

WESTERN CLARION

The Official Organ of
THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

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[Month 5c

TO THE WORKERS OF ALBERTA

We who address you have a policy distinct and different from that of any other party engaged in this election...

As workingmen to workingmen we wish to point out certain facts with regard to conditions as they exist today.

Society as at present constituted is based upon the ownership of the means of life—the land, mills, mines, railroads, etc.—by the capitalist class, in consequence of which the workers, by whose labor wealth alone is produced, are enslaved.

There is, therefore, an antagonism of interest between those who possess but do not produce, and those who produce and do not possess.

This antagonism can be abolished only through the emancipation of the working class from the domination of the master class, by transforming the property of the master class into productive forces controlled and administered by the whole of society for the benefit of all.

The machinery of the State, including the armed forces—army, navy, police, judiciary, etc.—exists only to conserve the interest of the master class. The workers, therefore, must organize on class conscious lines for the purpose of capturing the powers of government, so that these forces may be converted from an instrument of oppression into the agent of emancipation.

Since all political parties are the expression of certain class interests,

Alberta Election Manifesto

and as the interest of the workers is opposed to the interests of all sections of the master class, the party whose object is working class emancipation must be hostile to every other party.

The Socialist Party of Canada therefore, enters this election campaign for the purpose of giving expression to the war it must wage against all other political parties, whether alleged LABOR or avowedly CAPITALIST.

Within the past few months charges of wholesale graft and robbery have been the order of the day. From one end of the country to the other brilliant examples of "honesty is the best policy" have been furnished us.

From Roblin's Parliament Building swindle in Winnipeg, to the irregularities of the Liberal politicians in Regina; from the Kyte and Carvell charges in connection with munition orders at Ottawa, to the demonstration of "clean politics" in Vancouver, when plagues were imported to vote as often as possible, for absentees and dead men, the highly moral story runs.

Of course, we are not concerned very much about these things. The wealth was not grafted from us. Being wage workers, alive to the system of exploitation under which we live, we recognise that we are ROBBED when we produce things,

and not when we buy them. And in any case we are not of those who buy Parliament Buildings or munitions of war. We have never had the price.

These things, nevertheless, serve to show us the kind of persons who, today, as Liberal and Tory, make specious promises to the 'dear people' and continually cry for a "clean" government.

Understanding what government is, a means of keeping slaves well governed, and the rankness of the system of society which obtains today, we know that "clean" government is merely the production of a distorted Tory or Liberal brain.

So-called issues, raised by any section of the class whose function, at present, is to rule and rob, are of no interest to us. The "Full Dinner Pail" in a land flowing with wealth exploited from the workers, is an insult that no other animal but the human kind would tolerate. Free breakfasts for school children, old age pensions (when you are seventy; you are in the bread-line at twenty-one!), state insurance, railroad policies, free land for settlers—in a country where those who now have thus settled cannot find a market for their produce—all these things are of no interest to those whose only portion is that of the slave. Wages, representing so much food, clothing and shelter, when you are working; a place in the bread-line when the master no longer has need of you—these are the alternate positions which members of the working class occupy.

Six hundred years ago the means for producing wealth were very crude, yet a man could produce enough to keep his family and himself for a whole year by twelve weeks' labor. What vast strides have since been made in the means of producing wealth, and how many times has the fertility of our toil been multiplied!

Yet men like Campbell Bannerman and Lloyd George have confessed that "about 30% of the population of Britain is living in the grip of perpetual poverty."

That is a wonderful state of affairs in an Empire about whose untold wealth we are now urged to wax so enthusiastic!

And what has been the effect of the wonderful increase in the productivity of human labor. Has it raised those who work above that poverty line. It has not, and if you are only honest with yourself you know we speak the truth. The workers are compelled to become the WAGE-SLAVES of those who own the mines, mills, railroads, etc.

If the workers in the Middle Ages produced more than they required, they could store it against a rainy day, leave it to rot in the fields, or take a layoff and produce less. Today, however, the wealth produced by the working class in excess of what is essential to its own maintenance, belongs to the master class. It accumulates until the world market becomes glutted, and the warehouses are full, throws the workers out of jobs because there cannot be found any to buy the product of their toil and thus relieve the situation. Not only so; it brings a problem to the master class of finding an outlet for their surplus goods and so the workers, from whom it has been extracted, are called upon to display their loyalty by shouldering a rifle for the purpose of shooting their fellow workers of other lands in order that a market may be located wherein this stolen wealth may be sold.

We, therefore, call upon the workers of this Province to study the conditions of their own miserable existence, and realize the cause for the same.

To those who desire to register a protest against this system of exploitation, and go on record as being opposed to the continuation of wage-slavery, we say: Support at the polls in the forthcoming election, the nominees of the Socialist Party of Canada.

THE ALTA. PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

THE ONE THING NEEDFUL.

REVOLUTION is in the air. Even the Medo-Persian inflexibility of the British middle-class shows signs of becoming infested with the prevailing disease. Press reports tell of demands for British royalty to seek wives and husbands among the noble families of their own land, instead of mingling their pure British blood with Hohenzollern, Romanoff or Hapsburg scum. It is to be hoped that our rulers will smell a rat, and nip this pernicious doctrine in the bud, while it is still floating in the air.

The human mind has framed some strange doctrines in times past, and will continue to do so. But few have endured the many social changes better than the idea that in the various social grades varied intellectual and physical characteristics inhere. That kings were born to rule, and workers to work. That there are bulldog breeds and terrier breeds among human beings, and that our lives are ordered according to our breed.

True, the idea of Divine Right as applied to kings, is very much discredited; but it is still very widely accepted that men who toil for a living are incapable of successfully performing any professional, administrative or artistic services.

There is something supremely comical in the human animal's attitude

toward rulers and the ruling class when reviewed in the light of history such as is not taught in our public schools.

From Pepin, the first European king, and in fact the first king in the modern sense of the word, down to say, Nicholas, an almost unbroken line of degenerates, often the victims of degenerates, has afforded a kind ample reason to remove the breed (if a kingly breed existed) from the land of the living. The descendants of Pepin's son, Charlemagne, were notorious, their names were opprobrious, Charlemagne the Fat, Charles the Bald, Charles the Child.

Occasionally, some upstart would out a trace of blue blood in his veins would seize the throne, and for a short period invest it with a dignity worthy of respect, and on rare occasions the upstart's progeny improved the vigor and wisdom of their forebears through a generation or so.

So Pepin imprisoned Childeric, the last of the Merovingians, chief of the Frankish Tribes; rapidly developing into a nation.

Over a thousand years have passed since then, and yet we find a modern king entirely under the influence of a priest whose character was such that he is known only by his name Rasputin (dirty dog). However, Nicholas as a king is gone and his removal was ridiculously easy.

We have little cause to reprover that, for there still remain even were all the monarchs of Europe in the same situation as Nicholas, a condition as fatal to human happiness as any could well be.

Comical as is the institution of kings, it is not any more so than the social condition which permits a relative few to own the products of the earth, performing no useful function, and to deny to those who produce these products, even sufficient to decently maintain life.

Historical development has dispelled the "Divinity that doth

hedge a king," but there still remains in the human mind a concept quite as dangerous to our welfare.

The present financial and industrial "kings" from the oil kings to the peanut butter kings, are as degenerate and useless as any of the European tribe; any argument against the removal of monarchs applies with equal force to all social parasites.

The social system which makes possible a Rothschild, a Rhodes or a Rockefeller, cannot drag in a Hapsburg or a Hohenzollern as an excuse for making war. The power to work injury to humanity is no greater in the one than in the other, for is the power to absorb and destroy wealth any less.

They are part and parcel of the slave system, and to us who are of the slave class, it makes no difference whether our blood is sucked by a social vampire who can trace his lineage back to the Imperial Rulers of ancient Rome, or by one who slept among pork and beans in a corner grocery, and did not know his father's name, or in his state of affluence would not mention it if he did. A parasite is a parasite, he be born in the purple or the gutter.

Some few are born with great mental endowments or physical advantages, and some few are born physically or mentally deficient, but not of class or cast. The vast bulk of mankind are wise or foolish, according to the nature of the social conditions under which they live. They are what education has made them, and their nature is moulded by circumstance. Teach them to love, honor and obey a yellow mangy cur, and they will grovel in the dust before his curship. They have done it with a dung beetle.

Without that training the way of the cur is hard. Without it the dung beetle is loathed.

Aside from some unimportant and mental kinks the difference between a revolutionary and a willing slave is one of education. You can

remove that difference by spreading knowledge.

The Western Clarion is a good medium with which to hold the revolution together. For subs have been availed. In fact you continue we paper. We are getting the paper aid help. This is an obstacle which we can overcome if those who of a real Socialist in removing the t. But you must accept of need of keeping it was never greatly accomplished by anything at once.

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION AND ITS RELATION TO THE WORKING CLASS

Translated by H. Nelson, of Seattle, Wash.

Foreword by Moses Baritz

So many times has been written about the Russian Revolution and what it means that it is both a pleasure and a privilege to read an article like the following. It is taken from the Russian Socialist Democratic paper in the U. S. called "Navy Mir." While not endorsing the sentiments expressed by the writer, it is well worth considering by all who desire to realize the real position in Russia. I would like to point out that the part dealing with the immediate demands was specially referred to in the article on November, 1916, issue of this paper. This article describes the bourgeoisie and the clever mouth-piece of the English ruling class—Paul Milukoff. The deliberate trickery in his lectures last year at the Cambridge University was then indicated. It is a lesson in proletarian tactics at all times AFTER THE BOURGEOIS REVOLUTION IN ALL COUNTRIES, but somewhat doubtful in the present situation in Russia. To me, the only action for the working class is to work against the bourgeoisie at all times, fighting their own battles against the ruling class.

by spreading knowledge.

The average citizen cannot understand the connection between the ideology of an individual, i.e., between his political views and convictions and his economic situation. This connection becomes still more vague to the average citizen when we are concerned with a great man of intellectual attainments who is not directly associated with the exploitation of labor. Such a citizen is also unable to analyse the forces behind the revolution. Such a citizen is prone to ascribe the fact of the revolution to the single individual (leader) who may incidentally mount the crest of the revolutionary wave.

And really after reading the newspapers one receives the impression that if not for Milukoff, Rodzianko, and Lvoff, Nicholas the Last would still occupy the throne in Russia. These gentlemen are pictured as the real revolutionists, the real situation being completely ignored.

They forget that not so very long ago Milukoff made the statement that if a revolution was necessary to give Russian arms a victory over Germany, he was against such a victory. They also ignore the fact that on the eve of the upheaval in Petrograd, Rodzianko appealed to the workers not to strike or arrange any demonstration. And yet nobody will deny that the starting point of the last stage of the Russian revolution was nothing else but these strikes of hungry working men and women. Therefore, if Messrs. Milukoff and Rodzianko ever played any role in the Russian revolution it was the role of a brake, ever hindering the full development of the movement. And Messrs Milukoff and Rodzianko acting in such manner remained true to the interests of their class.

It can be accomplished by anything at once.

J. H.

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With the development of the movement of the proletariat who clearly understand their interests and are fighting for those interests, the bourgeoisie loses the little revolutionary spirit which it so scantily possessed. The bourgeoisie desires

freedom, yet it fully realizes that under the present conditions freedom can be accomplished as a result of a victorious struggle of the working class. But once the proletariat gets out into the streets to fight he will not be satisfied with the limitations set before him by the ideologists of the bourgeoisie.

The working class will endeavor to assure for themselves the maximum amount of conditions favorable to the further continuation of their class struggle. This is why in our immediate programme alongside the abolition of the autocracy, are included such points as confiscation of all lands from the landholders without compensation, and an eight hour day. They fully realize that the result of this would be a greater development of the class consciousness of the working class, and the abolition of the capitalist system. This is why in a strong class conscious proletarian movement, the bourgeoisie always plays the role of a brake retarding its development.

Wherever, in spite of their wishes, the movement of the people assumes the character of a conflagration, the bourgeoisie employs every means in its possession to minimize the effectiveness of such a movement whether by confusion or by force of arms.

While it is in the interests of the working class to extend the revolutionary movement and sweep away all the vestiges of the feudal system which are in the way of a more successful fight with the bourgeoisie, the ideologists of the latter, always endeavor to establish "law and order." They will somehow conclude a bargain with the old regime and agree on some compromise. Of course, an agreement means a compromise on one side as well as on the other. Here lies the difference between us and Milukoff and Co.

Therefore, those who insist that the main thing to do now is to go back to work and leave it to Milukoff and Co. to solve all the problems of Russian life are either misguided or deliberately trying to fool

the working class.

Nay, a thousand times nay, NO COMPROMISE. We ought to push Milukoff and Co. ahead to the realization of our demands. SHOULD THEY COMMENCE TO BALK IT IS THEN OUR DUTY TO STEP OVER THEIR HEADS TOWARDS OUR AIMS. Revolutions do not take place every day, and in a revolutionary period every day is like a year.

Not to overlook the shortcomings of Milukoff, but on the contrary, to expose his half way methods, his ability to betray the working people at any moment—is the duty of the revolutionary social democrats. And no threat of restoring the Romanoffs will ever scare us. The fact of restoring the Romanoffs itself may come as the result of an agreement between Milukoff and Co. and the Romanoffs. That is betrayal the bourgeoisie is capable of.

Only acting in such a manner, we are carrying out our mission. While we are fighting for the interests of the present moment, we do not lose sight of our main object—THE PROMOTION OF THE CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE PROLETARIAT AND THEIR EDUCATION AS FIGHTERS FOR THEIR OWN CLASS INTERESTS. THIS CALLS FOR HELP, AND IT IS THE DUTY OF EVERY SOCIALIST TO BE WHERE THE STRUGGLE IS ON.

ON GETTING LANDED.

By-the-Way.

ON preceding articles we have endeavored to present the problem of the relationship between those who work and the system under which work is done.

Saying that those who do all the work of Human Society thereby produce all the values that are offered in exchange upon the World Markets is mere tautology. And yet that same tautological statement has to be continuously repeated.

We have a mystical something—or

condition—usually called Capital. Over this the average wage slave immediately proceeds to fall. This mystical something—or condition—is the proceeds and creature of labor is not taught in the Public Schools or Press. This means another self-evident fact to be continuously repeated.

Ignorance attributes a mysterious power to Capital which becomes endowed with potentialities, in the minds of the proletariat, usually associated with the Mystical Divine Trinity.

How much longer must this Char of Proletarian Science be kept? We chant, and the echo of our voices comes back as from the heads of empty drums. But the drags of sticks of necessity are in the making. Happily they may be productive of rhythmic effect. Wielded by the evolution of economic conditions we may be sure that they will be productive of effect.

Rhythmic effect, discordant tumultuous effect or broken drumheads, the march of Natural Law in the Realm of Economics will not be swept aside for one moment.

Synopsis.

We have seen that the value of any commodity, at any given time, including the money-commodity "gold," is determined by the amount of socially necessary labor involved in its production at that particular time.

By this time we have been able to see how it is that prices of commodities vary, for the "price" of an article merely states its value in relation to the money-commodity "gold."

The value of gold in exchange being subject to the same laws as is the value of any other commodity, we can readily see that "price" and "value" are two entirely different terms.

That the natural law of exchange determines that equal "values" exchange for each other in the market (including value physically expressed in money—gold) should not be

hard to grasp.

This law we have found proven by using the negative illustration of reducing the position of an absurd thesis. Presuming that made in exchange—by selling—then gold must be exchanged at less than its value above its value by other commodities are always changed (for gold) above then gold is always exchanged at less than its value. We have seen that both intentions are absurd.

And we have seen that the only asset of the workers—their power to work—is also a commodity, and as such is subject to the same laws of exchange. It sells—or exchanges—for its equivalent value being determined by the socially necessary labor involved in the production of any commodity, then the value of labor power is clearly seen to be whatever it will cost to reproduce it. A concise, but not unscientific, definition of wages.

That Compromise.

Our unit of the working class has hunted for a master; has succeeded in being landed (no line of bait required—only a whistle) in a job; has sold his labor power, has a stake in the Promised Land of work; has a fair chance of staying there, just as long as his newly acquired master finds it desirable to keep him.

Our unit-worker has sold his power to work for, let us imagine, five (!) dollars per day.

Here let us pause, we have promising occasion.

The contract is made. The purchaser has agreed to pay—delivered—to our worker this amount of money (gold) for each day's productive capability, which—being interpreted—means HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE GRAINS OF GOLD.

TENTHS (90 per cent.) FINE.

We are not immediately concerned as to how those who buy the labor-power of the working class obtained the gold wherewith they purchase. Whether we are concerned with the paper and other tokens money are the usual given substitute for gold. The token money is as a certificate of existence and that is all that the contracted amount of gold would be.

There is no natural power or anything mysterious in the commodity that society uses for money. Under the guise of "money" gold loses its commodity appearance and apparently assumes magic shape; but there is no fundamental difference, as a commodity, between it and any other.

Wheat, copper, beef, gold, horses, oats and all other commodities are on the same basis that they are all the products of labor.

The only reason that gold has been accepted as the general medium of exchange is on account of its general convenience in handling and that it does not fluctuate in exchange value as much as other available and convenient commodities.

In considering the position of the workers, as the recipients of wages, we must get a clear conception of what the term "money" means. When we grasp this we find that the nominal—or money—wage has not by any means a stationary relationship to, and equivalent in, other commodities; we find that wages being expressed in "gold" is not a fundamentally different matter to having it expressed in flour, sugar, potatoes or any other product designed on the market, with their variable exchange values.

Gold does not fluctuate in exchange value, on account of supply and demand, quite as much as most other commodities, but its real value

is steadily declining on account of steadily declining on account of labor-saving devices in its production. Fluctuations upwards in the exchange-value of gold are of very rare occurrence, and when they do happen they are so slight as not to attract very much attention and last but a very short while.

Other commodities are declining in real value for the same reason as gold, but gold seems to be holding its own in the forefront of the downward race.

If we add to this consideration the fact that cheap substitutes such as pieces of paper and silver, are generally accepted in lieu of gold (especially is this noticeable in the case of the workers), then we obtain a glimpse of what is happening to our money.

As a matter of fact the position of the recipient of wages would be considerably better were almost any other commodity the medium of exchange today.

Our illustrating unit of the working class has agreed to exchange himself for one hundred and twenty-nine grains of gold, nine-tenths fine (five dollars).

This transaction appears as a voluntary one in the open market. Nobody has appeared on the scene with a gun to compel the transaction. Our unit might have kept his labor power. Anyhow he has contracted to sell it, and will get its value. It does not appear that he has any ground for complaint, much less a growl on account of being "robbed."

And our Editor remarks that there are other matters that require space. Also hints there will be other numbers to follow.

As these statements of our Editor cannot be well disproved, except by jurisdiction not possessed by the writer, we will perforce "Stay our haste—and make delays."

Haply next time we may reach that solution.

W. W. Lefaux.

The Western Clarion

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Along with other "neutrals" who have anxiously scanned the commercial and political horizon while maintaining a somewhat dubious balance on the international diplomatic fence for a period of thirty months or so, China has read the signs of the times, and, being far removed from the activities of the German military machine, has decided that "right" and "justice" and "the interests of humanity" must be preserved. Consequently she has joined the "Entente."

One thing, however, is very interesting about this matter, for unlike the U. S. A. she prates more of economic interests than of the lovely abstractions mouthed through fire-eating apostles of vengeance like "Teddy the Terrible." For instance, a recent issue of the Peking "Daily News" contains an editorial warning to America of the danger they run in "entertaining an economic alliance with Japan at the expense of China." Dealing with Baron Shibusawa's proposal in the Japanese Diet, that China's vast resources should "be developed by the co-operation of Japanese brains and American capital," the article proceeds in part as follows:—

Editorial Page

"The whole story of Japanese intercourse with China since the China-Japan War, is a story of persistent pressure, of unremitting consideration, of studied disregard of Chinese susceptibilities. The committal of any American project into Japanese keeping may perhaps be a guaranty of eventual materialization, but this may be bought at too high a cost. If we simply look at the thing from the point of view of what will pay best, we find an insuperable objection to the 'American money and Japanese brains' co-operation. It will not pay American interests to link themselves up with interests that reck nothing of Chinese feeling or rights. American enterprise in this country stands remarkably free from the taint of inconsiderate commercialism, perhaps freer than that of any other nationality. The highest American interests can only be conserved by the maintenance of the American tradition. 'Evil communications corrupt good manners' internationally as well as in private and personal life, and it is to be hoped that American capitalists will realize this. The history of the past few months shows that it is quite unnecessary for American interests to be entrusted to Japanese manipulation. Several loans, a big railway building contract, and other by no means negligible pieces of business stand to the credit of American enterprise unassisted by Japanese cerebral convolutions. There is no necessary conflict of interest between gray matter and clean hands."

"That the question is a very material one to Chinese interests is clearly demonstrated by various articles throughout the Chinese press, most papers stating that if China does not join the Entente she will be left isolated, a prey to the pernicious designs of the avaricious Japanese. The Peking "Nuo Min Pao" candidly declares:

"Interest demands that China should associate herself with the Entente, which represents the group of Powers who will control the destinies of the world. Germany can not help her nor harm her. If China is not with the Entente she will be

isolated. Not only that, she will have no voice in the conference, which will adjust national interests in this respect as well as in other part of the world. Without representation in the conference China may suffer humiliation and perhaps worse. Fortunately our statesmen are beginning to realize this, and action should be endorsed by the patriots who understand the situation in Europe."

Thus China's diplomacy is apparent, its public mouthpiece footsly asserting that economic interests alone impel it. And who will give themselves the trouble of uncovering causes instead of giving effects to death can readily serve that the very same economic urge drove Uncle Sam into the military cockpit although his reasons are obscured by a cloud of words and abstractions and a thunder of patriotic piffle.

W A P

The highest expression of that ceaseless struggle between Capital and Labor, the class struggle, is the conscious attempt of the enlightened portion of the working class to dethrone the present master class and substitute for "government persons" an "administration of things."

At the present time this conscious effort expresses itself as a fight for the "minds" of the workers, that is an attempt—by persistently presenting to the proletariat an explanation of its present position to rid the workers' minds of the bourgeois viewpoint and allow instead a viewpoint to develop in accord with real working class interests.

For this reason it becomes necessary to expose the myths and superstitions of our intellectual hielings. When these superstitious and erroneous

remarked that no finer patriots could be found than the British Labor M. P.'s. And their counterparts exist even in British Columbia. For some time now violent and nonsensical denunciations of all things German have appeared in the editorial columns of "The B. C. Federationist," the mouthpiece of organized labor in Canada's most western province. This is the sheet which sillily suggests political action by organized labor on class lines, as though the collection of monstrous leaders understood the class position on the first place.

However, in the issue dated March 29th, 1917, a piece of literary moonshine, which might be amusing were it not so sad, appears. While assertion peeps clumsily from almost every line not one iota of proof is adduced. The writer of these editorial declamations must either be ignorant of the diplomatic history of Europe and its underlying economic interests, or else be the unwitting victim of severe and ungenerable mental aberrations. For we are informed in a manner that well might preclude reasonable criticism that for the last century at least the centre of European reaction has been at the Prussian capital of Berlin, and that "in spite of all [the] loud noise about 'trade,' 'trade-routes,' 'places in the sun' and a lot of such foldered there is no other logical explanation than that this is a war of extermination between the forces of reaction and those forces that make for human progress."

To thus summarily dismiss the economic interpretation of such a gigantic affair in society as the European War is to undermine those very doctrines which we know to be the only basis for correct working class education and organization. To infer that France is the most democratic country in the world, and that Germany is entirely bureaucratic and feudalistic demonstrates that even labor papers delight at times to indulge in the high-sounding yet meaningless drive of

the average bourgeois apologist. No more laudable than the remainder of medieval hodge-podge. That why will that trade has learned until pointed conference in middle of the year, in 1914. In combination in matters of all world, and as batched forth world's market cheap furniture sets, tin alarm evidences of malice in Germany should be too funny for funny for a thought. No doubt this "medieval hodge-podge" was established by the "Treaty of Utrecht" or Albrecht's Danish navy when the enlightenment of freedom, equality and fraternity.

We are not including any brief for Germany—most decidedly not. But we attempt to argue that this war is not involved with trade or trade routes, that it is a war between feudal bureaucracy and constitutional democracy, between reaction and progress is to confuse basic causes with very incidental and, in many cases, almost imperceptible effects. Can any thing more bureaucratic than the British Foreign office, ore more tyrannical than France in Morocco, or Russia in Persia, be imagined? It is only fifteen years ago since Joseph Chamberlain pointed to "the most democratic country in the world." France as the foe to British freedom and concerning which the hysterical "Daily Mail" shrieked that it was the enemy which "We must roll in blood and mud."

A knowledge of a mere incident like the British occupation of Egypt

with Admiral Seymour's bombardment of Alexandria, would have prevented our industrious contemporary giving such a vicious outburst of arrogant nonsense.

Again, on the issue immediately following the one now under discussion, our erudite editorial expert once more comes dashing to the attack. Nothing new is brought forth (the same old statements in almost the same phraseology appears) with one exception. This is a naive suggestion that this war cannot possibly be for trade or markets, because, forsooth, when you intend ruining a competitor in the realms of business, you merely undersell him. You do not go to war with him; no bloodshed occurs. How logical! Perhaps when you go forth to enlarge your own trade and ruin your competitors you shake hands over the matter. Are British financial syndicates established in Turkey and Egypt in order to give their members a vacation? Has not Mexico been religiously watched in the rival interests of Pearson and Rockefeller? Does Japan extend her army and navy for "the day when the Chinese tit-bit will be 'benevolently assimilated'" or is it only that she and America may some day amuse and interest the rest of the world with a pyrotechnic display in the Pacific?

Might we suggest that instead of so much editorial "sound and fury" in place of argument, that a perusal of "Queen Victoria's Letters," "Lord Morley's Life of Glandstone," Lord Cromer's various works on Egypt, and Seignobo's "Contemporaneous History of Europe" be indulged in.

After which it might be left to "The B. C. Federationist" to prove that "trade" and "trade routes" had nothing to do with the European catastrophe. For the working class there is but one enemy—the international capitalist class. For the enlightened worker there is "one business notions find expression in so-called labor journals our duty becomes doubly clear. Northcliffe well

ness of paramount importance—the exposure of capitalist cant and the dissemination of real working class knowledge.

Let us not be misled by side issues. Let us hew to the line.

W. A. P.

THE HIGH COST OF LIVING

IN these times of unprecedented prosperity and preparedness the paramount question which arises in most every workingman's mind, and which sorely troubles him, is the high cost of living.

Although we are receiving more money for our labor than ever before, and employment is more steady we are still held in the same old groove. Almost everyone we approach on the subject advances a different theory and answers evasively, dodging cause and literally stumble all over themselves to elude effect. Profiteers, politicians, pulpiters and labor leaders all in their turn offer some form of palliative particular to their respective calling. Due to these evasions none seem to explain the matter in such a way as to definitely answer the question.

Now, to answer properly the question involved is no easy matter and cannot be done in two or three words, for we must know the nature of value and what determines it, and in order to do this we of necessity must concisely review the history of man. Man in his primitive state was economically free. He hunted and fished for a mere subsistence and supported none but himself alone, but as we go along in history we find he employs new methods and bands or groups together in order to better protect himself from other animals, and, finding it more easy to gather means of subsistence collectively and thereby being able to store some away to be used during seasonal difficulties. All were not of one group or tribe, as they are termed, and when one tribe

found it troublesome to feed, clothe and shelter itself in its chosen territory, it warred upon its more fortunate neighboring tribe the victor either devouring its captives or made slaves of them and in this way arose a master and slave class, and such conditions have existed down through all ages of the history of mankind, the only difference is the way the product is taken from the slave.

In the system of chattel slavery both the slave himself and his product were the property of the master to be sold at will, and it follows that he produced enough for his own subsistence and a surplus to provide for his master, but his master saw to it that he was kept physically fit even though the master went short for the slave's body was his master's property. The next social system was the feudal system, in which the slave or serf, as he was called, was allotted a portion of land to provide for the master in this way. Now comes the present system of society termed the capitalistic system, in which the freedman or wage slave is paid a money wage, but he still provides for his master most lavishly while he is led to believe he works all the time for himself.

Now, to the subject under discussion. What is the nature of value, its laws? One of our most able political economists describes it thus: Value has a two-fold nature—use value and exchange value. The use value or utility of a thing is limited by its physical properties. A thing that is useless has no value and needs no further discussion. As to exchange value or value proper it is generally stated that exchange value is determined by the law of supply and demand. For instance, when the demand for a commodity is great (and here let us define a commodity "a thing made primarily for sale" regardless of its useful properties) values rise; when demand is small values fall, and when supply is great values fall, and vice versa, but how is the standard determined around

which these high and low values fluctuate? This is the point where everyone balks. How is the actual value determined? Our foremost economist defines it thus: The value of a commodity is determined by the average amount of socially necessary to produce it. For instance, we will take a pair of shoes. The raising of the animal, the tanning of the hide, the necessary machinery, the manufacture of the shoes, the packing, the transportation and distribution to the manufacturer of the shoes, the packing, the transportation and distribution to the ultimate consumer, all the labor is incorporated in a pair of shoes, which determines its actual value. Now, if the supply of shoes demand be great or small they will sell above or below their actual value, as the respective case may be, but generally speaking commodities exchange at their value.

But we might ask what has this to do with the high cost of living and our workingman's labor power. Our labor power as a commodity is the same as all other commodities, for it is of no use value to us and is primarily for sale, and in order to live we must sell it to the highest bidder, which makes it a commodity, and its exchange value is determined in the same manner, its cost of production, enough cheap food, clothing and shelter to maintain it and return back when needed at the same standard of physical and mental efficiency. Now, we may ask why is some labor compensated in a greater magnitude than others, say skilled and unskilled? Skilled labor has incorporated in it a greater amount of past labor, such as tutoring and apprenticeship.

Until now we have dealt with value. How does value coincide with price? Price is the money expression of value or exchange value, and as a world standard gold is used, and in order to explain this phenomenon we will use as an illustration our shoemaker and a gold miner. Suppose it requires eight

hours of socially necessary labor time to produce one ounce of gold, and eight hours of socially necessary labor time to produce a pair of shoes, then these are equivalent and mutually exchange and our workingman must work eight hours for himself before he can enjoy either of these equivalents or even obtain them or their equivalents in any other commodity, he may choose to name.

However you will say, "I work eight hours and cannot buy back with the gold I received in wages, the product I produced." This is where the high cost of living comes in so far as Mr. Workingman is concerned. We said, "Work for yourself," but in these eight hours you have not worked entirely for yourself—you have worked for a master who must have his pound of "flesh" must be compensated for his invested capital. You must not only reproduce the necessary equivalent of your wages, but a surplus for the master.

In what way is this feat accomplished?

The master has invested capital say \$4 in building and machinery and \$6 in raw material and holds in reserve \$5 for wages, a total of \$15. We will call capital invested in building, machinery and raw material constant capital and \$5 wages variable capital and we have a formula thus 10c plus 5v. Our master is now ready to employ men and our workingman goes into the game, the mill, the factory or the workshop to sell his labor power for eight hours, for which he is to receive \$3. At the finish of the day he has completed a product the value of which is \$20 and the trick is turned. Our formula now appears like this: 10c plus 5v plus 5 surplus, equals 20, the value of the commodity. Four hours he has labored to replace raw material and wear and tear on building and machinery, two hours he has labored to reproduce his wages or worked for himself, and two hours he

has given free labor for the master of the means of production must live, has this possession a value, or the high cost of living may choose to call it two hours for \$5, one hour for \$10, so he has worked ten minutes to replace wear and tear on machinery, two minutes to replace raw material, and the remainder of his wage is a constant portion of the surplus, and the final hours are given to the master, but he cannot retain possession of two hours of labor to maintain a system as his he must educate a nation, police force, the government and all its political institutions to keep us blinded while he plunders and labor leaders to keep us quarreling over jurisdictional working conditions. So much for the disposal of the surplus and you will say: "Well, these are very conservative figures." Our poor masters are surely measurably enough compensated for the risk he takes." But let us reduce these figures in the illustration to an average percentage ratio and view the situation from a matter-of-fact viewpoint. "United States Government statisticians" inform us the ratio of capital invested in industrial pursuits would appear in our former formula thus, 80c plus 20v plus 20s equals 210, which appears at first sight as a 20 per cent profit, while in reality our workingman has labored to replace the 80 per cent, the constant portion, or past labor crystallized, at no expense whatever to the master, and produced a

charge to the master having possession of the means of production. Twenty and twenty being equal means 100 per cent. (To be concluded in next issue.)

THE PLOT AGAINST THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL

(Continued from last issue.)

The name of this secret society had assumed was the 'International Workingmen's Association, and they were all initiated into it by one, Metchajeff, who presented credentials stamped with the pretended seal of the International, and who also had in his possession a written credential worded as follows:—

"The bearer of this credential is the authorized representative of the Russian branch of the Universal Revolutionary Alliance, No. 2771."

It also bore in French the seal, "European Revolutionary Alliance, General Committee (2) date May 12 1869 (3) signature; Michael Bakunin."

In a short article it is almost impossible to give the history of this Russian movement, but to make it understood in a slight way, I will try to give an outline of the soil Bakunin worked on, the seed he used, and the harvest that was reaped.

In 1861 the students rose in retaliation against the fiscal measures which had for their purpose the keeping of the youth of the working class from the higher educational establishments, and also against the discipline of the police agents.

This agitation rose to such a height that St. Petersburg University was closed for some time, and the students were thrown into prison or banished. This drove the students into secret societies which, while many of them were convicted of the crime (of belonging to those societies) and sent to Siberia, others through the opportunity these societies offered for the study of Social-ist ideas, became saturated with

those ideas. This was the soil which Bakunin and his agent, Metschajeff, found, and they soon took advantage of the reputation of the International to plant the seeds of their deadly Anarchism in the minds of this enthusiastic band of youths. The first Anarchistic action was that of inducing a few young people to commit common crimes which, of course, gave the police the chance to crush even more vigorously and brutally the entire movement, which was so dangerous for official Russia.

In March, 1869, Metschajeff arrived in Geneva and notwithstanding the fact that many of the most prominent Russian refugees branded him as a spy and a liar—Bakunin openly defended him and everywhere proclaimed that Metschajeff was the "extraordinary envoy of the great and active secret organization existing in Russia." Bakunin was also urgently requested not to reveal the names of his acquaintances in Russia, which he promised, but the evidence brought out in the trial showed how he lied in this respect.

From Geneva they then sent to Russia a series of leaflets, some of which were marked "printed in Russia," in order to create the idea that the movement in Russia possessed great means of activity. At the same time that they were distributing these "Words," as they were called, some anonymous publications were issued all written in the style of Bakunin, and undoubtedly issued from the same press. In one of those, to show how loathesome this individual was, we find him severing every connection with "those political emigrants who refuse to return to take their place in the ranks, but making an exception only in the case of refugees who have proved themselves workers in the European Revolution." In other words, all the Russians except Black Michael were to deliver themselves over to the Russian police.

The manifestoes, letters, proclamations and telegrams continued to

flow from Geneva all this time, addressed partly to individuals in different parts of Russia, although it was well known that not one of them could reach the person to whom it was addressed without the knowledge of the secret police.

All of those individuals became marked men or women. In this way Bakunin and Metschajeff became the world's greatest police agents.

Bakunin received the following message in this connection: "Please tell Bakunin if there is any thing sacred to him in the Revolution, that he should cease dispatching his nonsensical proclamations to us, for they have already caused arrests and persecutions. But we find Bakunin's secret code prescribes 'compromising completely the ambitious and the liberals of the various shades . . . so that their retreat becomes impossible and then we can make use of them.'"

The result of all this was a reign of terror amongst the revolutionaries of Russia, and to conclude in the words of the commission which turned in its report, July 21st, 1893—"In the place of the economic and political struggle for the emancipation of the workers they substitute the all destroying deeds of the rabble of the jails as the highest personification of the revolution.

"In short, one must release that riff-raff kept in check by the workers themselves according to the 'classic pattern of the revolutions of the West,' and thus of their own impulse place at the disposal of the reactionaries a well disciplined gang of agents provocateurs."

"It is difficult to decide which of the two predominates in the theoretical fantasies and the practical attacks of the Alliance—the grotesque or the infamous. Nevertheless, it was given to it to bring about a painful struggle within the folds of the International, which for two years hampered the activity of the association and finally led to the dropping off of a part of the sections and federations. The conclusions passed by the Hague Congress were there-

fore purely acts of duty, the progress could not allow the International, this great creation of the Proletariat, to become entangled in the snares of the refuse of the exploiting classes. With regard to those who would deprive the General Council of its authority, with which the International would be only a scattered, disconnected group to speak in the language of the chance, an 'amorphous mass, which see only traitors or simpletons in them.'"

The Commissions' reports, designed by E. Dupont, F. Engels, Frankel, C. le Moussu, Karl Marx and Aug. Serrailier. The name is an evidence of the worth of this document, which to my mind will be of great value to the student of the history of the International.

May we who are now the rank and file of the movement bend all our efforts to the formation of a "International" which will typify our one aim, the abolition of the wage system and which will be composed only of those who know the truth of the words of Karl Marx:

"Workers of all countries—lose but your chains—you have unite. You have nothing to a world to gain."

PAT

Farmers' Forum

THE WHY AND WHEREFORE OF FARMERS' INSTITUTES

THE object of various Governmental organizations and patronizing Farmers' Institutes, has often been criticised as a vote-catching device. This reason will bear but slight investigation, for it fails to explain why such governments as Russia, with its agricultural demonstration barges, etc., or big railroads, and other corporations of all countries, which do not directly depend on the votes of the general public,—take such an interest in agriculture.

The agricultural prosperity of

country is its most permanent asset—poor crops, poor business. This does not mean that good crops necessarily mean good business, for the agriculturist, quite the reverse, mean good profits and assured interest in the world.

Now, the government of any country is merely a committee for managing the affairs of its ruling class.

The ruling class change according to the economic and consequent intellectual development. One time it was the land-owning class—the landlords. Since the introduction of steam machinery in wealth production, the power has passed to the owners of the machines—the capitalist class.

The old landlord class which has survived with something more than a name, did so by mixing their interests by marriage and other commercial investments. When they may sit in a House of Lords their interests as capitalists more than counter-balance any interests they have as landowners.

This machine development which has altered the status of the lord has also altered the status of the farmer.

It has been estimated that in the year 1900, one man in the farm could do the work of fourteen men in 1850, and every year the introduction of better machinery is continually increasing mankind's productive powers.

Yet, are the farmer on easy street? No! And the more productive they become, the more independent their position. The machine has transferred cheese and butter making, bacon curing, and all the old-time industries of the farm to the factory, leaving the farmer in the position of a very small minority stockholder in the control of the wealth he creates.

Where are the old women, whose support kings and nobles were wont to canvass? In their stead today we have the farmers on

their shin bones, pestering the government with resolutions for "cheaper money," "free seed," and so on ad nauseam. An idea of the contempt in which the farmer is held, and his worship of any pinhead he believes might give him a "hand-out," is amply shown by the following culled from the minutes of the 15th convention, held at Victoria, B. C., 1913.

Hon. Peter Ellison, Minister of Agriculture: I am glad you realise the importance of presenting resolutions to the government.

I remember, when we used to think it fortunate if we got less than forty or fifty stacked by this same body. Now we are boiling them down so that they mean something, and the more valuable they are to be entertained.—Emphasis mine.

I look to your advice as being practical men, and it goes without saying that you are the choice of the communities you represent, and are looked upon as good level headed men.

Moved by A. Venables (Okanagan), seconded by D. Matheson (Spallumcheen): That a very hearty vote of thanks be tendered Hon. Price Ellison, carried by standing vote, the delegates singing "For he's a jolly good fellow," followed by three cheers.

While it is difficult to hold the performers in the above enacted farce, in any thing but contempt, one must not confound the staff of the experimental departments, or the lecturers or teachers employed by the government with the slimy politician type.

These experimenters and teachers are performing a work which, though not as spectacular, has a more far-reaching effect than any of the credited "victories" of all the tinsel bedecked Generals in the world's history. These students do not have to sacrifice millions of lives to rectify the results of former victories. Their victories are permanent. As mankind's power over

their food supply increases their superstitions vanish.

The agricultural teaching staff may actually believe they are working for the farmers' immediate good, but the powers who pay for this education realize the expenditure on agricultural education is sound business.

Educate a farmer to grow two bushels of wheat where one grew before, and the business element, railroads, implement firms, banks, etc., still take their percentage of the first bushel with the entire second thrown in. The farmer is no better off. Relatively, he is worse, because a greater percentage has been taken from him. In either case the entire surplus value of the wealth he creates over his keep (wastage and running expenses) has been taken.

Some years ago, the Victoria "Colonist," referring to Sir Donald Mann, of the notorious firm of railroad mendicants, and his optimistic talk on the crop prospects for the Prairie Provinces, said editorially: "Well he may be glad, for he has a partner named McKenzie who knows how to turn these bumper crops into shovels for his company."

The business world, whom the government represent, live and thrive on this surplus value, and that is the Why and Wherefore of their sincere efforts to educate us through institutes and like societies.

They show us how to combat the green fly, potato scab, scab, and other pests, because these very minute green flies, bugs, smut and scab are the direct competitors with the business world for the surplus value of the crop.

To the capitalist world is one vast farm, with the farmers merely a part of the stock. Hon. W. Ross, Minister of Lands for B. C., speaking before the Board of Trade, Victoria, 1913: "If you want settlers to fill up your vacant lands, which the railways are now reaching, you must provide roads, schools, etc." He was talking to the power behind the government. There

was no election stump bunkum as note: "Talking of labor no one of us wishes to see the scale of wages reduced in this country, especially in the face of the greatly increased cost of living, but we must not lose sight of the fact that until the rate of wages become equalised throughout the industrial world, the great majority of products which we would manufacture for ourselves cannot be manufactured by reason of the rate of wages which prevail in Europe." "It was announced during the recent session of the Legislature by the Minister of Finance, as the policy of the Government to so increase the revenue from Natural Resources of the country that in four years from now it would be possible to remove all forms of direct taxation except that on land, so as to permit of commerce and industry being developed with the least possible burden on their operations." (Single taxers please note.)—Emphasis mine.

While it has yet to be demonstrated how land can pay taxes, we know the more that can be squeezed out of the hide of a farmer, the cheaper foodstuffs, which means in turn, lower cost of living,—lower wages for industrial workers, and higher dividends for the aforesaid-mentioned manufacturers "with the least possible burden on their operations." The agricultural education given the farmer (which by the way he would be a fool not to take advantage of) is given for the same purpose the farmer gives his horse a harness and an education—to make him more profitable, and, as with the horse, whose education is only expected to reach a stage conducive to useful facility, so with the farmer, for he is not allowed to talk "politics" at Institute meetings, nor is he allowed to discuss or enquire the reason his share of the wealth created by his efforts, still amounts to little more than his horses' ration of hay and oats.

The aim of the farmer should be to discover the "Why" he gets such a

small percentage of the wealth he already creates rather than to produce more. They may grow a longer fleece, but they will be shorn just as close.

"It is not a question today of What, or How much can we grow, but rather, What can we sell? (War conditions are not permanent). The struggle to sell is causing farmers to co-operate in selling agencies. Group selling is displacing individual selling, wherever the product has to be shipped any distance. This will lead to a keen competition between districts, or groups of farmers, all striving to rid themselves of wealth they have created for some other wealth they can use.

The Back to the Land movement, which exists,—though it has been greatly exaggerated by real estate interests—is more an effort to get away from the precarious conditions of the cities, rather than a love or desire for country life. It settles nothing for the farmer, for, as he becomes a machine worker less relative numbers are needed on the land. The machine is already starving the small man off, and will eventually deprive him of even the nominal title to his land.

The "Back-to-the-lander" is not so susceptible to the soporific dope dished up by the average agricultural paper. Having had less of the "Montreal Star" drivel, he is not so much concerned with the morals of his neighbors or the exploits of the Prince of Wales (God bless 'im) in France, as he is with the welfare of his own children at home. He will read radical literature, and may be reckoned on to see his interest clear when the test comes.

Not so with the average farmer. Subscribe for a Socialist paper? Horrors! No! They prefer a "good clean family paper" which prints its damns with a D and a dash.

A glance at the discussions at the recently organized United Farmers of B. C. Convention, as reported in this month's "Fruit and Farm," Mar-

1917, will show what a difficult task a farmer is to deal with. In busy seasons his interests seem to clash with those of a wage worker. Though his interests as a worker outweigh his interests as a landowner a thousand times he considers all questions from a landowning standpoint.

When one considers this movement originated among a class of farmer supposed to be mentally above the average, and reads the twaddle indulged in, the farmer's case seems hopeless. While there are not nearly as many social castes among the farmers as among the trashy novel reading type of wage workers whose "incomes" range between sixty and hundred per month still, there are some. It amounts a lot to tragedy, but that is no part of this article. Suffice it to say that while a bunch of farmers can waste time squabbling as to whether another human—Oriental or otherwise—should have access to land to earn a living, the smug interests who are educating them to see a remedy for their problems, in anything and everything, but the Abolition of Capitalist Production may rest assured that money spent on farmer's "education" is well spent and returning good dividends.

Harry Noakes

WHAT IS MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP?

By Moses Baritz.

There has been a decline recently in the voting strength of the Socialist Party of America. Many reasons have been given to account for this decline. The vote for the Presidential candidate has gone down about 50 per cent. of the total vote given to the candidate of that party in 1912. One of the shrewdest explanations given was that of Henry L. Slobodin in a recent issue of a paper that is owned privately by members of the Socialist Party. He says that the decline is due to the infusion of "practical politics" into

the organization. He pointed out that thirty or forty thousand members left the S. P. as a result, and he adds: "This is the direct result of the 'practical politics' of the constructionists."

In the spring of 1907 a meeting of the S. P. was held in Harlem, N. Y., where this same Slobodin was talking on Municipalisation and how it would benefit the working class. When question time came, the speaker was asked one or two questions, and because of the reactionary replies the writer took the platform against Mr. Slobodin, attacked the advocacy of this capitalist reform, and was sneered at for his pains. I proved by the situation in England and France, how the municipalities were taking over these concerns for the benefit of the TAXPAYERS (in England they are called RATEPAYERS), and only in their interest. Since that time, however, Slobodin has chewed the end of economics and has discovered that Municipal Ownership is of no vital interest to the working class.

But that has not helped to stop the growth of such propaganda in the Socialist Party. Only last year the platform and advocacy of the Oregon S. P. was one of asking the State to introduce hog cholera cures and the free distribution of something to stop the development of chicken lice!!! Perhaps of more importance is the action of a certain Carl D. Thompson, the candidate for National Secretary of the S. P. at the last election, and who much against the wishes of the S. P., was made the campaign manager at the last Presidential election. This same Mr. Thompson is now the secretary of the "National Public Ownership League," an organization which he formed while in the pay of the S. P. His action was much resented as will be seen from the following statement taken from the Ohio State Bulletin of the S. P. on page 3, column 2, there appears a report from the National

Committee member Scott Wilkins telling that he had:

"On September 11 voted yes on motion 22, that the National Executive Committee be instructed to terminate at once Carl D. Thompson's services as campaign manager."

The next column contains the report of C. E. Ruthenberg, who also voted "Yes," but added this comment to the statement:

"Comment: Any comrade who cannot find in the Socialist Party full scope for his political activities, but goes outside the party to organize a 'Public Ownership League' and in addition expresses the hope that a renegade Socialist may wrest control of a newspaper from a party organization is certainly not the man to manage a national campaign. Comrade Thompson did admittedly do these things."

That is sufficiently official, but in case it is not, I would like to refer the reader to page 277 of the March issue of "Parson's Magazine," where Mr. Thompson claims political affinity with Mr. R. B. Howell, the latter being the Republican candidate for Governor in the State of Nebraska at the last election. It will shortly beyond dispute the reactionary associations that the "Public Ownership League" maintains.

Then again the advocacy of National and Municipal ownership is something antagonistic to the Socialist philosophy, otherwise there would be so many scheming politicians supporting it. The whole of the economies of this band of political crafters is the reverse of the Socialist position.

If the reader will recognize that the worker of today is divorced from the means of production; that the only way he can live is by selling himself for the highest price—he can obtain in the labor market, that the worker is robbed before he gets his pay envelope and not after; when he gets to know these things he will not trouble about whether the taxes are high or low. When the worker realizes that the machinery of production is owned by a class that does no useful work in society, but sim-

ply extracts the surplus value from the slaves, he will be getting on the way to know himself.

As long as workers have to sell themselves to get a living, and that the amount they get is determined by the cost of the reproduction of the worker, WHAT DOES IT MATTER WHETHER THE TAXES ARE HIGH OR WHO OWNS THE PRODUCTS? The worker is like the cow in this respect, it is immaterial to the cow what price is gotten for either milk, butter or cream, as it will not make any difference to the cow. The extraction has already been made from the animal. So too with the wage worker. Marx has referred to the point that his wages high or low the worker's position is no better. If in America or Canada the plug gets a little higher in the rate of wages, it is because the cost of producing him is greater. All he gets is just about enough to live on. Then what does it matter WHO HE WORKS FOR, OR WHAT THE WAGES ARE?

(Continued in next issue).

SUBS. RECEIVED

Local No. 30, Cather-		
ines	16	2 0
J. F. Maguire	6	5 1
C. M. O'Brien	5	0
R. C. McCutcheon	5	2 0
F. Reid	3	2 0
S. Lellman	2	2 0
J. Stevenson	3	0 0
Local Eekville	0	0 10
T. Hanwell	0	4 0
F. Kissack	2	0 0
S. Major	1	1 0
S. I. Johnson-Knight	0	3 0
T. B. Roberts	0	2 0
H. Bolingbroke	0	0 2
Singles, St.-W. Koerner; R. G. Gray; O. Ruschkowski, Burke Mingers Union, A. Paterson, T. Laupitt, J. A. Beckman, C. Walker, A. G. McCullum, J. Car-G. R. Datoe, A. Lellman, A. Rat-tray.		
Mo.-Ed. Hanger		
Total of nine-three new subs.		

SCRAPS OF PAPER IN HISTORY

No. III.—Hannibal and Rome

ROMAN history belongs to a much later period, of the world's development than that of Greece. Its earlier periods are obscured by legend and myth, although it is generally agreed that it was founded by Romulus about 750 years before the Christian era. The whole Italian peninsula seems to have attracted the attention of settlers from foreign States at a much later time than many other parts of Europe. Italy, bounded on her northern frontier by lofty mountains, possessed moreover too long a stretch of harborless coast on both sides to tempt even the enterprise of the earliest of traders such as Phoenicians. The Roman States, even at their zenith, did not spread over the whole of the peninsula. Various tribes peopled Italy, of which the Latins, the Sabines, and the Etruscans were the most numerous and most advanced. These various tribes of ancient Italy were bound together under the kingship of Romulus, who was succeeded by six others, Tarquinius Superbus being the last of the Roman kings. Thereafter, until the founding of the Empire, Rome existed as a Republic.

In the middle of the north coast of Africa, in the recess of the Bay of Tunis, a trading port established by the Phoenicians, grew and developed until it finally became the centre of a mighty empire. This city was known as Carthage. Her rise and extension constituted her a formidable rival to the power of Rome.

Carthage, engaged in wars with some of her neighbors, was as a result, soon brought into rivalry with Rome. Rome had some interest in certain of the states against which Carthage waged war, and the Romans commenced to build a fleet in order that they might the better contend against their maritime opponents. In most of the ensuing wars Rome had the better of it.

They commenced that series of wars between the Romans and Carthaginians known as the Punic wars. It is concerning Hannibal, the famous Carthaginian general of the second Punic war that these lines are penned. He was the son of Hannibal Barca, and was born 247 B. C.

He and his two brothers, Hasdrubal and Mago, were called by the father "the lion's blood." Hannibal accompanied his father, when only nine years old, on an expedition to Spain, in which country he was raised, amidst armed camps and under his father's eye, and was present at the battle in which his father was slain, being then in his nineteenth year.

After Hasdrubal had been slain by an Iberian assassin, Hannibal took up the work left incomplete by Ifanulcan, the thorough subjugation of Spain, as being the country which alone, for him, could properly serve as a base for operations against the deadly rival, Rome. Two campaigns proved sufficient for the conquest of all Spain south of the Ebro, except Saguntum, a town considerably south of the Ebro. Saguntum really was a Grecian colony and had grown rich and prosperous, but, what was more important, was existing in very friendly relations with Rome. To attack it, therefore, would amount to a deft to the Roman senate. This perturbed Hannibal not the least, and he easily persuaded the home government at Carthage that the Saguntines were molesting Carthaginian subjects in the neighborhood. This incident is so akin to the tales of Burgher misdemeanors in South Africa, prior to October, 1899, that one is almost led to conclude that British diplomacy had borrowed its *modus operandi* from Hannibal.

However, without further parley and without waiting for an answer from Carthage he commenced the siege and Saguntum was compelled after a gallant opposition to submit.

During the siege Roman ambassadors at the solicitation of Saguntine envoys landed on the Spanish coast but were firmly told by Hannibal that he could not see them. They went on to Carthage to lay their case before the government, but their monstrosities, though the subject a long debate, proved to be in vain. Following this, another Roman delegation went to Carthage and insisted that Hannibal be given up. The ensued negotiations which are considered to constitute the most brilliant revelation of a treaty violation or "tearing of mere scraps of paper" in history.

When the spokesman of the Roman delegation to Carthage, interrupted an attempt on the part of the Carthaginians to justify Hannibal's attack on Saguntum, he gathered that he held within it, peace or war, and that Carthage could have peace if Rome could have Hannibal. They replied with the ancient equivalent of the modern "It's none of our funeral," and, consequently, war occurred.

Cato, the Roman, later reviewing Rome's relations with Carthage claims that Carthage on six occasions broke the treaty with Rome.

While it does not appear clear whether or not a treaty covered the protection of Saguntum, yet it is interesting to note that Roman spokesmen upheld Carthage on such grounds for Hannibal's attack on the Spanish city, while Carthage held to her point that the Saguntines had molested Carthaginian subjects in Spain. At any rate it is certain that Hannibal provoked the Saguntines to break the peace.

When his vast army, including cavalry, infantry and even elephants made its passage over the snow covered Alpine wastes, another "scrap of paper" had found a resting place in the military melting pot.

Socialist Party Directory

- DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**—Socialist Party of Canada, meets every alternate Monday at 8 p.m., Socialist Hall, N. E. cor. Pender and Dunlevy Vancouver, B. C. W. B. Mitchell, Secretary.
- BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**, Socialist Party of Canada, meets same as above.
- ALBERTA AND SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**—Secretary, Mrs. E. I. Johnson, Knight, Box 755, Edmonton, Phone 4803.
- NEW BRUNSWICK PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**—A Taylor, Secretary, East St. John, N. B. For Party literature and information on organization matters, etc., write to above address.
- LOCAL ALHAMBRA, No. 74 (Alta.)**, S. P. of C.—P. O. Peterson, Secretary, Horseguards, Alta.
- LOCAL CALGARY, No. 66 (Alta.), S. P. of C.**—Business meetings every alternate Wednesday, 8 p.m. Economic class every Monday, 8 p.m. Headquarters, 226, 4th Ave. J. Secretary, J. Reid, Box 1436, Calgary.
- LOCAL CLAYTON, No. 68 (B.C.), S. P. of C.**—John T. Dempster, Secretary, Clayton, B. C.
- LOCAL CRAWFORD BAY, No. 72 (B.C.), S. P. of C.**—J. E. McGregor, Secretary, Crawford Bay, B. C.
- LOCAL CUMBERLAND, B. C., No. 70.**—Business meetings every first and third Sunday in the month at 10.30 a.m. Economic classes every Monday and Friday, at 7 p.m. in the Socialist Hall opposite P. O. Regular Propaganda meetings at every opportunity. C. Walker, Box 212, corresponding and financial secretary.
- LOCAL ECKVILLE, No. 58 (Alta.), S. P. of C.**—J. F. Kerr, Secretary, Eckville, Alta.
- LOCAL EMBERLEY, No. 64, S. P. of C.**—Business meetings first Sunday in each month at 2.30 p.m. Propaganda third Sunday in each month at 2.30 p.m. in the Theatre, Main St. Everybody welcome. J. Pilkington, Secretary, R. H. No. 4, Armstrong, B. C.
- LOCAL EDMONTON, No. 71, S. P. of C.**—Free reading room and headquarters at Room 8, Bellamy Block, N. E. cor. Rice and Howard. Propaganda meetings every Sunday in the Bijou Theatre, First St., at 8 p.m. J. L. McKenzie, organizer, E. H. Flegg, secretary, P. O. Box 765.
- LOCAL ESKINE, No. 56 (Alta.), S. P. of C.**—A. A. McNabb, Secretary, Eskine, Alta.
- LOCAL FERRIE, S. P. of C.**, hold educational meetings in the Socialist Hall every Sunday at 7 p.m. Business meetings third Sunday in each month, 7.30 p.m. Economic class every Sunday afternoon at 2.30. Oscar Erickson, Secretary, Box 503.
- LOCAL FAYERSDALE, No. 71 (Alta.), S. P. of C.**—Mrs. Macdonald, Secretary, Richards, Alta.
- LOCAL FERGUSON FLATS, No. 85 (Alta.)**, O. B. Miller, Secretary, Ferguson Flats, Alta.
- LOCAL KINDERSLEY, No. 10 (B.C.), S. P. of C.**—W. K. Bryce, Secretary, Colliery.
- LOCAL LEDGERIDGE, ALTA., No. 13.**—S. P. of C. Meets every Sunday at 8.30 p.m. in Miners' Hall. Secretary, W. Shaw, 144th St., S. Wm. Devoy, Organizer.
- MEDICINE HAT (Letish) Local S. P. of C.** Meets third Sunday in the month at 528 C. Princess Ave., J. B. Kainin, Secretary.
- LOCAL MARKERVILLE, No. 31 (Alta.), S. P. of C.**—E. Baldwin, Secretary, Markerville, Alta.
- LOCAL MONTREAL, No. 1, S. P. of C.**—Headquarters, 99, City Councilor St. Meets every Tuesday. Business meetings Wednesdays at 8 p.m. Smoker last Saturday in each month.
- LOCAL ROSSLAND, No. 25, S. P. of C.**—Meets in Miners' Hall every change Sunday at 7.30 p.m. Will Jones, Box 125, Secretary.
- LOCAL SUNDIAL, No. 70 (Alta.), S. P. of C.**—Mrs. A. Thorburn, Secretary, Sundial, Alta.
- LOCAL SILVER LEAF, No. 101 (Alta.), S. P. of C.**—Ed. Haugen, Secretary, Barnes, B. C., Alta.
- LOCAL ST. CATHERINES, No. 30 (Ont.)**, S. P. of C. Economic class at Towns Hall, Market Square, every Sunday, at 2 p.m. D. Thomson, Secretary, 9 Mary Street.
- LOCAL ST. JOHN, N. B., No. 1, S. P. of C.**—Visiting Comrades welcomed. Secretary, Stanford E. White, 24 Main St.
- LOCAL TRAIL, No. 37 (B.C.), S. P. of C.**—D. Wilson, Secretary, Box 531.
- LOCAL TRAVERS, No. 55 (Alta.), S. P. of C.**—W. A. Brown, Secretary, Travers, P. O., Alta.
- 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. at Headquarters, Socialist Hall, N. E. cor. Pender and Dunlevy. Miss H. Harvey, Secretary.
- VANCOUVER LETTICE 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 Socialist Hall, N. E. cor. Pender and Dunlevy. Secretary, R. Amat, Box 667.
- LOCAL VANCOUVER, B. C., No. 45, Finnish.** Meets every second and fourth Wednesdays in the month at 2215 Pender St. East, Otis Lind, Secretary.
- LOCAL VICTORIA, No. 2, S. P. of C.**—Headquarters and Reading Room, 1424 Government St., Room 8. Business meetings every second and fourth Tuesday in the month. Secretary, Fred Harman, 1424 Government St.
- LOCAL WINNIPEG, No. 3, S. P. of C.**—Headquarters, Room 5—400 Main St. Secretary, R. La. Fayette.
- LOCAL OTTAWA, No. 8 (Ont.) S. P. of C.**—Secretary, A. G. McCallum, 276 Laurier Ave.

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MANIFESTO

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

So long as the capitalist class remains in possession of the reins of government all the powers of the State will be used to protect and defend 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-increasing 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 effected. 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 struggle for political supremacy. This is the 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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