

WESTERN CLARION

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SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1913

OFF THE FENCE.

A revolutionary movement, no matter what class-interests it fights for, has no room in the ranks for political trimmers. To harbor such spells, immediately, confusion, and in the long run often reduces the organization that tolerates it to impotence.

The position of Clem Stubbs, President of District 18, U. M. W. A., as conveyed in the telegram published on the front page of last week's issue, is on all-fours with the foregoing:

Here was a man, a few years ago looked upon as possessing abilities that would prove of considerable assistance to the Socialist movement of Western Canada, placed in a position where he had to make a choice between three courses.

A political struggle, probably the bitterest and hardest of any in which the Socialist Party of Canada has ever engaged, had commenced. That party, to which he had given his affiliation, had nominated candidates who stood on a revolutionary, uncompromising platform. The capitalist interests, in view of the strength of Socialist sentiment amongst the miners of the Lethbridge District, had nominated a "Labor" man to oppose the Socialist Party candidate in their interest.

The majority of the Committee report in favor of the motion, the minority in favor of endorsing the "Labor" (Liberal) party. A motion is immediately made to adopt the latter report, exposing to the least observing eye the slimy tactics of Labor-Liberalism.

There were two alternatives left him. Either he could support the recommendation of the minority to endorse the nominee of the Liberal Party, or relying on the influence of his position as official head of the miners' Union, sidetrack the issue by moving an alternative motion. He chose the latter, and moved that the convention endorse the political platform of the Alberta Federation of Labor, presumably relying on the fact that the Federation had, in convention, endorsed the platform of the Socialist Party of Canada, to square himself with the Socialists in the Union, without alienating his following amongst the non-Socialists.

The Alberta Federationist, the official organ of the Alberta Federation of Labor, on March 28th last, contained a lengthy editorial, in which the claims of the Socialist Party of Canada to represent the interests of the workers, were ridiculed, and the suggestion made that their candidate should be withdrawn from the contest in the newly created constituency of North Calgary, in favor of a "good man" to be nominated by the trade-union organizations.

The Smith referred to has been working for the nomination on the Socialist ticket in the Lethbridge District for months past, and has consequently been disappointed. However, he has not given up his hopes of political advancement, for an inside paragraph announces that he will be the farmers' candidate in the Yetwood District, running as a Socialist.

On the whole, the situation is decidedly interesting, and our men (especially Fitz) must be having the time of their lives.

"The attitude of the average voter is like that of the Indian who, on being asked how he found his way over a frozen bay to his island reserve, replied: 'Dog follow track-me follow dog.' The political leader follows the track and the voter follows his leader."

Arthur. His public utterances at that period classed him with the reddest of the reds. Anything savouring of compromise or political trading was anathema maranatha, to be stamped upon as deadly and poisonous treachery to the working class.

No change that has occurred in the political situation in B. C. or Alberta since these jobs were secured can be adduced as justification for these political acrobatic stunts. Class-lines have been steadily growing clearer, the revolutionary sentiment more pronounced. Affectionate regard for a meal-ticket or the "distinguished" position that goes with it, in the first instance, and the same, added to the consuming desire to be one of the "good men" who are to accomplish the stupendous task of "educating" (by a long and toilsome process) the membership of the Alberta Federation of Labor to the necessity of the working-class capturing political power are the most probable reasons that can be adduced.

These acts of political fence-riding result from the continued occupation of a dual position. As Socialists their principles impel them to the support of the position taken by the S. P. of C. As well-paid trade-union officials who wish to retain their jobs they have to move cautiously, as becometh they who would walk upon eggs. Their meal-tickets are dependent upon the good will of their paymasters, the rank and file of the unions, Socialists and non-Socialists. Their self-respect demands that their political principles be kept unsullied in the time of test. The weakening of the courage of their convictions induced by a protracted period of fence-riding between the two alternatives, unfits them to meet the test when it is forced on them, and they take the road they consider the easiest, and the most profitable to their immediate interests.

In doing so they have gained the questionable distinction of being the first of those who have attained prominence in the Socialist Party of Canada to sacrifice principle to personal ambition.

The party can congratulate itself that they are now on the other side of the fence.

Since the above was written the April 4th issue of the Alberta Federationist has come to hand, and its contents provide ample justification for the preceding article.

It contains an account of the convention held in Lethbridge last week, the true account of which was given in the Fernie telegram published in the Clarion of April 5th.

The candidates who accepted the nomination to run as "Labor" men were Clem Stubbs, J. O. Jones and W. Symonds, the latter a local "labor-leader." Stubbs and Symonds are reported as withdrawing in favor of Jones. Stubbs spoke eulogizingly of Jones.

As stated in the telegram from Calgary in last week's issue, the Trades and Labor Council endorsed Burge, the Socialist Party candidate in North Calgary. The Alberta Federationist confirms this, and the comment accompanying it displays the fact that L. T. English, the editor, takes a licking badly.

The issue contains a full page ad. of the Conservative candidates in Calgary, with their portraits. The portraits of two Vancouver trade-union officials, Jas. H. McVety and R. P. Pettepiece, adorn the front page, but as the cuts have probably been in the office of the paper since its first appearance, it would be unfair to accept it as evidence that they endorse the policy of the paper.

A letter appears from a member of Lethbridge Local No. 13, S. P. of C., taking exception to the nomination of Com. J. R. Knight because the 1,000 workers in the constituency (but not members of the party) were not consulted, and refers to Edwin T. Smith a member of Diamond City Local, as a better man. This Smith was recently referred to in Cotton's Weekly as "our man." The letter also contains the assertion that two members of the Lethbridge Local of the S. P. of C. were delegates to the Trades and Labor convention to assist in the formation of a new political party. To us that appears to be a bare-faced lie, and does not fit in.

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AN APPEAL FROM THE GREEK SOCIALIST PARTY.

An appeal to comrades all over the world on behalf of the Greek Socialists was to have been sent out at the same time as the appeals from the Serbian and Bulgarian Socialists.

But just then our general secretary, who was to prepare the circular, was called away suddenly from Athens to Constantinople and kept out of touch with us for more than a fortnight. Hence the delay in the appeal.

The situation in Greece, in consequence of the mobilisation is no less critical and acute than in the rest of the Balkans. The whole country is suffering from the devastating effects of war due to loss of employment, dispersion and deaths.

In Greece, as in other belligerent countries, our propaganda has been particularly crippled, and our Socialist labor centre at 40, Rue Piree, Athens, as well as its branches in the provinces, must soon be closed through lack of funds.

The work already achieved during peace, in spite of difficulties, is most excellent. Socialist thought has so deeply penetrated public opinion that it has overcome the former repugnance of the Greek nation to the ideal of the United Balkan Peoples, and has even created a certain amount of public opinion in favor of pursuing that ideal along our lines.

Among the signal achievements of the Greek Socialist Party may also be reckoned:

- (1) The pressure which it has exerted upon the political parties so as to oblige them to pass factory laws, such as they are; and (2) The satisfactory agitation of the woman's question.

The splendid campaign of the last five years is now threatened. The jingoist elements find the moment opportune to injure us by spreading rumors that as we are anti-militarists, we are inimical to the welfare of the fatherland.

Owing to the recent imposition of martial law, freedom of speech is suspended. This increases the difficulty of our propaganda, which must cease by next June unless help be forthcoming.

Already we have been compelled to discontinue our weekly organ Erevna. It has been published at great loss for the last two years (and at a still greater sacrifice since the mobilisation.) The editor hopes to resume its publication as a monthly periodical after the war is over, when a new public will have to be created, as the greater number of its subscribers have been lost sight of.

It is our strong conviction that as soon as the new condition of affairs resolves itself into a Balkan Federation, a new era will dawn for the Socialist cause in the Near East.

We appeal to our comrades of all nationalities, to send us contributions towards a fund for either of the above objects, i. e.:

- (a) The maintenance of our centre in Athens; (b) The publication of Erevna; or (c) For both.

All donations should be sent by money order, postal order or American paper money to the vice-president of the Greek Socialist Party, Miss Felicia Scatterd, (hon. treasurer), 14 Park Square, Regent's Park, London, England, who will duly acknowledge all remittances.

P. E. DRAKOULES, FELICIA R. SCATERD, P. HAROKOPOS, Gen. Sec.

RECENT-NEWS FROM PORCUPINE.

The strike is still on and the struggle is still on: The Judicial authorities in their zealous devotion to the mine owners in order to crush the strike have reached the summit. On March 13th, nine strikers were arrested and charged with assaulting five strike-breakers from the Hollinger mine. These nine men were kept in custody at Timmins until March 28th, when the trial was to be held.

Now let us see what occurred when the time for trial came and the interested parties appeared at the "Capitalist" bar of justice, and see how that justice is administered in Porcupine. The trial commenced at one o'clock on March 28th, and what do we hear—Magistrate Torrence says that the men are to be tried, not for assault, which was the charge placed against them, but for taking part in an unlawful assembly. Counsel for defense and all who were present were astonished; the accusation was for assault and immediately when court opened the charge was changed. Counsel for the defense arose and protested that he had prepared to defend his clients on the charge that had been placed against them; Protests, however, did not avail, that was the way the powers that be wanted it and that is the way it had to be.

The trial began and the evidence showed that no crime had been committed by accused men brought before the court, showed that innocent men were kept weeks in custody. The magistrate was forced to acquit the following: R. Petonett, John Cassidy, Alix. Gauthier, and Joe Roberts. A. Hollowell was let go by paying the court costs, John Skinner, Chris Kipp and Frank Bowers were held to appear

before a judge and jury in Sudbury on April 26th, they would not take any chance on Magistrate Torrence's idea of justice.

The mine owners demanded that some of the strikers must go to prison and that the Miners Union must be put to expense defending its members in the courts, but we feel satisfied that the trials of these men will show that attempts are being made to railroad innocent men to prison. It is a crime to go on strike without giving the masters sufficient notice so that they can import scabs and thus not lose any profits. The courts are depended on to "deliver the goods" for the mine owners.

The three men to be tried are charged with being members of an unlawful assembly in a public place, namely, in the Bank Saloon, Timmins. Five strike-breakers from the Hollinger Mine filled up on whiskey and apparently acting under instructions to start a row with the strikers came into the Bank Saloon. The proprietor of the saloon said that they appeared to be intoxicated, and even the strike-breakers admitted that they had been drinking and were feeling pretty good. The evidence went to show that what occurred was nothing more than an ordinary saloon brawl and that some of the men held for trial took no part in it, but then they are strikers and that is apparently sufficient grounds to condemn them.

The appeal in the "Lemieux Act" cases was held before Judge Kehoe on March 26th, at Golden City. These are the cases against Cleary, Holowatsky and Croft for inciting to go on strike and for going on strike, whom the Government was forced to release from prison by the protest of the working class. Magistrate Torrence had sentenced them to prison for ninety and sixty days respectively. Judge Kehoe had taken the cases under advisement and will give his decision on April 5th.

We earnestly urge all men to stay away from Ontario mining districts and especially not to come to the Porcupine District. The strike takes in all of the employees in the mining industry in all the crafts, trades and occupations. If you come into this district at the present time looking for work you will be aiding the mine-owners to break the strike.

We ask you to give us your earnest assistance to secure liberty for the four men who were unjustly sent to the Central Prison, Toronto, if there was any doubt in your mind as to their guilt the action of the Government officials in these recent cases should remove it.

The strikers are determined to win the battle and are confident of victory. We ask you to do your duty to preserve what little liberty we have left. Yours for Emancipation, WM. K. RADY.

The Conscription Act passed by the Labor Government is one of the worst pieces of legislation now in force in Australia. Thousands of boys have been subjected to military confinement against their will and hundreds have been fined or sent to jail. Every week a dozen or more boys are tried at the various courts for failing to attend drills. Cases of boys who have been the only support of the family and have been fined for not attending drills are numerous.

Subscribe for The Western Clarion.

LITERATURE The Dominion Executive have the following literature for sale. (Published by the party):

Table with 2 columns: Title and Price. Includes Manifesto S. P. of C., What is Socialism?, Socialism and Unionism, etc.

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Due Stamps, Platforms, Foreign, Dues Cards, etc.

VANCOUVER LOCAL NO. 1, S. P. OF C.

has the following cloth-bound books on sale. Make all money orders payable to W. Wilson, 213 Hastings St. E., Vancouver, B. C.

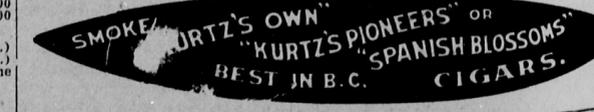
Socialist Party Directory

Directory listing for various local branches of the Socialist Party of Canada, including Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Regina, Lethbridge, Moose Jaw, and other locations.

PROPAGANDA MEETING Sunday Empress Theatre Geo. E. Boomer Speaker Vancouver, B.C. 8 p.m.

PLATFORM Socialist Party of Canada

Platform text and subscription cards. Includes text about the party's goals and a table for subscription rates (5 Yearlies-\$3.75, 10 1/2 " 4.00, 20 1/4 " 4.00).



THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

This page is devoted to reports of Executive Committees, Locals, and General Party Matters. Address all communications to J. H. Burroughs, Secretary, 516 Main St., Vancouver, B. C.

TO THE ALBERTA MEMBERSHIP.

Clagary, March 14, 1913.

Comrades: The past few years has seen a great growth in the Socialist sentiment throughout the Province of Alberta, and a consequent acceleration of party activity, indicated by the formation of new locals, increased membership, and a greater demand for propaganda speakers and party organizers.

This increase in party activity has imposed upon your Executive a correspondingly greater burden—one which, by the way, they are not loath to bear—and evidence is being furnished daily of the need of a properly equipped provincial office, in charge of a salaried secretary who can devote his entire time to the work of the party; who can personally answer every letter, arrange meetings in all parts of the province for locals desiring speakers, arrange dates for organizers throughout the province, and keep in touch with them at all points in their routes.

This cannot be done by a secretary who is obliged to work at some occupation for a livelihood, attending to the ever-increasing correspondence and the multitude of details connected with the office in spare moments, and at the same time give the affairs of the party the care and attention that is due to their importance.

At the present your Executive is unable, by the old, haphazard methods, to properly do the work assigned to it.

The Province of Alberta is large, and, though we have the word of Comrade O'Brien that it is the "best organized in the Dominion," which is largely due to his efforts and not because of assistance rendered by the Alberta Executive in the past, yet it must be more thoroughly and systematically organized, a work which can be adequately done only by an Executive which has its fingers, so to speak, upon every part of the province.

The future holds much in store for the Socialist movement in Alberta, as well as the Dominion, and the necessity for preparedness to meet the needs of a growing movement is forcibly thrust upon us as party members.

Furthermore, provincial elections are pending, which, aside from the possibility of electing Socialist candidates in various districts, offer a splendid opportunity for propaganda—an opportunity which must not be neglected.

Will the locals of the S. P. of C. in Alberta express their opinions on this important subject, and indicate their willingness, or not, to assess the membership for the purpose of providing the barely necessary expenses of a provincial office?

An assessment of 20c per month per capita, or a donation of, say, \$3.00 per month from each local, would permit the S. P. of C. in Alberta to have a paid provincial secretary who could then devote his entire time to the work of the party.

The assessments, we believe, could in a short time be dropped, as the increase in membership and per capita which would result from the new policy, would provide the funds out of which a provincial office could be maintained.

Hoping to hear from you as soon as possible in order that there be no delay in taking the fullest advantage of the coming election campaign, we have instructed the secretary to submit the enclosed list of questions for your local to vote upon, and return, as we are awaiting your action.

Fraternally your comrades, THE ALBERTA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE.

- H. ADIE, Chairman.
- W. M. SCOTT,
- JOE HAAG,
- H. S. MAXWELL,
- T. S. CASSIDY,
- L. ANDERSON,
- BURT E. ANDERSON, Secretary.

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Socialist Party of Canada.

Calgary, March 14, 1913.

REFERENDUM NO. 1.

To..... Local No.....

Comrades:—

At a special meeting of the above Executive, held March 11, it was resolved to submit the following questions to all Locals in Alberta, viz.:

1st. Is your Local in favor of establishing a provincial office of the S. P. of C. in Alberta, with a paid secretary to devote his time wholly to

the proper handling of provincial party matters?

22nd. If so, are you in favor of a monthly assessment being levied upon the Alberta membership on a per capita basis for the purpose of meeting the necessary expenses?

3rd. Or, are you in favor of each Local in Alberta contributing to a "Contingent Fund," a stated sum per month for the same purpose, as a Local, and to which individuals could subscribe?

Your Local is hereby requested to take a referendum vote upon the foregoing propositions at the earliest possible date, and forward results of vote on the enclosed "return form" to the secretary.

Trusting that your Local will take immediate action upon this matter and communicate their decision, I am, Fraternaly your comrade,

BURT E. ANDERSON, Secy.

REFERENDUM NO. 1.

To the Alberta Provincial Executive Committee, Socialist Party of Canada:

The following is the result of the vote taken by this Local upon the Referendum submitted by the Alberta Executive, viz.:

First Proposition.
 For..... Against..... No. Voting.....
 Second Proposition.
 For..... Against..... No. Voting.....
 Third Proposition.
 For..... Against..... No. Voting.....

The above is a correct tally of the votes cast by Local.....
 Chairman.....
 Secretary.....

NOTICE TO SECRETARIES.

Comrade W. Gribble will start on his tour to the East about the latter end of May or the beginning of June. His route will be along the main line to Revelstoke, from there through the Crow's Nest into Alberta.

Secretaries of Locals concerned will please take notice.

A meeting of the Do. and Prov. Executives is called for April 20th., none being held on April 6th., owing to the business having been cleaned up on the last Sunday in March.

Calgary, Alta., April 3, 1913.

Dear Comrade: * * * Malcolm McNeill is running on the Socialist ticket in Stettler District, and George Paton in the adjoining Red Deer District, both being assisted by Vince Frodsham. Alf Budden has been nominated in the new Little Bow constituency in which Barons local is situated, and he has a good bunch to assist him.

Knights is in the thick of the fight at Lethbridge, with a Liberal-Labor candidate in the person of J. O. Jones, president of the Alberta Federation of Labor, in the field against him. O'Brien is at it in Rocky Mountain, with L. E. Drake as campaign manager. He is being assisted at the present by Mushkat and Cassidy, and we expect to run a couple of the coast speakers in there also. O'Brien's chances look good.

Will be glad to arrange dates for our old friend and comrade, Wilfrid Gribble, and hope you will let us know in plenty of time when he starts. Give us date of his last meeting in B. C. Is there any possibility of him coming before election?

The Executive has two typewriters at work and I am up to my ears in work at that. I am so confounded busy, and have so many things on my mind, that I cannot write coherently.

BURT E. ANDERSON, Secy. Alberta B. E. C.

MANIFESTO OF LOCAL ERSKINE.

To The Farmers of the Settler Electoral District.

Workers of the world unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains and a world to gain!

Human society is composed of two classes, one class who sit and revel in luxury and live without working, and the other class who work without living—or at least living a life worthy of the name.

Now, Mr. Farmer, to which class do you belong? Not having the privilege to fix a price on the commodities that you help to produce, it goes to show that you do not own them.

The class that own and control the elevators, railroads, packing houses, and all the means of wealth production, own and control our products. He who owns the means whereby I live owns my life.

Understanding your position in Society, if you do not vote for your class you are a traitor to your class, a tyrant to civilization and a foe to humanity.

VOTE FOR MALCOLM McNEILL. THE SOCIALIST CANDIDATE.

VANCOUVER SUBSCRIBERS.

Who are not receiving their copies regularly are requested to forward their complaints to the office of this paper at 516 Main St.

BY J. R. KNIGHT.

Editor Clarion.—Doubtless many of the reds in Western Canada have come in contact with that type of individual who is never tired of telling how they do things in the old country, or in the United States, or back east, but who rarely, if ever, knows anything of the movement in this country. Question him and you find that his Socialism resolves itself into a municipal milk supply, a minimum wage bill, an eight-hour day and a right to work.

Wanting to know if the S. P. of C. membership were too possessed of such "revolutionary" ideas, I decided to take a trip from Edmonton to the west coast. Trusting myself to the tender mercies of the "Old Scout" (C. M. O'Brien) I was soon made acquainted with the difficulties that beset an organizer in the mountain province.

Time will not allow me to make a very exhaustive report just now, but when on my homestead in the Arctic regions again will write a few articles on my experiences among the metalliferous miners and fruit growers.

In all I held 45 meetings, visited 30 Locals and organized at Creston and Penticton. A few of the dead Locals I was able to resuscitate, but in most cases their demise was caused by the membership having to seek that very elusive job in other fields.

Wherever I went I was besieged with questions as to when the Clarion was going to appear and that in itself convinced me that a Socialist in Western Canada is really red, and I am satisfied that if our method of propaganda does not appeal to the briefless lawyer, the socialistic parson, or harmonize with the quack nostrums of the laborites, it will be the means of building up a membership not to be swayed by impulse governed by their knowledge. Numbers are not necessarily a gauge of the strength of a Socialist party, especially if composed largely of the petty bourgeoisie, when they, as a rule, develop a reform bug and become reactionary, thereby constituting a drag on the Socialist movement, as were the liberal democrats during the Paris commune; so let our aim be a purely proletarian party and its slogan the class struggle.

The insidious attempts being made by the Democratic Reform party to discredit the S. P. of C. is but a stimulus to more strenuous effort, as evidenced by the organization of fourteen more locals in Alberta since the last report. In conclusion, Comrade Editor, I would say that it is the consensus of opinion of the comrades I have met while on tour that we ignore the contemptible tactics of the "all things for all people" party and devote the columns of the Clarion to propaganda and if the paper cannot be continued without the aid of begging letters, false pretense and benevolent landlords, dispense with it.

Yours for Socialism,

J. R. KNIGHT.

Editor Clarion.—Enclosed please find postal note value seventy-five cents, for one year's subscription to the Western Clarion.

Am very pleased to see that it is being published once more, as I consider it the best Socialist paper in Canada, and hope that it will get the support it deserves.

Hoping it will continue to hand out the real revolutionary stuff, I remain,

Yours in revolt,

F. W. A.

Toronto, Ont., March 24th, 1913.

Editor Clarion.—The article in the March 8th issue of The Clarion commenting on the general stagnation of the party in general, throughout the Dominion of Canada at least, let me make some comment on the same.

To my way of thinking, J. H. B., as he signs himself, is too much of a theorist. Apparently he believes in waiting till the economic conditions are ripe (Mahomet and the mount); but the mount didn't come to Mahomet, and the working class won't come to us. That is the first thing we of the S. P. of C. will have to learn ourselves before we try to teach the wage slave the only way out of his slavery. I know this type of animal and his haunts pretty well. I can well remember the first time I heard the man on the soap-box. The writer first saw the light in the 'Peg about four years ago. The speaker, I think, was J. D. Houston. The dope appealed to me right away. Mahomet went to the mount in this case. And so it is with the working class. We must go after them all the time if we are going to expect results.

The Local in this city is very small and the churches are many—about four churches for every saloon—so you can see what we are up against in the saintly city of St. Kitts. Still we are plugging away trying to hammer something into the skulls of the working class. The Local was organized for almost nine months before we got courage enough to get out and attack the enemy openly. The first charge being a defeat for us, for we were pulled off the box by the chief of the police. The crowd by this time began to block the streets to such an extent that we had to beat a retreat to a vacant lot in the rear, be-

ing told at the same time that we must not speak politics on Sunday night in the saintly city of St. Kitts; any other night would be all right. However we finished our meeting in our club rooms at 110 St. Paul street. We sold quite a few pamphlets and got a good collection. This finished the first skirmish with the enemy in St. Kitts, which resulted in the best piece of advertising we have ever got. Now we can get out to the corner any night that is at all favorable and get a good crowd and a good collection. The slaves are drinking in the dope fine, and everything seems to be coming our way in the saintly city at present.

Merriton, Therald and Welland are all towns within easy reach of this city, and we expect to form Locals there as soon as the spring opens up.

If any of the Locals of the S. P. of C. are suffering with a spell of dry rot, get out and have a scrap with the police and keep out of prison if you can. Remember a dead hero is no good for our movement.

A. H. G.

Editor Clarion:—In a recent issue of the Clarion you have an article, "What Ails Us." In your remarks on that subject you note the apparent apathy of the S. P. C. membership and offer some explanations. The most potent cause for apathy, to my mind, is not touched upon.

This cause is compromise, or lack of direct purpose. The platform of the S. P. C. is nearly perfect. At least it is explicit and stands straight out for the Social Revolution, and the only way for the workers to attain it, that is, conquest of political power.

To my mind a party with such a platform should live up to it. What disgusts straightforward revolutionaries, is this truckling to reformers (and "mark timers") that has been characteristic of the S. P. C. in the past. Many members have been admitted that were not qualified to join a real Socialist organization. That may or may not have been necessary when the S. P. C. was the only organization professing Socialism in Canada, but such is not now the case.

I do not assert that every applicant for membership, should be a well read Marxian, but I do assert that when a worker signs the S. P. C. application, he accepts the position of the party, and if by reason of his studies, or by lack of such, he no longer accepts the S. P. C. position he should at once resign.

Further, admittance to the S. P. C. should not end the applicant's studies of Scientific Socialism, but should be a spur to greater study, till he has mastered the subject and is exactly sure of his position.

The executive of the S. P. C. has either betrayed the confidence of the members of the revolutionary organization, or knowing the majority of the membership to be purposeless nonentities, have acted in accordance with their wishes.

If the S. D. P. of C. is an opposition party let the S. P. C. oppose it as it does other capitalist parties. If it is not an opposition party, as the actions of some of the party members seem to warrant, then why dual organizations?

That the S. D. P. is under no delusion in regard to its relationship with the S. P. C. is evident by the spasms of friend Cotton, and more recently by a spasm of Dr. Curry in the "World", March 8th.

Curry knocks the S. P. C. and uses S. P. C. speakers to draw crowds for the S. D. P. If that isn't "putting one over" the S. P. C. then "I'm from Missouri."

In attempting to show that the S. P. C. is "making progress backwards" Curry shows that he has "progressed backwards" to the limit; or else was sidetracked before he knew anything about Socialism or the Socialist movement. Take one item, "The Anti-Political I. W. W. is but a passing phase of industrial evolution. This is in fact largely one of the many vicious results of what is known as the "impossibilist position."

A man gifted with reason might wonder why Industrial Unionism (a "vicious result of impossibilism") was born and developed in the States, where impossibilism is not and where opportunism is, much in evidence. And, further, he might wonder why it flourishes mightily in countries like America, France, and England, noted for their Opportunist, Social Democratic and Labor Parties, and find it hard to gain a foothold in Canada, so long under the dominance of "impossibilism."

Verily, I think, my "Intellectual will have to "Curry more logic before he can prove to me that the S. P. C. is "progressing backwards."

However, this letter is not written with the purpose of dealing with Curry's arguments, I leave that to another attempt, but I merely wish to call to the attention of the S. P. C. its apparent lack of purpose, as a reason for apathy. Sitting in the fence never did any good yet. Decide upon a course of action, and then go to it.

ED. FULCHER.

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LABORITES IN ACTION.

Notes Taken From the International Socialist of Sydney, Australia, Regarding the Australian Labor Party.

"There are now thousands of unemployed in all the cities of the Commonwealth. The lodging houses are overcrowded, several families being compelled to inhabit each house. The landlord and the profit monger are jubilating, and are urging the Labor Government not to relax in their efforts to promote immigration. They revel in what is disastrous to the workers."

The Australian Labor Government has lined up with the capitalists. They are not satisfied with conscription and the building of a navy, but they are advertising far and wide for immigrants and thousands of those already here are hunting jobs.

Freedom of speech is not allowed in Australia, that is if you are bucking the Government, and so we find the miners, Socialists and Industrialists lying in the Wollongong jail for daring to speak on the streets.

The Australian miners, almost to a man, are opposed to the Labor Government, and they have good reasons, when one considers the action of that Government in some recent strikes.

"The Clerks Union, of Sydney have found out that Federal Labor Minister O'Malley, has let a contract to a Sydney firm for the addressing of 6,000,000 Referendum pamphlets, and that the work is being done by girls at 30 shillings a week, whereas the Melbourne award rate is 45 shillings. The Union considers that preference should have been given to unemployed clerks of whom there are a number in the city. The Union, however, should know by this time that Labor Ministers with Capitalist minds must prefer the cheaper labor; and to get cheap labor immigration and female labor must be resorted to."

FERNIE ASSISTS.

At a special business meeting of the Fernie Local, No. 17, the following resolutions were passed:

That a special donation of fifty dollars be sent to Comrade Knight's agent at Lethbridge to assist them in the campaign.

That our organizer be placed at the disposal of the Rocky Mountain and Lethbridge Ridings at our expense during the Alberta campaign.

That the offer of Michel Miners' Union to back us up to the extent of \$100 in connection with funds for the Alberta campaign be accepted and that their representative, Comrade Brown, be asked to tender he thanks of our Local to the miners of Michel.

That we ask the editor of the District Ledger to publish all news possible pertaining to the progress of the election in Alberta.

That we wire to the executives of Rocky Mountain and Lethbridge Ridings asking for books for the purpose of collecting funds to assist in the campaign.

ALBERT HRT.

Cumberland, B. C., April 8th, 1913.

Comrade Editor:—

Please find enclosed \$3.00 for subs. and am still confident of landing some more before I am through, as the workers are beginning to realize that the Clarion is the paper that represents their interest.

Well, everybody is beginning to get down and study their position in society, and you can bet that the next time an election comes off in this part of the country it will surely surpass all others as far as the polls are concerned. They have observed the forces of Government that have been turned out against them in this struggle for better conditions in which to work under, and it was those Conservatives that are representing the Master Class who are responsible for those hired thugs that are stationed here.

Could the employers see the folly of prolonging this struggle, why, they would understand that the slaves were getting the opportunity of reading and becoming acquainted with the real facts, which allow the Capitalists to maintain their position on the backs of the workers. But in their lust for more profits they do not recognize the blind forces that are in operation and developing to the extent that the parasites are gradually nearing the grave which they have dug themselves.

A. GOODWIN.

WARD ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

WARD II SOCIALISTS meet Wednesday, 30th of April, in the Labor Temple, Dunsuir Street, 8 p.m.

WARD III SOCIALISTS meet the first Thursday in the month in room 10, 213 Hastings Street East, 8 p.m.

WARD IV SOCIALISTS meet the first Friday in the month, room 10, 213 Hastings Street East, 8 p.m.

WARD V SOCIALISTS meet on the second Friday in the month at Com. McNaughton's house, 2012 Main Street, 8 p.m.

WARD VI SOCIALISTS meet on the fourth Thursday in the month at 1152-6th Ave. W., 8 p.m.

SOUTH VANCOUVER SOCIALISTS meet on the fourth Friday in each month at 137-27th Ave. W., 8 p.m.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE meets on the second and fourth Monday in month in room 10, 213 Hastings Street East, 8 p.m.

THE GREAT HOPE.

But by no means does the Great Hope shine only from the soul of Jesus. There is no race or nation that has been without it; nor ever has its voice been altogether silent. It has never been without its witnesses upon the world's walls. There has been no revolution or religion that has not borne its harness. It has always had its apostles. The reported sayings of Lao-tzu, centuries before Christ, had the Great Hope as their care. It was long ago preached and practiced on the hillsides of Burma, in the forests of India. Isaiah and Hosea and Malachi uttered it in voices that would be silenced by the police of New York or Paris or London. Some of its most beautiful expressions, in word and action, proceed from the early Shinto Buddhists of Japan. Old Mohammed-an prophets proclaimed it in Asia; and later, it lit the fires of peasant insurrections in Europe. Some of its sublimest and truest preachments are from the squalid yet splendid soul of Jean Jacques Rousseau. In harsh and hard materialist terms, yet truthfully and tremendously and effectually, did Karl Marx state The Great Hope also; and the Socialist movement is its modern and mighty apostolate. Some day on some brave morning of man, perhaps dawning out of terrible night, will Socialism prove itself the maker of a wealthier world. And, after Socialism has done its work, other hands will take the torch of The Great Hope and bear it on, leading the race into still profounder health and happiness.

It is true that, even until now, the Hope whereof I speak has always been betrayed. Whenever it has neared a partial or local realization, it has been seized upon and made to serve those whose power and property rested upon its non-realization. Yet despite disappointment and defeat, the vision of a truly free and happy earthly state abides, and there have always been eyes to see it. There are always eyes that behold a world in which an effectual good will is the law of personal relation and social administration; that behold men working together and no man governing another; that behold common necessities produced by common labor, each sharing the product according to his desire and capacity, each doing the thing that is the expression of himself; that behold even death becoming obvious enlargement of life, an irradiant self-discovery. The hope of such a world is indeed the axis, acknowledged or denied, on which the noblest dreaming and doing revolve. With some it has risen into a burning faith. With some it has been but hope and nothing more. With others it has fallen into a sad and hopeless wish; and though they still walked bravely, it has been with dragging feet and under iron skies. However it comes, despised and unrecognized, or beckoned and unwelcomed, The Great Hope lives on; and with it rests the ultimate leadership.

Even now a fulfillment is materially possible. We have in hand, actually and now, the known resources, the wood and the iron, and the stone and the mortar with which to raise a social structure ineffably fair and satisfying. It is not because we cannot build it that the structure waits; it is because we will not. The building of The City of Man needs only the birth of the social will, and its growth in wisdom and stature. The prophets of old went crying, How long, O Lord, how long? The prophets of today are asking, How long, O man, how long? The answer rests with the Socialist movement. And according to the quality of that movement, will the answer be true or false. According to whether or no the Socialist revolution is real; whether or no it pledges itself to the whole logic and responsibility of freedom; whether or no it lays its axe at the root of the industrial despotism, at the despotism's disorder and monstrous repression of man; whether or no it follows the straight and narrow way or the paltry and devious paths; according to this will the Socialist movement succeed or fail to be the deliverer of the world's workers. According to this, also, will it prove itself a worthy or faithless steward of The Great Hope.

A BULL-DOG.

The attempt to muzzle the editor of the District Ledger, Fernie, by forbidding him to publish political news not to the interest of Stubbs, Jones, et al, has about the same effect as if they had spat in the face of a bull-dog. The front page of the last issue contains resolutions by various Locals demanding the recall of Jones, and a big boost for the candidature of Com. C. M. O'Brien. The inside pages are mainly occupied by exhortations to be slaves of Alberta to live up with their class interests and vote the Socialist ticket.

Say, don't you wish you were there?

Comrades Lestor and Fitzgerald are in the Alberta scrap, the former having been wired for by the Alberta Executive and the latter sent up by the Dominion Executive.

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Concert and Dance

SATURDAY, APRIL 19
Socialist Hall, cor. Templeton & Pender (also Hastings East cor. to Templeton Drive.)

Admission to Members of the Ward Organizations

TEN CENTS

Non-members Twenty-five Cents.

LADIES FREE

Good songs, good music, and a good time guaranteed.

THE EUROPEAN BACKGROUND

To understand the history of America it is necessary to review the main events in Europe which had a marked influence in shaping our destiny here.

We may trace the beginning of this process with the year 1348, when the Black Death swept over Europe. It is estimated that fully one-third of the population perished of the plague.

With the scarcity of laborers wages naturally began to rise. They rose thirty and even fifty per cent. Parliament, under the control of the ruling class, attempted to interfere with the "law of supply and demand."

The Catholic church was the proprietor of a great part of the land of Great Britain. In fact, "the church had become the largest land-owner in all western Christendom, nearly one third of all the land in Germany, France and England belonging to her."

There was the further process, known as "the clearing of estates," which extended into the 19th century. Marx gives one classic example where the Duchess of Sutherland, in the first quarter of the 18th century, with the aid of British soldiers, rooted out 15,000 people and took possession of nearly 800,000 acres of land and transferred them into a sheepwalk.

This driving of the workers off the land to wander as vagabonds on the highways had its counterpart in other countries. In 1452 a similar though less influential part was played in many districts of Bohemia by the fishponds constructed by the landlords.

The ruling class having reduced the workers to beggars and outcasts began the bloody legislation on which rests many of the fortunes of British "gentlemen" today. A few examples from English history will suffice. A statute of Henry VIII. in 1530 provided that beggars old and unable to work should receive a license. Whipping and imprisonment were provided for the able-bodied.

could not keep, as the lands were confiscated and manufacture, then in its infancy, could not employ them. The break-up of feudalism and the Reformation, coming in the name of "freedom of conscience," released all the vilest passions of the dormant commercial classes, who started their career of conquest and plunder with the methods briefly outlined above.

Luther incarnated the interests of this pitiless ruling class. He resisted every attempt of the lower classes to derive any material benefit from the Reformation, by favouring each step taken by the princes in this direction.

Luther's crusade was the champion ship of a new ruling class that wished to throw off the old feudal restrictions. It stood for a new ruling class and its opponent defended an old one.

The frightful poverty of the peasants and laborers reached a depth perhaps unknown in any other country. Taine quotes La Bruyere, who wrote in 1689:

"It will be seen from this brief survey that all Europe was undergoing changes that transformed the peasants and laborers into homeless vagrants. Crowding the highways of every country, evicted from the common lands, their numbers constantly increasing, reduced to famine in France, cannibalism in Germany, and starving outcasts in England, they turned eager eyes toward the New World.

Editor Clarion:—At a Farmers' Socialist Convention held at Stretton School House, District of Kitcooty on April 5th, Comrade W. H. Anderson of Dewberry was nominated to contest the constituency of Alexandra in forthcoming Provincial Elections in Socialist cause.

Yours fraternally, V. P. MORGAN.

Nickel, B. C., April 7, 1913. J. H. Burroughs.

Dear Comrade:—Disregard my letter of recent date containing revised list of my speaking dates.

Later developments in campaign have made it void and will likely keep me in Alberta several days longer than expected at last writing.

Will notify you of list when it is drawn up and revised. I am keeping Provincial Executive posted on my movements.

Am working like a nigger. T. S. CASSIDY.

ERRATA. The following errors were printed in last week's paper:

Page 1.—Alberta Elections—Alexandria Nominating Convention, May 5th, should be "April 5th."

Page 3, Column 2, reply to S. D. P., Nanaimo. Third paragraph. "Socialistic" should read "Socialist."

If all the big criminals were in prison we would have to turn the little ones out for want of room.

The small merchant is between the devil and the deep sea—the mail order house and the department store on one side and the low wages of his patrons on the other.

All of Com. T. S. Cassidy's dates in B. C. have been cancelled, he being re-qualified for the Alberta campaign.

N. H. Munro, 87 Dagmar St., Winnipeg:—Send your new address to this office, P. O. have stopped your paper.

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RE STUBBS, JONES, ET AL.

(Continued from Page One.)

by previous action in organizing the workers along educational and revolutionary lines, with no \$100 a month attached. What interests people like Jones is not the emancipation of the workers from their present deplorable condition, but the chestnuts that he can pull out of the fire.

Com. Knight has proved himself a true exponent of the great wealth producers of present day society.

Had he even organized on collections at educational meetings?

Having got your hands tied on the industrial field he must accomplish a similar performance on the political field with the aid of a labor tag.

JOHN C. TURNER.

CLARION FUND

Table with columns for region (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Manitoba, Maritime, Foreign) and names of contributors with amounts.

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NOTE.—The increased printing bill is due to the large edition necessitated by the Alberta elections. A similar edition is being printed this week. J. H. BURROUGHS, Sec. D. M. C.

A "LABOR" GOVERNMENT ON THE JOB

Late advices in the Vancouver daily press state that the railway strike in N. S. W. is spreading rapidly, the Sydney suburban service being paralyzed by lack of coal, with the prospect of the passenger service throughout the State being completely demoralized.

YOU'RE DOIN' WELL, CONSIDERIN' THE SHAPE YOU'RE IN

By Henry M. Tichenor, the Rip-Saw Poet.

You must not change your ordained lot—a sinner from your birth—the Lord's anointed took the pot before you struck the earth. Be thankful for the dollar a day on which you drink and dine—you're really making ten, they say—the boss rakes in the nine. Or else be thankful that they let you rent a little patch, and that your wife and babies get a third of what you scratch.

An Irishman was sitting in a depot smoking when a woman came in, and sitting down beside him, remarked: "Sir, if you were a gentleman you would not smoke here."

"Mum," he said, "if you wuz a lady ye'd sit farther away."

"Pretty soon the woman burst forth again: "If you were my husband I'd give you poison."

"Well, mum," returned the Irishman, as he puffed away at his pipe, "if you wuz my wife, I'd take it."

"The incentive" of "big business" is the guide-board to hell.—Ex.

Vote as your boss tells you to, and you'll always have a boss.—Ex.

Why vote for Capitalism and be miserable, when you can vote for Socialism and be happy?

AN EXPERT. Little Nelly told little Anita what the latter termed "a little fib." Anita—"A fib is the same as a story, and a story is the same as a lie."

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS. Write on one side of the paper only. Do not put the words or lines too close together. Do not abbreviate your words.

Two men were quarreling. One of them was excessively violent at first, but became perfectly calm the moment the other became violent. He was cured, as doctors sometimes cure maladies, by counterirritation.

SOCIALISM AND THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST

By J. CONNELL

(Continued)

To many who are born into the world nowadays the struggle for existence is unknown. They come to find the table ready spread, and they have nothing to do but sit down and eat, with a silver spoon.

On the other hand, those among us who are born poor are almost as far removed from natural conditions. The children of the poor die off many times more rapidly than do the children of the rich, owing to poor food and insanitary surroundings.

We have already seen that in a state of nature the female selects for mate the strongest and most courageous male. After natural selection has done its work, sexual selection takes up the unfinished task and carries it a step further.

The instinct of self-preservation prompts the female to seek first of all an assured living, and it is not easy to see how this can be found among men of no property, whose own living is precarious.

(To be continued.)

VANCOUVER SOCIALISTS

Comrade Editor:—Ward II Socialists of Vancouver held their first meeting last night in the Labor Temple.

Thirty members were enrolled for that Ward, and the election of officers was proceeded with and the following appointed:

Organizers: W. Steen, Howe Street, for District 1; B. Cripps, Homer St., for District 2; C. F. Jamieson, Cambie St., for District 3.

The Ward is divided into three districts and it is the work of the above organizers to supervise the propaganda and organization work in those districts.

Comrade E. J. Hanbury was appointed Secretary-Treasurer.

Comrade Dawson was appointed Recording Secretary.

Comrades W. Steen and R. L. Skinner were appointed as delegates to the Central Committee.

The next meeting will be on the 30th of April in the Labor Temple, and as soon as arrangements can be made for more frequent meetings we will have them.

The whole Ward will be covered every month with copies of "The New Review" which is published by the combined Ward Organizations.

Each member will endeavor to give a five minute talk at the meeting so as to develop speakers and as soon as the Ward organizations has enough members a permanent headquarters will be opened and weekly propaganda meetings held.

Socials, Picnics, Debates, etc., will be held in connection with the organization so as to keep up the interest of the members.

Every Ward in the city is to be organized and also the outlying districts, so if any Comrades want any information they can write to W. Watts, Labor Temple, Vancouver, and he will endeavor to supply it.

When a man goes towards his objective in a tortuous course, his bad better set him down as a serpent.

One of the solutions of the suffragette trouble: A popular writer says that a woman should be won "by degrees." Win first her ears and eyes, then her heart and lips, then her hand and purse.

Two men were quarreling. One of them was excessively violent at first, but became perfectly calm the moment the other became violent. He was cured, as doctors sometimes cure maladies, by counterirritation.

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TO A NINE-INCH GUN.

(This poem came to the New York "World" office on a crumpled bit of soiled paper. It was signed P. F. MCCARTHY and the author's address was given as "FOURTH BENCH, CITY HALL PARK.")

Whether your shell hits the target or not, Your coat is Five Hundred Dollars a Shot. You thing of noise and flame and power, We feed you a hundred barrels of flour Each time you roar. Your flame is fed

With twenty thousand loaves of bread. Silence! A million hungry men Seek bread to fill their mouths again.

Pressure of work has prevented the editor from preparing for publication acknowledgement of subs received. Arrangements will be made to make it a regular feature.

CONCERNING TRAITORS.

(Continued from Page One.)

nothing short of social revolution, which is more applicable to localities where historical development has forced the workers to recognize that nothing short of social revolution can in any way affect working class conditions, and that the advocate of social revolution as a political climax requires little knowledge of the political question of the day.

How brilliant and amazing indeed! But did it never appear to this suave and artful occupant of the editorial chair that Socialist Party candidates are not placed in the field for the purpose of being elected at any cost? That ours is still, and must continue to be, to a large extent, an educational policy, one in which we try to place before the workers of this country a knowledge of their slave position, and when anything less than this is necessary to insure their success and receive the support of the workers, that we much prefer to receive neither such success or support? As for the Socialist propaganda having little knowledge of the political questions of the day, the Federationist scribe has another think coming. The Socialist speaker must, at all times, be able and ready to explain every political problem that comes before him; showing to the workers the futility of striving after little sops and reforms, which will not, even if given, affect in any work the workers' position as a class; and that the greatest enemy the worker encounters is not to be found in the ranks of his masters, but, like the trio whose names I have mentioned, are always to be found in the working class itself.

Continuing in the same manner the

ALL "REDS" SHOULD READ. Robert Blatchford's GOD AND MY NEIGHBOUR. A Critical Analysis of Christianity. Mailed for 15c. NOT GUILTY! Famous book on "Determinism" Mailed for 25c. HENRI THOMAS' Socialist Handbook Mailed for 15c. COMMON OBJECTIONS TO SOCIALISM ANSWERED Mailed for 15c. All four mailed for 60c. Get Acquainted With the Socialist News Dealer. SASKATOON NEWS AGENCY 310 First Ave. Saskatoon Sask.

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Vancouver Island ACREAGE (Alberni District) W. W. LEFEAUX Labor Temple Bldg. Vancouver, B. C. Phone Seymour 4108

Subscribe for The Western Clarion. writer tells us that if the workers nominate and elect a member who will combat the harsher measures of capitalist control, that in the future "they will have men to lead and direct their forces who have that grasp and understanding of what ought to be done, and which experience alone can give." Too long, L. T. English, have the interests of the workers been left in the hands of those "fearless champions who possess that charming "grasp and understanding" of which you write. So long, in fact, have they left to the tools of their masters complete control of the situation, that they arrived at that understanding by which they grasped it all. As for those leaders required to direct their forces, well I fully expect that the working class of Alberta have sufficient knowledge of modern history to know that if there is one thing above all others that they don't want, that thing is "leaders." Have we not had experience enough with prophets and "leaders" in the days of the past and do we not perceive in the John Burns and Ralph Smith's of the present a useless and harmful acquisition that we, as a class can very well get along without? Fellow workers of Alberta! in your hands lies the solution of the problem; yours is now the opportunity to show by your vote on the 17th that the minions of the master class, whether parading around as Conservatives or Liberal-Labor, have but little assistance to receive from you. That the efforts of the Socialist speakers and writers, the O'Briens, the Knights, the Buddens, and others to propagate the principles of a scientific philosophy have not been ignored or wasted, and that you fully realize the position which is yours, that of a downtrodden and oppressed class, making an effort to achieve their freedom. J. A. McDONALD.

ISSUE
MISSING