supply and demand theory was well known long before Jevons' time.

Marx did not analyse the exchange of commodities under conditions of monopoly, but under conditions of free exchange such as prevailed in his time.

Jevons' theory was entirely different. He said that repeated reflection and inquiry had led him to the opinion that value depended entirely on utility.

Jevons is also wrong in adhering to the old idea that supply follows demand. This is not always the case.

The question of whether a commodity has any utility in it or not is always largely a social question.



ess? We might properly describe them as articles of disutility. Such utility as they possess consists in the fact that under present conditions somebody will buy them.

After telling us that the value of a commodity depends upon its utility, Jevons goes on to say that we can vary the utility by having more or less of a commodity to consume.

Jevons predicted that we should soon exhaust our coal supply. This has been ridiculously falsified.

Professor Marshall is a humbug and a bore. He has stolen from Marx the distinction between labor and labor power, but he is unable to make any use of the distinction.

Bohm-Bawerke said that labor was certainly not the most objectively important circumstance in regard to exchange value, and to prove this instance trees, beds of coal, and virgin soil.

Bohm-Bawerke never understood Marx. He showed this when he bracketed Marx and Hegel together.

Marx taught that the development of society was in the main conditioned by the economic forms of the production, distribution and exchange of wealth.

Since the break up of early communism this antagonism has taken the form of a struggle of classes.

The means of production are not private property. They are the property of a class.

The analysis by Marx of capitalist society holds the field today and is at the present moment the basis of every Socialist Party of a really serious character in every country where a Socialist movement exists.

Today in every country competition is developing into monopoly. The trusts are in Europe as well as the States.

For, look you, working man. Here are vast natural resources, untapped, capable of supplying the needs of millions of people.

order to see where it is likely to lead us.

The I. L. P. and similar organizations talk about organizing the society of the future. Mankind does not organize either society or industry.

This much we know: We are face to face as a class with starvation because another class uses the wealth that we create to reduce us to deeper and deeper poverty.

The spirit of Revolt is here born and bred by the economic conditions of the time.

THE INSTINCT OF SLAVERY.

Occasionally there falls from the lips of some trilled and trusty henchman of capitalism a statement that is to a Socialist as "manna to the hungry soul."

Yet not even the misery, crime and filth in which the lower ranks of the workers are so deeply immersed, wherever capital is king, afford as pitiable an example of the depths men may sink to.

So it is refreshing to read that Mr. Balfour also thinks there is little of better things for the working class under this present system.

"He had never said that any arrangement as to tariffs was going to abolish unemployment altogether.

"He did not know whether it was possible to destroy unemployment altogether, but certainly no arrangements about the employment of capital or the starting of new works could touch the unemployable.

Mr. Balfour does not know whether it is possible to abolish unemployment. But we know, we Socialists. We know that it is impossible to abolish unemployment, and still yield enormous revenues to capital.

But it may not be so applied. For the mass of 'wealth which cannot be consumed is already so great that production must cease awhile till it dwindles a little.

the mass of 'wealth which cannot be consumed is already so great that production must cease awhile till it dwindles a little.

A moment's consideration will show you how this occurs. A workman is allowed to continue working only so long as he can create a profit for his master.

I have not time to go into this fully now. The point is: how much longer are you workmen going to tolerate a system of production that only allows you a living when profit can be wrung out of your hide by a few idle parasites.

Yet not even the misery, crime and filth in which the lower ranks of the workers are so deeply immersed, wherever capital is king, afford as pitiable an example of the depths men may sink to.

Not only so, but we like it, some of us. It is but for a little while; soon we shall be bosses, we say. Then we, too, will stamp around, filling menials with awe.

Not only so, but we like it, some of us. It is but for a little while; soon we shall be bosses, we say. Then we, too, will stamp around, filling menials with awe.

Teacher Wanted. A school teacher for Gibson's Landing, school, male preferred. Duties to commence after Christmas holidays. Apply stating qualifications and experience to: Jas. Fletcher, sec. school board, Gibson's Landing, B.C.

PLATFORM Socialist Party of Canada. We, the Socialist Party of Canada, in convention assembled, affirm our allegiance to, and support of the principles and programme of the revolutionary working class. Labor produces all wealth, and to the producers it should belong. The present economic system is based upon capitalist ownership of the means of production, consequently all the products of labor belong to the capitalist class.

"THE LIBRARY OF ORIGINAL SOURCES" Greatest Work Extant for Socialists. Among Socialists and other independent thinkers, this great library is superseding encyclopedias, histories and all such second-hand information. It digs deep into the real history of civilization, reveals the naked truth and shows why Socialism is inevitable.

READ WHAT THE COMRADES SAY. APPEAL TO REASON: "Active Locals could not make a better investment than a set of these books." W. M. KEAGLE (Hudson, Mich., Local): "I am a poor man, yet my money goes cheerfully for what I consider the greatest acquisition of my life."

TO HOUSEKEEPERS. If you would like to spend less time in your kitchen and woodshed, and have much more time for outdoor life, recreation and pleasure, look into the question of doing your cooking with a Gas Range. Telephone your address to our office and we will send a man to measure your premises and give you an estimate of cost of installing the gas pipes.