

WESTERN CLARION

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A PORTENT!

THE WAR'S DREGS are filtering through. Every city, from the Atlantic seaboard to the Pacific slope has its quota of "returned heroes." Several have filtered through to Calgary. When we were there about the middle of March, consternation reigned; editorial inklingers and pious gabfiennds held holy hands of horror high. A delicate situation presented itself.

The "Veteran's Club," the rendezvous of returned soldiers, was supplanted daily for janitors, gardeners, porters, and other useful articles, at about \$20 per. We believe many "veterans" were indignant. But when the "Movie" operators went on strike for "recognition" the "Veteran's Club" was virtually raided for "cheap labor." And the raid was not in vain! For many of the club members had received some instruction in the art of providing entertainment for the patrons of Filmdom. They were fairly proficient and therefore possible; being "cheap" they became actuals, and thus the method which has proved so tellingly effective in pre-war days for the masters, was not departed from. Of course, we know that "organized labor" has done its part in this great crisis. And now "organized labor" is entitled to claim the reward it deserves. That the situation is peculiar is admitted by the "Calgary Albertan" which sorrowfully informed its many intelligent readers that this was but an earnest of more to come—especially after the war. Further, it is to be regretted, so wails this intellectual Newsance, that soldiers were taken on at greatly reduced pay.

But what could one expect? And as we view in retrospect the antics of "organized labor's" chieftains for the past few years, we could readily look upon this "promise of the

ATROCITIES

A SHORT time ago, in the city of Winnipeg, the soldiery and constabulary came into opposition to each other, resulting in severe injuries to several civilians, including women and children.

While tales (probably true) of assaults upon the weaker sex and younger generation "somewhere in Flanders" by "Huns" from across the Rhine daily reach our ears, let us also remember the deeds of violence perpetrated at home. The "protectors of life" and "keepers of peace" in the prairie metropolis, both "khaki-clad" and "clothed in blue, bound with brass" types, belonged to Canada, as also did their innocent victims. They did not hurt disinterested persons because they were by nature beasts (blonde or otherwise), but because such vicious acts are the inevitable result of the practising of their function as part of a giant machine of repression—the modern state.

Since slavery arose atrocities have never been peculiar to any people or nation, but to a class—a master class in all epochs; and to-day, in spite of apparent disagreements, a world-wide master class

W. A. P.

CONSCRIPTION

If the master class wants it we shall have it and serve the working class right for standing for the master class.—Mc.

worst-is-yet-to-come" of Calgary, as delightfully amusing were it not so pathetically tragic. When the workers awake to CLASS KNOWLEDGE the antics of their "leaders," parliamentary or the other kind, will receive that contempt they so richly merit.

W. A. P.

"LIBERTY."

WHEN the rising bourgeoisie endeavored to overthrow the landed aristocracy they placed on their standard the word "liberty." By no stretch of the imagination could such liberty be meant to apply to humanity at large; to embrace every every unit in society. It was merely a demand that one section of master class must not be hampered in its development by another portion of the same class. It was "liberty," no doubt, but on close inspection, nothing more than "liberty" to rule and exploit.

To a class in a slave condition, awakening after ages of bondage to a realization of its position, the word "liberty" can mean nothing less than the complete overthrow of all the ties that bind the workers to social and economic slavery. Anything less than this may be construed as liberty by our masters, but, to us, it still spells subjection. Let us make it our business to explain our conception of the word to all workers.

J. A. McD.

A GRATEFUL COUNTRY.

While for purposes of recruiting in the earlier days of the war there was much talk about better provision being made for "our heroes" broken in the war, later events have falsified these promises. Columns of cases of hardship are to be found in the Official Report of Parliamentary Debates. From the Press I will cull one quotation:

A case was reported this week where two heroes had found their way into the workhouse because they were unable to get any allowance from the War Office. It is this sort of thing that does a great deal of harm and in itself is entirely indefensible.—"Reynolds's" 12.2.16.

From the "Socialist Standard."

B. C. POLITICAL "STRATAGEMS AND SPOILS."

THE POLITICAL STRATEGY of the Conservative machine in British Columbia is excellent in parts, as the bashful curate remarked of an ancient egg.

That the strategist did not leave for London when the comely Sir Richard did is too evident. That this strategy will prevail in the coming provincial elections is none of our business. We don't care a Verdur! What does concern us is the effect such "stratagems and spoils" have upon the working class here. The Liberals have had twelve lean and hungry years. They have achieved such success in the recent bye-elections as to warrant ambitious hopes of the immediate future. Bowser's strong play is the Workmen's Compensation Act. He has worked that play overtime. He has coppered the ace by adding to the gifts of The Patronage Committee three fat and healthy jobs which will secure the fortunate recipients in \$4,000 per annum for eight long years. He may not appoint the lucky ones during the life of the present parliament; he may even fail to pass the Bill, admitly placing the blame upon the Opposition, in which case our Liberal "friends" have a chance to present the "plum" to their hungering faithful. It might be good strategy to delay the gifts. Hope deferred may make the heart sick, but, in a metaphorical sense, a hungry political heeler has no heart. The offer of that \$4,000 per is patently visible upon the Labor Leaders of B. C., some of whom formerly flirted with the "Goddess of Revolution." The Conservative working class appointee to this particular job is almost a certainty; the Liberal appointee (providing the Liberals became appointers) would have to secure it by service. What greater service could be rendered than that which would accomplish the withdrawal of Socialist candidates in those districts which the Liberals have most hope of? Consequently, we already hear of well-wishers (!) of the working class lamenting that good money should be thrown away

on electioneering that might be used in good propaganda work. It is a crime to waste good money at any time; at such a period as we are now passing through it is folly. But we are not spending money for fun, albeit we get plenty (that is of fun, of course).

The members of the working class who supply our funds usually know what they want. And they don't want \$4,000 a year commissions whether of Liberal or Conservative persuasion. They want revolutionary action and revolutionary knowledge. This is our special line. We are not saviours; we are educators. If they want puerile piffle from political paupers of perpetual perplexity (as "The Sun" headlines alliterately), or any other trifling thing that starts with P., they can have it "free, gratis, and for nothing."

If they want sound economics and sound philosophy they can also have it—if they foot the bill.

J. H.

WHEN KING AND COUNTRY NEED THEM NO MORE

THESE be wonderful times. Even the British capitalists are foreseeing things. Whether it will be the things they foresee that will happen to them or not remains to be seen.

They now foresee that, at the end of the war their army, or what is left of it, is likely to be a problem. What is to be done about the soldier when he returns home, after kicking the peas out of the Prussian Peril, of course? His life in the trenches will have unfitted him for his former avocation, we are informed, and we suspect that his former avocation has also been fitted, in the meantime, on to a woman at half the wages.

Under ordinary circumstances, of course, he could be given a hearty pat on his pants-seat and an honorable transfer to the army of the unemployed, where he could serve his country yet again by helping to reduce to a reasonable frame of mind such miscreants as the bloated coal miners and freight humpers. But, with the munition plants closing down and what not, there promises to be no lack of recruits for the unem-

ployed army, and the returned may not be in a reasonable frame of mind himself.

So there he will be, some of them, and endowed with the shrewdness essential to the making of an army. If he, finding himself without means of livelihood and without prospects, should set out to do something about it, his cohesiveness would be him altogether too formidable to meddle with. Consequently, the grateful taxpayer must do something about him, if not for himself, therefore to be "emigrated" or to herd him to the four corners of the earth and he loses his cohesiveness. Let him go and build up our empire. How he will fare is a matter of no concern. He and Country need him no more, so that problem will be solved in British fashion by being fast on to some one else. Let the devils wrestle with it!

THE TRUTHFUL PRESS

Mr. A. Posenby, M. P., quoted the following illustration at a Glasgow meeting Sunday as to how lies were made by the press. After the fall of Antwerp the "Kölnische Zeitung" published the following article:

When the fall of Antwerp was announced the church bells in Antwerp rang.

A Paris paper, the "Matin," announced thus:

According to the "Kölnische Zeitung" the clergy of Antwerp were congratulating the church bells when they were taken.

The London "Times" went on with this:

According to what the "Matin" learned from Cologne, the Belgian clergy who refused to ring the church bells when Antwerp was taken have been driven away from their places.

An Italian paper, the "Corriere della Sera," then took a part in the fabrication by saying that:

According to what the "Times" heard from Cologne via Paris, the fortunate Belgian priests who refused to ring the church bells when Antwerp was taken have been sent to hard labor in the "Matin," which began the yarn by saying thus:

According to the information of the "Corriere della Sera" from Cologne, London, it is confirmed that the Belgian conquerors of Antwerp punished the unfortunate Belgian priests for their refusal to ring the church bells by hanging them as living clappers to the bells with their heads down.

We "know" what a woman once said to another woman, that a man told "our" wife's brother.—E. A. Clarion.

MARX, ENGELS AND THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT
(Continued)

WITH the passing of the early Utopian Socialist other philosophers, with other theories, were gaining ground. While it would no doubt be interesting to review the positions of Proudhon, Feuerbach, Stirner and Bakounine, and explain away their pet theories on anarchism, atheism, egoism, and collectivism, still, to the matter under discussion, such a review is not altogether essential.

Next in the line from Utopian to Scientific Socialism came the great Idealist Hegel. The keen eye of Hegel could easily penetrate the untenable theories of Owen, Fourier, and others. He could see the futility of trying to construct a "perfect social organization" on such a flimsy foundation as "human nature." But while he and his brother Idealists advanced sufficiently to note the weakness in the position of those who preceded them, still their own solution of the great social problem fell just as far short of being correct as the theories offered by those they successfully refuted. Indeed, their own theory that the "absolute idea" was the moving power in historic development was, after all, built on a similarly weak abstraction.

One thing, however, we must not fail to notice, that even the opinions stated by the early Utopians, when capitalist production was yet in its infancy, had in them some educational value even though they were, in the main, erroneous. They were the highest expression of intellectual advancement in that day. The Idealist philosophers who succeeded them, while also incorrect in their explanation, added in some measure to the knowledge of the time. It was not however, until nearly the middle of the past century that the real causes of historic development were clearly and correctly understood.

This understanding of social and economic forces; this presentation of the capitalist form of society in its proper places in the historical process, showing the necessity for such a system at a certain time in human history, as well as revealing the nature

and intricacies of this mode of production is due to two important discoveries—"The Materialistic Conception of History" and "Surplus Value."

This new conception of the world's history was very different from the early theories. No longer was it necessary to seek for a perfect system from the starting point of "human nature" or "absolute ideas." The new interpretation revealed the fact that the causes of all great events in the world's history must be looked for in the economic development of society; that the various changes in the method of producing and exchanging the means of human existence have always been the moving power that brought about the different forms in the political constitution of society. Instead of trying to explain the movement of humanity from the basis of the Utopian and Idealist philosophers it was now for the first time clearly explained that the exact reverse was the case. That man's ideas did not move his environment but, on the contrary, the conditions in which human beings exist determine what their ideas and actions are bound to be. This interpretation of human history, as previously stated, capably be regarded as a "discovery" of Marx. But it is to him and his friend and collaborator, Engels, that we are indebted for the first clear definition of what it means as well as its application to the various classes that have made their appearance since the inception of political society.

The second great "discovery"—Surplus Value—we owe also to the subject of this sketch. Here it was shown that while the labor power peddled on the markets of the world by the propertyless workers is of a similar nature to lumber, flour, shoes, and other commodities, being subject to the same laws, and governed by the same forces, still it is exceptional insofar as the purchaser of labor power is able to extract more value from this commodity than was paid for it on the open market, and that this robbery, or appropriation, of the difference between what the worker produces and what he receives back in the form of wages, is the basis of the whole capitalist mode of production.

These two "discoveries" alone removed sociology from the sloughs of idealism, and placed it, not on the rock of ages, but on the rock of science.

In this review we trust that the relation of Marx and Engels to the socialist movement has been sufficiently explained. These two writers and teachers in the revolutionary cause are not as capitalist apologists would lead us to believe, accepted by the Socialists of today as graven images or patron saints, to be fervently worshipped and adored, because of some hidden influence they are supposed to exert, or because of some wonderful miracles they may have performed. Their high standing among the authorities in the scientific Socialist school today is due to nothing else than the part they have played in analysing the mode of capitalist production, and assigning it a place of its own in the historical process.

About the time that Marx and Engels were applying their conception of history in the realms of sociology other writers—Morgan in ethnology, and Darwin in biology, were, in their own way, applying the same conception in their particular sciences. It was a discovery that could not long remain undiscovered even had the German philosophers never existed. In political economy Marx and Engels also found it necessary to build their theories on the experience of others. Previous economists—David Ricardo and Adam Smith, and done considerable spade work in this field, and so obviated the necessity of those who succeeded them starting in where they had made their beginning.

J. A. McD.

By adding the German reports of Russian losses to the French reports of German losses it is possible to figure out a speedy ending of the war.—Springfield Republican.

Now that the Germans have trained a battery of eight neutral correspondents on Verdun it is time for Lord Northcliffe to go to the front again.—Springfield Republican.

THE "REID" CASE.

The learned judge who sentenced Comrade Reid to fifteen months in Lethbridge gaol, when summing up at the trial, delivered himself of the following gems of wisdom:—

"There is another very important principle recognised and that is this, that in order that any Government may afford protection to life and property, and even afford protection to that principle to which I have referred, namely: that people shall have the right of freedom of speech and belief, there must be some authority to assert and protect that right therein; that means there must be some administrative function, some form of government, which will be able to so administer the law, that we have these privileges and that we may profess them without molestation, assuming we are honestly professing and adapting them to an honest purpose.

Anyone reading this drivell will recognise the politician in the author—and a poor politician at that. But Justice Simmons, having very little to work upon, is at great pains to repeat himself, and the foregoing is re-introduced, differently garbed, as follows:

"Now I have already told you that in order that there may be an administrative function some form of government, which will be able to maintain law and order that involves that we shall not have in one community in our country, riots, disturbances, tumults, in places where people meet or assemble, and so then those who wish to express their opinion, either by way of advocating any political opinion, or by way of enlisting others must have that in that they may be chargeable, if they speak words in times and places that may have a tendency to incite people to opposition."

A little earlier this "Daniel-come-to-judgment" says:—

"Everyone must be presumed to intend the natural meaning and

(Continued from last issue)

Being Further Flashlights on the Recent Trial.

consequences and results of his words."

"The Natural meaning" of the foregoing elucidation of the "code" can only mean—if it means anything—that, in order to protect "freedom of speech," a prudent government will suppress that privilege without being too particular about the means, so that it be speedily accomplished.

According to the "natural meaning" no jury will have any difficulty in finding "seditious intent" in the actions of anything that "lives, moves, and has its being."

Coming from the general to the specific His Lordship says:—

"Witnesses have sworn positively that he said he served in the Boer war, and that he personally knew of British atrocities and the burning of Boer homesteads that were quite equal to any atrocities now charged against the Germans. Three witnesses have pledged their oaths to that. They were unshaken in cross-examination. (Emphasis ours)

Now here is a plain statement. But the first witness cross-examined, a Christian Socialist by the name of Tennant, refused to swear that the defendant was not reading from a paper when he spoke of the Boer war, as witness the following:—

Q: Now then with regard to his references, Mr. Tennant, to the atrocities What was he quoting from ?

A: I cannot say he was quoting from anything except his own memory.

Q: Was he not reading from some paper?

A: I don't remember that he was.

Q: Will you swear that he was not.

A: I will not swear that he was not, but I am strongly of the opinion that he was not.

The second witness cross-examined Gold, did stick to his statement regarding Reid stating facts of the Boer war from his own personal experience, but we have already shown (in our last issue) how reliable a witness he was. Mr. Ivey, the third witness cross-examined by Mr. Jones had this to say:

Q: According to your own experience he must have been dealing with some history when he spoke about what you termed the outrage of the British in India.

A: Yes, that was in connection with the war. He was giving facts he said.

Q: He was giving an explanation of what had occurred in other wars?

A: As a matter of fact was drawing a comparison between what was occurring in this war and what had occurred in previous wars?

A: He drew comparisons between the German alleged atrocities with those committed by the British soldiers in India and Africa.

Q: And didn't he go further to say that it was the same with the atrocities when war was declared, the atrocities would occur which did not occur in ordinary times of peace?

A: I don't think, sir, he made a statement of that kind. I don't remember it.

Q: You will not swear he didn't?

A: No, sir, I will not swear he didn't. I didn't hear anything of that kind. He was dealing with the facts as I told you.

Now just a glance at the reliability of Mr. Ivey as a witness in connection with what was said on Socialist matters in the United States:—

Q: I can gather you have no Socialist tendencies yourself.

A: Not as I understand the subject. I would take either one of the other two parties in preference to it.

Q: Quite so. But you are familiar, Mr. Ivey, I can see, of course, from the way you speak you are a man that studies questions, have you ever studied the Socialistic question at all?

Q: Not very much only as we have heard it discussed in the States, not in a meeting, but I have heard Socialists speak, who were practically all the Socialists I have heard talk in the States, talked along the lines of anarchy, in favor of using shells, if necessary in explosions. They have no standing in our country.

He further noted that Justice Simmons was perfectly willing to allow all this nonsense about the U. S. Socialists to be received as evidence, but shut Reid up before he had a sentence completed for fear he would state what The Socialist Party of Canada stood for.

Corporal Hanna, of the Mounted Police, was not cross-examined, for some reason known only to Mr. Jones, we presume. Yet he made this extremely favorable statement for the defense:—

Q: Will you tell us some of the things the accused said that you remember?

A: I will not say I can say them in order.

Q: Tell us the substance of them.

A: he said, we heard a lot about German atrocities, we didn't hear anything of British atrocities. Then he referred to a soldier in Scotland and France selling souvenirs of German fingers preserved in alcohol. I rather think he said he heard about that. And then he was reading quite a lot out of newspapers, and it was pretty hard to say what he said right off the bat and what he read (Emphasis ours).

His Lordship, in summing up, apparently did not consider it his business to remind the jury what the policeman said.

The fourth witness, Mr. Skinner, subjected to cross-examination, was not interrogated upon the points referred to by His Lordship as being maintained under cross-examination. And notwithstanding the learned and impartial (!) judge's statement that "three witnesses pledged their oath to that. They were unshaken under cross-examination," we, having carefully read over the transcript of the evidence, failed to discover more than one (Mr. Gold—who is not always clear as to when he is awake) out of

the four who were questioned on these points by Mr. Jones. Only Mr. Gold stated he would go on oath regarding the reliability of his evidence on these points.

The day following the trial of Reid, Mr. Skinner, mentioned previously, was tried in the same court and by the same judge on a charge of criminal libel. Space forbids a lengthy narration of that case, but the following from the "Red Deer Advocate" (Feb. 4th, 1916) of how Justice Simmons addressed Mr. Skinner, should prove, at least, interesting:—

"It was little short of a scandal, too, the way Mr. Skinner, a Justice of the Peace, had used his paper to abuse and slander leading people of his district. There had been no sense of decency, there had been an absolute failure to appreciate what common decency was. Mr. Skinner was not a fit and proper man to exercise the functions of a J. P., and he should resign on the first opportunity." (Emphasis ours).

Attempting a defense of himself before the mighty tribunal of public opinion, Mr. Skinner, in his own publication, "The Rocky Mountain House Guide" (Feb. 25th, 1916) delivered himself as follows:—

"The evidence of the writer was to the effect that the portion of the letter to which exception had been taken was not set in type by himself, and appeared in the paper without his knowledge. The court was not disposed to accept this statement at its face value. (Emphasis ours).

Since Mr. Skinner (name so beautifully apropos!) is owner, publisher, editor, compositor (sometimes!), pressman, and—devil, all combined, we have searched for the 'nigger-in-the-woodpile' and have found the Mrs. Skinner at times assists her reliable husband in his work as a newspaper publisher. From statements made in the vicinity of Rocky Mountain House Mr. Skinner has already placed the blame for his misfortune upon his wife (in accordance with the divine account of a somewhat similar incident in the Garden of Eden) and says she is responsible. But what are we to think of a mod-

ern Solomon who accepts the word of a man one day as a witness of good faith and unimpeachable integrity— for Russell, according to the "Red Deer News" in his address to the jury laid stress on these attributes of the crown witnesses—and the next day charges him with having no sense of decency and with not being a fit and proper person to exercise the functions of a J.P.?" For a demonstration of speed such a back-sliding can only be compared with one of Billy Sunday's made-to-order conversions. What a rare jewel is consistency!

Another point. While it is impossible to obtain copies of counsel's addresses to the jury, still we have it on pretty good authority that Crown Prosecutor Russell, alluding to references which had been made concerning Lloyd George in 1900, King Edward (Carson) the 1st in Ireland, in the early days of 1914, and Bourassa, Laverge, et al., in Canada today, in his address to the jury stated that these men had not been proceeded against because of "political expediency." On this point we gracefully permit our readers to draw their own conclusions.

The Dominion Executive Committee

CESAR AND THE DUPONTS.

Cesar, in an epigrammatical moment, said: "War is the gain of the impoverished."

The Duponts stated their war profits last week because the law demands the formality. No one ever classified the Duponts among the impoverished.

The 12 months just closed, according to their own statements, brought a small increase of \$52,227,605 over the previous year's profits, making a total profit of \$57,840,758 for 1915. The Duponts were compelled to increase their working force from 5300 to 62,168 employees.

Even so slight a commercial tremor must be felt by stockholders, those in the Dupont corporation being compelled to divide a melon of \$2.2 per cent.

Cesar turn over and revise your classic!—Buffalo News.

Aye! "Imperious Cesar, dead and turned to clay," turn over, old man, turn over!—Ed. Clarion.

EDITORIAL PAGE

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THE BYE-ELECTIONS

"The cow is in the parlor,
The cat is in the lark,
The pig is on the pantry shelf,
But what difference does it make?"

THE outstanding feature of the recent bye-elections is the revival of the Liberal Party. That is obvious, but there is more to it than appears on the surface. Of course, Parker Williams did "his bit." More, in fact, for the aid he gave them in the campaign is the least he has done for them. He has been doing them good service for years. Unintentionally, of course, but none the less effectively. His efforts in the House have been largely confined to exposures of Conservative wickedness, at which, by the same token, he had no little material to work on; but it was meat for the Liberals. On the platform, also, he confined himself to the same subject mostly. He may have delivered Socialist spiels sometimes. We don't know. All we can say is that we have never heard him deliver one. So that his late defection is not so much a digression as a sequel.

Nevertheless, we are far from doubting his good intentions even in his present "break." We are inclined to believe the reasons he gives for supporting the Liberals are quite genuine. He has seen "his friends and relatives victimized, jailed, hounded out of the country, even

wantonly slaughtered, by, through, or with, the connivance of this Tory government, until hostility to it has become an obsession with him. He has thrown in with the Liberals to no other end than to smash the Tories. At any rate we see no evidence to believe otherwise, and knowing P. W., we would not be surprised, were the Liberals to be returned to power, to find him swatting them with the same vigor as he has swatted their opponents. But that is only our present personal opinion, subject to change without notice.

One of the greatest obstacles to our propaganda is the common belief that a remedy may be found in the Liberal Party for the ills inflicted upon us by the Tory Party, and vice versa. Which is the same as holding that cancer is the best cure for consumption. Parker's action tends to bolster up that belief and therefore puts him beyond the pale. Anyway he is better digging stumps on his ranch. If the workers are to be deluded let Bowser do it, or Brewster do it. It is a fitting job for a scurvy politician. It is no job for an honest, if emotional, Welshman.

But neither Parker Williams nor popular revolt against Tory corruption, is all there is to this Liberal revival. We repeat after Marx, that no political party can exist except it represents an economic interest. Neither can a capitalist party prosper without campaign funds. The Liberals represented no great economic interest, so they died. That they have resurrected means only that they must have found an economic interest to represent. And they have; and the campaign funds are forthcoming, as we have seen. Were the source of those funds made public they would stand exposed as the "mealyest" bunch of hypocrites that ever posed as saviours of the people, and P. W. would again have occasion to mop his brow.

However, it is an open question whether it is better to hand out that

delectable piece of information or let things go as they look. On the one hand it is better for us that we should have one capitalist party exclusively predominant than two only matched, and, in some respects the Liberals will serve our purpose as well as the Conservatives in other respects. Moreover, while a disgruntled Conservative voter almost invariably gravitates to the Liberal camp, a disgruntled Liberal occasionally graduates into ours. So it may be as well to let the Liberals sweep the country, if they can. They can be then depended upon to discredit themselves with becoming celerity. But in that case we can achieve little in the coming campaign. Above the clamor of "Nothing to Beat Bowser," we will be able to make ourselves heard.

On the other hand to let the integration of the Tory support continue awhile, and then to drop a nuclear bomb in the Liberal fold, should create a very promising situation. A large section of the working class having forsaken the Conservatives for reasons, and suddenly finding the Liberals utterly insupportable also, would, in the middle of a campaign, find themselves without a political home. They should prove good material for us to work on—if we happen to be in good shape for propaganda.

Either way the situation looks not too bad. We shall see what we shall see!

Meanwhile it is for the Reds to get ready. The signs of impending change are writ large, and larger day by day. So large that they obtrude themselves even on the purblind bourgeois intellect, as evidenced by the universal and insistent query "After the war, what?"

Capitalist society is surviving one catastrophe—war. After that exhausting struggle will it have the recuperative powers to survive a yet greater catastrophe—peace?

Me.

"WE" ARE BACK.

"WE" are back once more in the editorial armchair, a position which seems more preferable to us than evorting across the frozen landscape of "Britain's Siberia" behind horse-flesh. And yet the trip was not without its recompense. We have seen a little of the party organization in Alberta and are encouraged. We have also seen those little reform elements that once encumbered us, and have noted their decline and rapid death, and are again encouraged. We did our best to lay before such people as were sufficiently interested to listen the philosophy of Socialism, and in spite of the eternal round of snowballs and blizzards, the amount of work accomplished (considering the trip was merely a quick flash from place to place) again compels us to ejaculate: We are encouraged!

One hundred and twenty dollars for "our" official organ on one trip is not too bad, and we are perfectly sure, that had the weather behaved in any reasonable proportion, the amount would easily have been trebled. To our mind this is enough to put the quietus on those pessimists who aver that the "Western Clarion" cannot be kept going. It can, but it needs the close attention of all those who profess revolutionary principles. We have long been aware of certain of its shortcomings. These can alone be remedied as we obtain the cooperation of our comrades throughout the Dominion. There is no time like the present for holding to our guns and presenting our case to the workers in all places.

The Party Manifesto will be proceeded with immediately, and we have also made arrangements for the publication of Budden's "Slave of The Farm," an interesting and edifying series of letters portraying the prairie farmer's position.

Both these publications we know will have a quick and ready sale. To those comrades and friends who evidenced a desire to study the case for Socialism we say: Keep it up! We will do all we can to help. Boost the "Western Clarion"! It is our

best and most persistent organiser. Further, it is still without a peer upon this continent as a working class educational sheet, and we feel some pride in its continued existence, if for no other reason than that reformers, "immediate demanders," and various other confusionists, have prophesied for it an early demise. That our progress appears slow we will admit. But we desire to "place sureness before speed" as our comrades in England stated recently in the "Socialist Standard."

We desire to lay the only foundation worth laying—the foundation of class knowledge, and to this end we urge the readers of this paper to push it at all times and in all places. Who will help?

W. A. P.

"EXISTENCE."

THE basis of all existence is food, clothing, and shelter. We may be "good" Christians or "bad" Socialists, "Huns" or civilized human beings. All have the same common object—the necessities of life. It is because of this that the Socialist Party must have for its foundation in propaganda Marxian Economics, for this is the only proper explanation of human progress.

These things upon which our existence depends must be the first consideration of every member of society. The "intellectuals" today may assert that ours is a PIG philosophy, but even "intellectuals" have stomachs. Because of their position in society, however, the struggle for existence does not immediately concern them. The working class produces everything and owns nothing; the capitalist class owns everything and produces nothing. This fact is being demonstrated more and more every day. But along with this we find continued improvement in the tools of production, increasing the output of wealth in such fabulous quantities that the purchasing power of society is unable to keep it in circulation, the result being that when the warehouses are full, the slave is out of a job.

We are "laid off" because there is too much wealth on hand. Out of

work—no wages; no wages—nothing to eat. What a glorious demonstration of twentieth century wisdom! It is up to us wage slaves to enlighten every member of our class, not by describing some beautiful Utopia, but by placing before them literature that will present the facts of life; show them that knowledge is power; that the capitalists depend on the working class for their control of the means of life. This being so our function at present is to remove the capitalist method of thought from the minds of the workers and give them the opportunity through literature principally, to acquire the proletarian point of view. In order that we all may get the most out of life we must collectively own the tools of production which today are collectively used.

For this object the workers of the world must unite. They have nothing to lose by it, but have the world to gain.

T. O'C.

Editor, Western Clarion:

In the January 10th issue of "The Canadian Forward" (or is it "Backward") I noticed a real editorial gem. It states that the D. E. C. of the Socialist Party of Canada now forwards its members to speak under the auspices of the S. D. P. of C. except in opposition, and states further that the S. D. P. of C. is fast developing into a closed communion sect, and that its science bears, whithersoever it goes, the electric of the 19th century prior to the time electric light was invented.

Now, if the stuff printed in "The Canadian Forward" is a sample of what the S. D. P. of C. calls Socialism, I for one am pleased to learn that the D. E. C. of the S. P. of C. has made such a ruling, as it would certainly require a more recent invention than electric light to find anything pertaining to science or socialism in the columns of "The Canadian Forward," and more especially in its editorial columns.

Yours for Socialism instead of reaction,
A. E. FAULKNER,
Conjuring Creek, Alta.

Attention!

In future all communications of a Party nature must be addressed to W. A. Pritchard, secretary of the Dominion Executive Committee, instead of A. McLean, as heretofore.

OUR BOOKSHELF.

NELLIE McCLUNG—AND HER
LATEST "EFFORT."
By "Budden."

Mrs. McClung has written a book that is, another book, mostly about nothing and passionately concerned with all the non-essentials, trivialities and foolishnesses with which the literati love to cumber the bookish places of the earth. The eminent Northcliffe upon being asked: What was the secret of success in the world of letters replied: "Buy paper at one penny per pound and sell it at 'pence,'" which eloquent dictum the Manitoba she-wizard seems to have followed.

One could forgive if in all the two hundred and eighteen heavy pages just one bright thought or pregnant sentence appeared, even though deliberate plagiarism were resorted to. But alas! it is not so. There is not even a tincture of the lively wit and really clever atmosphere which so nearly redeemed her earlier efforts from the fangs of violent propagandish, plus indecent sloppiness in the matter of religion; which latter has been transferred bodily into this new book. For a perusal of its pages seems to suggest that "Nellie" has a better "stand-in" with the dear Lord than Bill of Germany himself, the tactful manner in which she manages to let him out of the somewhat compromising positions into which she so frequently lands his Divineship being about the only diverting portions of an otherwise arid collection of pious platitudes. Also her information on things unseen is almost overpowering. She "knows there is another world because we need it to see this one right." She hands out a little drool about religion too: "Christianity has not failed because it has never been tried." And that after 2000 years, plus Billy Sunday. Besides, any intelligent person knows that it has been tried long ago, and found guilty upon every count of the indictment. One would think that since the author professes Christianity she would at least have

the good sense to study that creed and its progenitors. What would be the attitude of mind, for instance, of our old friend Jehovah toward a female suffragist of today? That frolicsome gent's antics with the captured virgins which fell to the prowess of his chosen people would seem to intimate very reactionary and masculine proclivities, altogether forbidding to a cultured modern woman. One wonders what Mrs. McClung imagines Christianity is anyway. Something you try on, we presume.

We have mentioned that the book is arid. It is, is rabidly "dry." The neauseating manner in which she handles the economic question would bring tears to the eyes of Professor Mallock. Is she betrayed into very nearly touching upon the all too apparent exploitation and consequent misery of working women! It's the booze — ye demon rum! A violet-eyed girl selling labor power by the sex-favor route, beautiful and alluring, refuses to have some old female freak pry over her. Behold! the master tempter—"Rot Gut"—stands in the wings to cry "Ha! ha" to the "light-o-love's" confession. Has wee Willie no shoes! Has grandma joined the holy rollers! Booze—all booze! "Banish the booze" and most of your troubles follow. Stupendous wisdom!

There is a chapter on "What do women think of war! which goes merrily on its simple way and finishes without having once mentioned the answer. We get no information whatsoever upon this very important matter, the authoress herself skillfully refraining from personal comment. There is a good deal of prattle about knitting socks and raising children, but not much else. She does manage to convey, however the strikingly original idea that German soldiers are beasts and the Allied troops heroes (which after all is about the same thing). And also that "Bertha Krupp makes good guns." And if you don't believe it, the guns are still to be seen. Nice girl Bertha! Wonder how she manages to keep her hands so soft and

white! Come Nellie! Bertha makes about as many guns as you do sensible remarks. We respectfully direct your attention to your chapter headed "Should women think," and request in all humility that at least one, Nellie McClung, might set a good example by trying hard. We wonder what the farm women say to so hopeful a message that after all things are not so badly off. "If the shaft is small, there's lots of room outside. How nice at 40 below!"

Mrs. McClung is, of course, rapt "suffragetty" and bears herself against the men folk, which after is the normal attitude of most women it would appear, and is, in consequence, fearfully inaccurate, not to say rash, in matters historical. One fell because women degenerated Rome also; the women of Rome, of course, the few painted parasites for whose modern prototype Mrs. McClung pleads today. The rest dismissed as slaves. And perhaps after all slaves are not women. The "women" will vote and see to the "she slaves" imitate them. The genial authoress doesn't like the attitude of the various governments upon the supply of wage-slaves as future soldiers. She grows impatient over the cry for "more babies." Why! Of course they want more babies. Think of the wastage every year. It only took 60,000 lives to nearly complete the Panama Canal; nearly 100,000 were killed or maimed in the U.S.A. last year in industry. And then there is the war! What would you have madam! You want for it; you support it; you want it. You defend the system of wage-slavery with its ever increasing demand for cheapness and speed. The damnable thing! You supported with vote and pen the beastly exploitation of capitalism. You defeated Robin to place a blood kinsman in robbery in his place! Go to! The whole of the volume under discussion endorses the reign of greed and licence, confident that your friend, God, will right things all in his good time. You are an apologist of the worst order. You should get excited. "Thy will be done"—eh!

More babies! Aye! and it is whispered abroad that if natural means fail artificial impregnation is to be resorted to. The writer, of course, never expects to become a mother, but imagines such a proposition would make those who are to be thus treated think a little further than you would have them, madam. At least we hope so. They don't want "babies." They, in common with yourself, want "slaves."

All things considered, however, the book is not worth reading. It has all been said so many times before. It is popular because it is piffle; easy to follow because it calls for no mental effort. It goes with the current and swims without a struggle. It is a success; Nellie also! Success is a wonder worker. It has enabled a mediocre story teller to unload two hundred and eighteen pages of worthless prattle upon a suffering public and get away with it. Is it not wonderful what meaningless junk is put over on times like these!

DIRECT LEGISLATION, PROHIBITION AND SINGLE TAX

Being a Further Criticism of Henry George's Political Economy
By T. Mellalieu.

It has been stated that George was of the Manchester school. The reason why he can be classified as such is because he had many things in common with them. To him the landlord was a barefaced robber, whilst the industrial capitalist was an angelic creature, who did not really rob labor as the wicked socialists would suppose, but who, through God and Natural Justice, etc., simply laid out their capital to get nature's increase.

Working from this basis George wanted to eliminate this robbery on the part of the landlords, and so he advocated his policy of single tax.

In dealing with the enemy George was in favor of governmental interference, but when it came to an interference with industry, another story was told. Like Spencer and others, George was against the undue

extension of governmental powers, because it ignored the rights of the individual. State capitalism therefore, he did not agree with; it interfered with capitalist liberty. Summing up the whole ideology of infant capitalism, it resolves itself into a philosophy of individualism. This philosophy was the product of material conditions. Capitalism at one time was not organized as it is today. Whilst at the present time we have the huge trusts, cartels and combines, then we had small businesses, just getting their legs, as it were. As they grew more powerful they wanted independence, just as a boy or girl want it when they get near maturity. And so capital wanted no interference, it simply wished to be let alone, to develop untrammelled in its own way. Any restriction was opposed bitterly, and generally, at that particular period, individualism came out on top. In accordance with this policy "Free trade," was the basis of trade relations with foreign countries. George himself was a Free Trader, and it was necessary, therefore, to look elsewhere than to foreign tariffs or taxation of industry, in order to find ways and means to meet the requirements of the state.

There is another point worth considering and it is the morality of early capitalism. On the whole it was tinged with individualism, and for proof of this we have only to study the Puritans of England and America. The need of their time was capitalistic accumulation, and consequently, morality was used as a help to bring this about. Temperance, industry and thrift, were the three cardinal virtues, and any person who acted contrarily, were treated to a social ostracism and opprobrium that Puritans knew so well how to wield. Punishment of crime was chiefly individualistic, and the methods used were those calculated to bring the victims into public disgrace. To illustrate this fact "The scarlet letter" by Nathaniel Hawthorne, is good. But punishment does not eliminate crime. Very often it may retard it, but generally it merely either alters its course, or breeds hypocrisy, as was eventually the case. When this became apparent, new

methods had to be used, and so legislative action was introduced.

With the growth of capitalism, the work of the legislatures, became more important, and as they dealt to a large extent with public funds it was necessary that they should be pure-minded honest persons. For a time, possibly, the Puritan fear of public shame led to restraint their grabbing proclivities, but eventually we find that in many cases, wholesale grafting took place. This duck and drake game, however, is not to the liking of the capitalist, and so he resorts to legislative action to deal with the legislators. No longer have we men, who, from merely honorable and disinterested motives, give their time and talents for the good of the country. Instead of this being the case, members receive salaries from the state, whilst generally those who have the handling of important offices, are tried men, who have big property interests, and to whose interest it is to legislate in the manner that suits the capitalist class as a whole. But even high salaries do not make capitalist politics clean, and so it is necessary to again take a measure known as "Direct Legislation."

Henry George himself was in favor of some such measure, and quite naturally so. The sole aim of he and his kind was to try to keep the industrial capitalist free from taxation. A tax on land might do the trick, and to make matters doubly sure wasteful expenditures could be guarded against by a system of good government. This, of course, would mean the introduction of a form of efficiency into politics much the same as is common in industry. Specialists would be placed at the head of departments, their business would be to get efficiency with economy in their special sphere of activity.

Now "single tax" and "direct legislation" with "prohibition" to make up the holy trinity generally are found closely allied together. Probably the reason for this is that the germs of the three questions were born at the same time, but whilst single tax probably would not be successfully applied today, the other two measures are coming more and

more to the front, and it is probable that they will be made effective at some future time.

The reason why "single tax" would not be applied in the way sought by Henry George, is because to a large extent landlords have become industrial capitalists and industrial capitalists have also become landlords. On this account there is no important section of society behind the movement, although many wealthy industrial magnates may help the movement along because they at least possess very little landed property.

In any case, whether the measure is passed or not, we as Socialists must not be gulled. Purely and simply these various reform measures are not brought in to benefit the working class. Trust the capitalist class with their Bordenes, Lauriers, Dixons, and Riggs, to watch that. The only measure that can bring about working class good, is Revolution, to capture by political means the instruments of government to be used not as a repressive agency, but as a legislative transformer of capitalist property into the collective property of the whole working class.

J. STITT WILSON—SOCIALIST (1)

By "Espero."

On Sunday, 19th March, 1916, in the Blanchard Hall, Broadway, Los Angeles, I heard J. Stitt Wilson lecture on the "Moral and Spiritual Uplift of the People." A combination of Charlie Chaplin and Billy Sunday, he proceeded to impress us with his colossal importance and the prevalence of talent in his family, all of whom were geniuses or potential ones, and that they inherited their cleverness from their mother.

Mr. Wilson told us further that his son was his only disciple, as no other man could understand his great message—which we will readily allow.

He then went on to say that his family was a psychological study to him. Giving an outline of how a hive of bees had, through selective breeding, raised themselves to a very high type, he indicated that that was what had happened in his hive (or home).

When he had given about half an hour to the praises of his family, he modestly turned to himself and stated that he was a B. A., an M. A., and that ere long, he expected to add the rest of the alphabet to his name. Again breaking away from himself, he intimated that his brilliant revolutionary daughter (the one who skid-added from school) would give a lecture on "Revolutionary Education." This charming creature had already produced an esthetic dance as an expression of the soul, and now contemplated giving some instruction on what constitutes real education. The price of admission to this lecture would be 50 cents, and Mr. Wilson hoped that there would not gather at the hall a curious crowd, but if anyone did not consider the lecture worth 50 cents they could stay away.

After about three quarters of an hour of bombast, Mr. Wilson finally got down to his speech which, summed up in a sentence, was: "A sect is a number of people advocating a certain group of ideas while a movement is all-embracing."

Mr. Wilson believes that the soul should be free in the infinite wisdom of God, that the Bible is the most revolutionary book in the world, that the spirit of Truth when it comes will lead us to all truth and that the fact of a minister praying over a bunch of handkerchiefs would be sufficient to heal their owners of their ills.

Now that Marx and Engels are gone it is encouraging to know that Stitt Wilson is among us. Verb sap!

SECRETARIAL SCRAPS

Within a month we expect both the Party "Manifesto" and "Buddien's "Slave of the Farm" off the press.

Those who so desire can order in advance. Prices as follows, (including expressage).

Per hundred	\$6.00
Per dozen75
Per copy10

Any P. E. C., Local, or other body ordering 1000 lots can have them at \$47.50 per thousand.

We desire to draw the attention of our comrades on the prairie to "Our

Farmer's Forum" a feature which will be continued as long as "Farm Slaves" show interest in. Contributions should be brief, brief and — well! not too brotherly.

Comrade Foulston, Eyebrow, S. who was responsible for "The O Acre Proposition," is somewhat encouraged to find that he alone need interest in his "business spring." We had one or two promises which, however, apparently failed to materialize. And All with its 60 and 70 bushels to acre!

Now "who" will step in? Comrade Foulston promises to contribute AN ACRE of his 1916 providing that ten other "handed sons of toil" will do so wise.

From now on, it's up to our dear readers.

Organiser Connor, who had some meetings in hand in Vancouver, decided to let them slide.

Opposition of a violent and vicious character has lately developed apparently engineered from "the up." We can wait! Social evolution argues for US all the time.

Under the circumstances we will all REDS in the vicinity of Vancouver, to rally round us every Sunday evening at The Rex Theatre. WE MUST keep our message before the workers.

Gribble Defence Fund.

Western Clarion
Vancouver, B. C.

I hereby acknowledge the following received on account of Gribble Defence fund.

March 1.—H. Harway Stuart, New Castle No. 3	\$5.00
March 15.—H. F. Smith, North Battleford, Sask.	\$1.00

Acknowledged in March issue	\$6.00
.....	\$11.45

\$117.45

S. E. White

Farmer's Forum.

Under this head contributions dealing with questions relating to the position of the Canadian farmer from the Marxist standpoint will be published. Also points that are doubtful can be sent in. We will do our best to get our farmer comrades to elucidate them.

THE SASKATOON GRAIN GROWERS' CONVENTION

By M. L. Bruce.

There are tribes, it is said, which when assembled to discuss matters of grave importance, devote a great deal of time to the beating of tom-toms and the performance of various superstitious rites in the hope of propitiating the manifold gods who are supposed to have an influence in, or directly shape, the affairs of men.

We have many survivals of these old tribal customs and rites though in a somewhat more complex form corresponding to the changed economic basis of modern society. But he who pokes the finger of scorn, levity, or ridicule at those moderns who keep such superstitions alive must be ready to bear the anathemas that will surely fall upon his head. Their tribal prototype punished his mockers with death or exile whereas the modern superstition-monger uses the weapon of ostracism.

Wherefore, it is with fear and trembling we review the G. G. A. convention recently brought to a futile and respectable conclusion at Saskatoon.

This aggregation of "uplifters" feel the need for more of the material things of life, and, in the quest of those earthly things, they indulged in a pious display of ignorance at the very commencement. Not knowing that in the economic struggle respectability must be relegated to the scrap pile (to be easily brought forth, dusted up, worn and worshipped once success has been achieved) they first made clear their respectability and reverence for the unknown by putting on a show in which their particular deity played an invisible part.

An apologist for the ruling class appealed to the supernatural for as-

sistance in a struggle for material things. That the assembled economists (?) did not have the faith of the proverbial mustard seed is shown by their not depending upon the gods at all; but armed with petty bourgeois ideas, a fatuous and exploded economy, and a ludicrous sense of their importance they gave an example of how harmless and innocuous a bunch of reformers they really are. Mouthings of such silly catch-words and phrases as "reform," "cooperation," "brotherhood," and "one for all and all for each" were the stock-in-trade of the platitudinous rural orators. As for democracy, it was not in evidence. The "leaders" decided everything. The ordinary delegates were mere rubber stamps. Where some venturesome idealist would rise up with a "revolutionary resolution," the adoption of which he imagined would benefit the farmer, he would not fight for its adoption, but would withdraw it on the advice of Dunning, McHarg, or some other political leader. Undoubtedly his conscience was appeased on the ground of his previous good intention.

An outstanding feature of these farmers' conventions, as with trades and labor congresses, is the effort to identify themselves with the master class. Such antics and mental gyrations provoke the detached observer to mirth not unminged with pity. In that effort to appear like unto their masters, they declared they represented 30,000 souls (they said nothing about minds), showed a good profit in their trading operations, and claimed ownership in a large amount of property. Their bluffing was revealed by their pathetic attempt to show the dignity of labor in general, and the agricultural variety in particular. They departed from custom in not passing a resolution declaring work to be a thing of dignity. That would have settled it as of yore.

Those other demands of the feeble minded, namely: "Woman Suffrage" and "Free Wheat" were screamed for in the name of "justice" and "common sense." But what evidenced their lack of understanding, without which all speech-making and

"resolving" is as "baying for the moon," was the resolution demanding that profits in certain industries be limited to 15 per cent. But why leave the exploiters in possession of 15 per cent? If it is moral to confiscate all profit in excess of 15 per cent, where is the immorality in confiscating the last 15 per cent? And why not confiscate it whether moral or immoral?

It is about time these rural "Rip Van Winkles" awoke from a bourgeois slumber and grasped the obvious fact that all profit is the surplus product of labor for which the worker receives no equivalent whatsoever, and that the system of production responsible for the robbery—which is profit—must be abolished. That such action will not be in conformity with the prevailing ethical and moral conceptions goes without saying, for the prevailing ideas, ethics and morals of any age are the ideas, ethics and morals most advantageous to the existing ruling class and the perpetuation of their rule and robbery.

"Compulsory education" was another demand and as education itself was not discussed we are forced to assume that it is the miserable misinforming, shopkeeping "education" now in vogue they desire to compel people to gulp down. That is the "education" those same delegates need to banish from their minds if they ever hope to acquire a real education. They should fight against compelling their children to descend to the depths of economic and social ignorance they themselves have reached.

No doubt there were some in attendance who understood something of the position of the worker in society, but they were in a hopeless minority and had no business there in any case. Bitter experience will teach them the folly of trying to reform from the inside, or outside either, such a fundamentally reactionary bunch as the G. G. A.

Their efforts in such conventions are in vain. No matter how clearly they point out how the farmers emancipation can be achieved they will find that "the dog shall return to his vomit again, and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the

mire."

However, if Locals desire representation at these annual gabfests we have no objection to our comrades in revolt taking the trip. It furnishes an opportunity of observing the reform freak at close range, and in his native haunts, besides giving him a chance (if he's a homestead bachelor) to get away from salt pork and baking powder biscuits, even if only for a few happy days. We fear, however, that the desire to obliterate the bad taste left in his mouth as a result of the fake social importance thrust upon him and the spineless fawning of his colleagues will cause him to return to the sow-belly and sinker he so eagerly sought to escape:

Subs Received.

	\$	50c	25c
J. R. K.	18	6	0
W. A. P.	18	3	1
D. Wilson	11	0	0
R. Walker	3	0	0
Geo. Jackson ..	2	0	0
Alex. Beaton ..	2	0	0
H. Vindeg	1	3	0
S. I. J. K., ..	1	2	0
F. Harman	1	2	0
J. Mather	0	2	0
T. Hanwell	0	2	0
M. L.,	0	0	2

57 20 3

Singles:—

Dollar subs:—C. Bowie; Philip Hamel; Beatrice Thomson; F. C. Watts; F. H. Jowett; J. Rootjes; C. Luff; W. C. Curry; B. Ainsley; J. G. Randall; C. M. O. B.; W. K. Bryce; Ed. Hungen; J. E. Strong; G. W. Lohr; S. Earp; A. Goodwin; W. A. Brown; T. Connor;

Fifty Cent subs:

A. Harris; "Jenks"; "Pat"; G. Westlin; J. Sansbury; J. Wilkenson; C. Ogilvie; John V. Hull.

Twenty Five cent subs:

N. M. Leech; R. C. McCutchan.

One Hundred and Nine new readers and renewals. All right! Don't stop firing. Send them along all the time.

OBITUARY

Arthur Masters, candidate on the Socialist Party of Canada's ticket for Calgary, in the Dominion Election of 1911, and perhaps one of the best posted "youngsters" in Western Canada, died by his own hand in the Isolation Hospital in Edmonton at 31 years of age.

For some time now the ravages of tuberculosis have made their mark upon him, and the end was expected by many. He might have been saved had it been possible to have had him treated properly in the initial stages of the disease, but these things cost money, and the wage-worker lacks it almost all the time.

When demanding a verdict from one other doctor besides the regular hospital doctor, he learned that it was but a question of time. Masters, true to his convictions and acting like the "brick" he had always shown himself to be, not desiring to be a burden or trouble to others, took his own life. Possibly theologians may find an "excuse" for preaching a sermon about such an act.

We should worry!

Com. W. A. Pritchard, Editor of the "Western Clarion," who arrived here on Tuesday evening, April 4th, 1916, lost his younger boy, George Leslie, early the following Saturday morning, April 8th.

B. C. Provincial Executive Committee

ATTENTION!

REMEMBER the coming B. C. Provincial Elections. Twelve months ago a dozen candidates stood nominated to contest several districts.

The election did not materialize at that time, and was held off until now. The political situation is of a nature that demands an election, and the Government realizing this necessity have practically declared an election for the month of June. At any rate, the House of Parliament in Victoria must disband in June, so we call upon all the REDS worthy of the name, to stand by the Socialist Party of Canada on this election. There never was a fight in any of the previous elections in British Columbia that can compare with the one we are anticipating now.

Don't be misled by the variety of parties that are out to save you, the only saviour of the working class is the working class themselves.

So we call upon every RED in B. C. to do his part by assisting us in the pending elections.

Propaganda Meeting

Vancouver Local No. 1 S. P. of C.

EVERY SUNDAY, 8 p.m.

REX THEATRE,
Hastings Street

NEWS FROM MALTA

That wars are, after all, land and territory grabbing expeditions, is admitted by a Mr. H. S. Gullett, writing in the "Daily Malta Chronicle" of November 15th last. In an article entitled "Strengthening the Empire" Mr. Gullett says:

The disturbing factor is that we live in an exceedingly land-hungry age, in which solemn treaties are lightly honored. Everywhere the clamor is for more territory. Within the past few years war after war has been waged and despite the attempts of the aggressors to cover their design, the aim in nearly every case has been material gain.

Of course! But many capitalist writers have admitted that wars have economic causes. He then goes on to say:

Perhaps the Empire is too large perhaps we are attempting too much. But the tendency is to acquire more and more territory, and to add to our master task of colonizing.

To acquire more and more territory by waging war and covering their design, etc. to use his previous words. Exactly. For it is obviously "material gain" that prompts capitalist nations to make war upon one another to "acquire more territory."

Mr. Gullett then observes: "Already in this war he have in the acquisition by the Australians of the big rich islands in the South Pacific and in the gallant conquest of German South West Africa, added enormously to our work of Empire-building."

Let the thoughtful reader of this frank admission will reflect that there were more profitable reasons than "preserving the neutrality of small nations" that induced "us" to declare war. The writer however, fears that "we" have bitten off more than "we" can chew, for he continues:

We who live overseas are already spread very thin; after the war our strength unless we are strongly reinforced will be very precarious indeed.

There is grave danger that our insatiable appetite for more territory will prove our undoing. At the dictation of the Home Government, and yielding to our own strong desire, we have snatched a great additional domain from the Germans.

Thus is shown the land-grabbing possibilities of capitalist governments, and the capitalist nature of wars generally.

Only by the inauguration of international Socialism will wars be abolished. For only then will there be no capitalist class to make war, using our class for the butcher's job in order to seize territory which will become markets for their surplus products. For only then will the workers own and control all that which they alone produce, and only then will there be no vast surplus of wealth, stolen from the workers, for which a market must be found, and to provide a market for which working-class blood must be poured out like water. No man worthy of the name will hold back now.

A. C. KELLY,
"Socialist Standard."

Vancouver Campaign Committee

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The B. C. Provincial Election will take place in June, and as we have to put up a deposit of \$100 for each candidate we nominate, which means \$600 for Vancouver City Electoral District (six candidates) the Campaign Committee calls upon all comrades and sympathizers to contribute as liberally as possible to our Campaign Fund, which is now open.

Up to date we have \$165, which means that we will have to get \$435 to place a full ticket in the field.

Make all moneys payable to J. M. Jenkins, 169 Georgia Street E.

Remember, the Socialist Party depends upon you, members of the working class, for its support. This is your fight.

Notice!

Commencing with the May, 1916, issue, the subscription rates of this paper will be as follows:

\$1.00 per 20 issues
.50 per 10 issues
.25 per 5 issues

to all countries in the Postal Union.

Bundle rate to be 3c. per copy

Reasons for these changes explained in D. E. C. minutes and Secretarial Notes.

Boost

the

"Western

Clarion."

PAMPHLETS

Issued by the

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(Prices include Express Charges)

(3) WAGE-WORGER AND FARMER

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Executive Committee Reports

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Convened at office of secretary, March 30th, 1916, at 8 p.m. Present: Bennett, Harrington, McDonald, Stephenson, and the secretary.

Chairman: Bennett. Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

Correspondence: W. A. Pritchard, Alta. (3); Local Los Angeles, S. P. of A.; T. Mellalien, Toronto; R. Walker, Cumberland, B. C. (2); W. Gribble, Buffalo, N. Y.; W. J. Mitchell, San Francisco, Cal.; E. Haugen, Baran, Alta.; B. Dworkin, Calgary, Alta.; "Industrial Worker" Seattle, Wash.; Local Rossland, J. F. Maguire, Edmonton, Alta.; Alberta P. E. C., Edmonton; Local Victoria; Local St. Catharines, Ont.; W. Roby, Deerhorn, Man.; F. Penrose, Tawatinaw, Alta.; N. G. Johnson, Fargo, N. D.; "Pro Belgica", Montreal; T. Buick, Biggar, Sask.; Local Roseland, Sask.; Local Winnipeg; S. P. of G. B., London, Eng.; S. P. of N. A., Toronto; Wm. Dawson & Sons, Ltd., Toronto; John MacPhie, Winnipeg, Man.

Financial Report

Receipts Literature: W. A. Pritchard \$2.50 Expenses \$11.00 A. McLean \$11.00

Western Clarion

Receipts Subs \$40.60 Bundles: Local St. Catharines .60 Local Vancouver No. 1 .220 A. Harris .100 C. M. F. 3.80 Local Rossland Sask. 2.10

Expenses

Cambie Printing Co. No. 779 \$56.60 A. McLean 11.00 Janitor (2 weeks) 2.00 Sundries: Mailing, stamps, Paste, etc. 4.00 \$73.60

Convened at office of Secretary, April 13th, 1916, at 8 p.m.

Present: McDonald, Jenkins, Harrington, Bennett, Pritchard, Connor and the Secretary.

Chairman, McDonald, Connor and Bennett seated as delegates vice Stephenson and Smith (out of town). Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

Correspondence: W. A. Pritchard, Fernie, B. C.; J. Pilkington, Armstrong, B. C.; Local Fernie, B. C.; Local Victoria; Local Rossland; A. Harris, Sardis, B. C.; Local Cumberland, B. C.; Quebec P. E. C., Montreal; S. P. of N. A., Toronto; Geo. Paton, Delburne, Alta.; Local Ottawa; Moses Baritz, Chicago, Ill.; Thos. Foulston, Eyebrow, Sask.; John McKenzie, Edmonton; Local Toronto, (Night Telegram); W. Savident, Victoria, B. C.; Local St. John, N. B.; T. Cameron, Medicine Hat, Alta.; Organizer Knight, Sask.; Alberta P. E. C.; John MacPhie, Winnipeg, Man.; C. Ogilvie, Calgary, Alta.; C. Schobinger, Montreal; J. G. Randall, Royston Station, B. C.; B. Ainsley, Big Valley, Alta.; C. Luff, Perry Sound, Ont.; W. C. Curry, San Francisco, Cal.; Thos. Hanwell, Brandon, Man.; Angus McPhee, Silvertown, B. C.

Communication from Alberta P. E. C. asking advice from this Committee re "Reid Case" was discussed and on motion (Connor-Pritchard) that we advise the Alberta P. E. C. to take what action they think best, was carried unanimously.

Moved and seconded—Pritchard-Jenkins—that sub committee be appointed to deal with S. P. of N. A. re criticisms, objections, and suggestions to our Manifesto. Carried unanimously. Pritchard, Harrington, and McDonald, nominated as sub-committee.

Moved and seconded—Connor-Harrington—that clause on Class Struggle passed by party referendum be inserted in place of present one. Carried unanimously.

Financial Report

Dominion Executive Committee

Receipts: Stamps: Alta. P. E. C. \$10 Literature: Thos. Hanwell \$10

Total \$20

Expenses: A. McLean \$10 Janitor (2 weeks) 2 Postage 2

Total \$14

Western Clarion

Receipts: Subs \$52 Directory: Local Fernie \$1.00 Local Van. No. 1 1.00 Local Victoria 1.00 Local Ottawa 1.00 Alta. P. E. C. 1.00

Bundles: Local Van. No. 1 \$8.00 Local Victoria 2.00 Local Ottawa 1.00 C. M. F. 3.80 Local Van. No. 1 (asst) 2.90 Local Victoria (asst) 4.00 J. G. Randall 3.80

Total \$77

Expenses: W. A. Pritchard \$11.00 Postage 1.50 Total \$12.50

Adjournment.

REID DEFENSE FUND

Previously acknowledged: Gibson Landtag, B. C. Local 49, per S. Dibley 2 Local Ridgway, No. 47, per Wm. McCall 190 Jas. R. Shier Craven (Sask.) 50 S. A. Arneson, Eagle Hill 100 Markerville, Local No. 31, per S. E. Baldwin 50 Homer M. Thomas, Vulcan 50 Per Frank Tipping, Drumheller 50 R. P. Griffiths, Red Cliff 50 L. J. Davis, Drumheller 50 Frank Tipping, Drumheller 1.00 "Single Hill Reds" per B. Gardner 1.00 A. Arnold, Orville 1.00 Per John Nelson, Markerville 1.00

Socialist Party Directory

LOCAL VANCOUVER No. 1, S. P. of C. Business meeting every Tuesday evening. Economic Class every Sunday at 3 p.m. Education Class every Wednesday at 8 p.m. P.m. Dialectics Class every Friday at 8 p.m. at Headquarters, 169 Georgia St. E. W. Bennett, Secretary.

VANCOUVER LETTERS LOCAL No. 58 S. P. of C.—Business meeting every first Sunday of the month, and propaganda meeting every third Sunday at 2 p.m. Open to everybody at Finn Hall, 2115 Pender E. Secretary, R. Amat, Box 667.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, S. C. No. 45, P. E. C. Meets every second and fourth Wednesdays in the month at 2115 Pender St. East, Ova Lind, Secretary.

LOCAL GIBSON'S LAWRENCE, S. C. No. 49 S. P. C. Meets first and third Sundays of each month in the social hall, E. J. Secretary, Gibson's Heights, Howe Sound, B. C.

LOCAL EDMONTON No. 1, S. P. of C.—Free reading room and headquarters at 715 Second St. Propaganda meetings every Sunday in the Globe Theatre, First St. at 8 p.m. Business meetings every Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Buchter's, organizer, P. O. Box 1482; R. H. Somers, retary, P. O. Box 1482; Phone 5495.

LOCAL REDDEY No. 68, S. P. of C. Business meetings first Sunday in each month at 2:15 p.m. Propaganda, third Sunday in each month at 2:30 p.m. in the Theatre, Main St. Everybody welcome. J. Pilkington, Secretary, R. R. No. 4, Armstrong, B. C.

LOCAL LETTERS, ALTA., No. 12, S. P. of C.—Meets every Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in the Miners' Hall, Calgary. W. Shaw, Secretary, 624-16th St. Wm. Denny, Organizer.

LOCAL No. 1 WINNIPEG, S. P. of C. Club and Reading Room, 5 House Bank Bldg., Main Street. Business meetings every Friday at 8 p.m. Propaganda meetings every Sunday at 7:45 P.M. in Globe Theatre, Portage Ave. Literature Agent: C. C. McCutcheon, Secretary, R. J. Johns, 1484 Ross Ave.

LOCAL MONTREAL No. 1, S. P. of C.—Headquarters, 125 Dorchester St. West. Open every evening. N. M. Leach, Secretary, Box 144, St. E.

LOCAL TORONTO No. 1, S. P. of C.—Propaganda meeting, Sunday 5 P.M. in Forum Bldg., Yonge & Gerrard. All communications to be sent to W. H. Campbell, corresponding and recording secretary, 249 Victoria St., Geo. Rooster, ret. sec. 25 Treenon Ave.

LOCAL SLACK BAY, S. C. No. 1, S. P. of C.—Headquarters, Commercial St. open every evening. Business and propaganda meetings every Friday at 8 p.m. Harold G. Ross, Secretary, Box 165.

LOCAL SANDON, S. C. No. 26, S. P. of C.—Meets every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Sandon Miners' Union Hall. Communications to be addressed, Drawer K, Sandon, B. C.

The Secretary wishes to thank all donors to the above funds and would again remind comrades that the P. E. C. Maintenance Fund is in need of support.

S. I. JOHNSON-KNIGHT, Prop. Secretary

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

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Socialist Party of Canada meets every alternate Thursday 8 p.m., 149 Georgia St. E. Vancouver, B. C.—W. A. Pritchard, Secretary.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Socialist Party of Canada, meets same as above.

ALBERTA AND SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Secretary, Mrs. R. L. Johnson, Knight, Box 745, Edmonton, Phone 4861.

MANITOWA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Invents all scientific Socialists in the province to become affiliated with the Party. If unable to form a Local in your district you can become a member at large. For any information or literature apply to the Secretary, Alex. Paterson, Suite 5, Argus Block, Furby St., Winnipeg.

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Socialist Party of Canada, meets every second and fourth Sundays in the Cape Breton office of the Party, Commercial Street, Glace Bay, N. S. Dan Cochrane, Secretary, Box 451, Glace Bay, N. S.

NEW BRUNSWICK PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—A. Taylor, Secretary, East St. John, N. B. For Party literature and information on above address.

LOCAL FERNIE, S. P. of C. hold educational meetings in the Socialist Hall, every Sunday at 7:30. Business meetings third Sunday in each month, 7:30 p.m. Economic classes every Sunday afternoon at 2:30. Organizer, A. Goodwin.

LOCAL ROSELAND, No. 28, S. P. of C. meets in Miners' Hall every change Sunday at 7:30 p.m. E. Campbell, Secretary, Box 64.

LOCAL VICTORIA, No. 2, S. P. of C. Headquarters and Reading Room 1675 Government St., Room 8. Business meetings every second and fourth Tuesday in the month. Secretary, Fred Harman, 1424 Government St.

LOCAL CUMBERLAND, S. C. No. 70—Business meetings every first and third Sunday in the month, at 10:30 a.m. Economic classes every Sunday and Friday at 7 p.m. in the Socialist Hall opposite P. O. Regular Propaganda meetings at every opportunity. Secretary, H. Walker.

LOCAL ST. JOHN, N. B., No. 1, S. P. of C. Visiting Comrades welcomed. Secretary, Stanford E. Waite, 34 Main St.

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PLATFORM

Socialist Party of Canada

We, the Socialist Party of Canada, affirm our allegiance to, and support of, the principles and program of the revolutionary working class.

Labor, applied to natural resources, produced all wealth. The present capitalist system is based upon capitalist ownership of the means of production; consequently, all the products of labor belong to the capitalist. The capitalist is therefore master; the worker a slave.

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

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

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

The irrepressible conflict of interest between the capitalist and the worker necessarily expresses itself as a Class Struggle.

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

1. The transformation, as rapidly as possible, of capitalist property in the means of wealth production (natural resources, factories, mills, railroads, etc.) into collective means of production.
2. The organization and management of industry by the working class.
3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use instead of production for profit.

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