

F KAVANAGH AND SMITH SPEAK FOR W. P. OF C.

Hastings Park and Other Live Questions Dealt With

A. S. Wells Will Be the Speaker at Columbia on Sunday

The Vancouver Local of the Workers' Party of Canada held another very successful meeting last Sunday, the speakers being J. G. Smith and J. Kavanagh.

In opening his address J. G. Smith who was the first speaker, referring to the formation of the Workers' Party, stated that a large number of workers in this country had arrived at the conclusion that the ruling class will never do anything for the workers, but that will never get them out of the rut. Others, he stated, believed in sending men to parliament, but, as stated by Bernard Shaw, they might as well expect to get ham and eggs from a sewing machine as emancipation by the election of men to parliament.

He pointed out that if it were possible to secure emancipation by marking a ballot, there was nothing he would like better, but history proved that the expectation of such a consumation was hardly thinkable when it was recognized that women and children had been butchered by the ruling class when the workers sought a little more wages, and not because they had attempted to change the system.

Referring to working class activities, he stated that it was always possible to say where a movement began, but that it was never possible to say where it would end, and that it was essential that a party should come into existence which would endeavor to co-ordinate the efforts of the workers, and this was the mission of the Workers' Party of Canada.

Talk Cheap

Anticipating the question which
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naturally would be asked, "How are you going to do it?" he stated that talk is cheap, and that various means of getting workers together had been adopted, but that it must be proved to the mass that the position of the workers was understood, and when times are good, as well as when times are bad, the workers have their difficulties to solve, and that it is impossible to point the right direction without the confidence of the workers is secured by active interest in their everyday affairs.

Referring to the activities of the members of the party, he stated that every member should be a members of a labor organization, not to destroy it, but to build it up and to make the labor organizations fighting machines in the interests of the working class. In concluding, he stated that he did not claim infallibility for the new party, but that the organization would benefit by the mistakes made and the workers' apathy destroyed.

Hastings Park

J. Kavanagh, in opening, referred to the situation which had been created by the unemployed by leaving Hastings Park. He referred to the fact that these men had been described as degenerates, and then gave a word picture of the moral turpitude of the ruling class who were represented by the Thaws and Stanford Whites. In vivid language he illustrated his points by reference to champagne baths which girls disported themselves in at ruling class orgies, and of the girls who at a ruling class function were "baked in a pie," and stated that if it was a question of degeneracy and morals then the master class should know all about it.

He also referred to the fact that millions of Hindus in India had starved to death, because the ruling class had decreed that it was more profitable to grow poppies instead of rice in that country, and that poppies supplied the drugs which were being so much denounced at this time.

With scathing denunciation of the methods of the capitalistic press he referred to the Vancouver Sun, and suggested that if the editor of that paper was not a degenerate he was suffering from softening of the brain.

Citing many instances of capitalistic concept of morals, he cited the instances of the providing of girls for British troops in India, of the use of African troops in the occupied regions of Germany, with all the horrors which had been revealed since the armistice, and ridiculed the idea that the workers were degenerate and stated that the workers were the best people on earth and had the highest concepts.

Sketching the conditions throughout Europe, he stated that the only salvation was the resumption of trade with Russia, and pointed out that the ruling class had gained control of the workers' minds and that psychology must be given more attention by the revolutionary workers.

He concluded his address by referring to the various repressive forces being organized in the United States, and urged the workers to resist the reduction of the standard of living and to organize to that end.

Many question were asked after the collection had been taken, the balance, after all expenses were paid, being turned over to the Hastings Park unemployed who had quit that institution. The speaker on Sunday will be A. S. Wells.