



Published in the interests of the Working Class Alone

# THE REPORT AT SESSION OF THE LOCAL HOUSE

## Majority of the Work of Socialist Members—Against Overwhelming Odds They Continually Pushed Forward the Demands of Labor.

It is safe to say that no party has more faithfully earned its indemnities during the past session, than the Socialists. Their seats have never been vacant, and every measure, no matter from which side it came, was closely scrutinized with a view to making some change or introducing some amendment that might better, even in a small degree, the lot of the workingman. Comrade Hawthorthwaite has been keen, aggressive, vigorous and vigilant as ever; Parker Williams by his combination of humor, and sincerity has done much to disarm criticism, and has succeeded in gaining the ear of the House in a manner that enabled him to do a great deal of good work, and John McInnis; the young member for Grand Forks, has been feeling his feet, and with some good work already accomplished, gives promise of yet greater service in the future.

The most signal triumph of the Socialists during the past session was the unopposed passing of the Eight-Hour Bill for Smelters. In two previous sessions this bill had been defeated, but when Mr. Hawthorthwaite brought it in this time he found to his astonishment that every member of the House had suddenly become converted to his views. Probably the pressure of public opinion during the recent election had more to do with this change than anything else, but anyone who had formerly opposed it, rallied to its support and it passed without a dissenting vote. Parker Williams' forthrightly wage bill also came a little nearer becoming law, but like the eight-hour smelter bill at the previous session, after passing in committee, where votes were not recorded, possibly like the eight-hour bill it will pass with the unanimous consent of the House next session. The committee rose on motion of Price Ellison of Okanagan, who, as representing an agricultural constituency in which labor is not strongly organized, was evidently chosen in the Government tory order to ward off the charges of the Socialist bull. "It will not be surprising at some future time he gets badly gored."

The General Eight-Hour Bill introduced by Mr. McInnis was rarely looked upon as a probability of becoming law, but it was put before the House as an educational measure and a test of the advancement in thought of the members of the present Legislature. The result was disappointing, as it showed that a great majority of the members were still steeped in the medieval idea that you should at the longest possible time out of man for the shortest possible pay. Moving the six months' hoist on the bill, Price Ellison said the Socialists would soon want not to work at all and some of them did not work much now. This slur brought from Hawthorthwaite a slashing reply, in which he showed clearly that if a man took an active part in promoting Socialism he could find himself placed on the black list and departed from work. The bill was supported only by the three Socialists and John McInnis. Danahy, who throughout the session has shown himself to be far in advance of his fellow Liberals as far as labor and economic problems are concerned, and on more than one occasion he has had the courage to break away from his party, and stand boldly alone with the Socialists in defense of some social right for the workingman. The amendment proposed to different bills by the Socialist mem-

ber were so numerous that it is difficult to mention them all. One of the most important was Hawthorthwaite's amendment to the University Endowment Bill for the purpose of assuring free tuition for every resident of the province. The Socialists opposed from the first the proposal to give away 2,000,000 acres of the country's land and to an institution from which the laboring classes could receive no benefit under present conditions, but having failed in that, they next tried to secure the benefits of the university to any poor man that should be able to avail himself of it at all. While the amendment was not carried, it succeeded in extracting from Dr. Young, the Minister of Education, a promise that when the bill to incorporate the university was brought down, a similar clause would be incorporated. On the Land Act a vigorous fight was made to secure to settlers the right of pre-empting timbered land, which that bill will take away. Against the government's big majority, these kicks, of course, were ineffectual, but they were made with a will all the same.

On the private bill to consolidate the leases of the Guggenheims in Cariboo, Mr. McInnis did succeed in getting in an amendment placing Hindus in the same category as Chinese and Japanese, who are forbidden to enter the mines under ordinary conditions; but he failed in moving to strike out the proviso which enables miners to employ Chinese and Japanese when white labor is not available, and which of course neutralizes the whole bill, since, as Mr. McInnis pointed out, the mine owners will simply say at all times that white labor is not available, and they will place the wages so low that it will not be. In the Provincial Elections Act, Mr. Hawthorthwaite succeeded in going one further than his move of last year, by which he made it possible for a man moving from one district to another to get on the voters' list in that district after 30 days' residence. Mr. Hawthorthwaite, by an amendment to Mr. Bowers' anti-Hindu bill, which he supported, succeeded in reducing to the term of residence to ten days. In another of Bowers' bills for regulating immigration into British Columbia, Mr. Hawthorthwaite also succeeded in striking out a clause which demanded that anyone coming into the country should pass an educational test in the English language. Mr. Hawthorthwaite pointed out that this would be impossible, since it would shut out the French from Quebec, and many good settlers from the northern part of Europe, and Bowers consented to the change. One of the features of the session was the wholesale denunciation of the Salvation Army immigration methods by the Socialists, which was strengthened towards the end of the session by the appearance in Victoria of ten men brought out by the Salvation Army under false pretences to take the place of striking workmen in the place of striking workmen in the place of striking workmen. The government, after admitting that they had negotiated with the Salvation Army, disclaimed any connection with this matter, and voted down Hawthorthwaite's resolution calling on them to assist these men and to stop any further influx. During the session the Socialists have maintained a thoroughly independent attitude. Like a little band of Ishmaelites, their hand has sometimes been against one, and then against the other, striking either

# LAW-MAKING BODIES AND THEIR FUNCTIONS

## The Instruments of Capital They Do Valiant Service In Holding the Proletariat in Subjection To Exploitation In the Interest of the Ruling Class.

The Socialist contention that legislative bodies; local or national, are merely the instruments of the capitalist class, has been amply borne out in the United States and other countries. It has been admitted and proven by many writers, many of whom do not claim to be Socialists. But in Canada, where the population is small and scattered over an immense territory, which to a large extent makes the holding of public meetings a difficult matter and makes social intercourse in many cases all but impossible, the people as a rule cannot keep as close tab on the doing of legislators as they otherwise would. It is evident, however, that Canadian legislatures have not been idle in safeguarding the interests of the capitalists of the Dominion. There is ample evidence at hand to show that they have as effectively performed their function in the capitalist scheme of things as have their prototypes in other countries. This will scarce be denied by any fair-minded person at all familiar with the history of Canadian legislative bodies.

In districts where industrial development is still somewhat backward, a considerable number of the workers either own some property or expect to own some in the future. In such districts capitalists are nominated for office by the various factions of the capitalist class. They who are the most skillful in political trickery and dealing out booze are usually elected. But in districts where industrial development is more advanced the great majority of the workers are not only propertyless but homeless, in the broad sense of the word. The few who have some sort of a claim upon a shack or cabin are in momentary danger of losing it. They do not know at what moment they may be driven out by the very stress of circumstances forced upon them by some forward move of capitalism. In such districts the workers are in close touch with each other. They enjoy a greater exchange of ideas. They are prone to discuss events of the day and draw conclusions therefrom. They keep more or less informed as to the doings of legislatures. In spite of the fact that they may not as yet clearly recognize class lines, it is not safe in such districts to nominate capitalists for office. The appearance of an outright capitalist as a candidate would have much the same effect upon the workers as a red flag to a bull. Here the sleek representative of the capitalist comes into play. The cunning, smooth tongued spell-binder in the shape of some lawyer, doctor or parson is put up as a representative of all classes. The trick is played by the exercise of the time-honored booze and political chicanery. Why this keen fight between the different factions of the capitalist class? This is a secret to the workers, but just why they have not got on to it is due to their habit of judging things from outward appearances only.

To the extent that a capitalist faction may be represented in a legislature to that extent will the particular interests of such a faction be furthered by legislative action. In this manner, will the schemes of such a faction looking to the control of the resources of the earth and the machinery of production be made to take on legal form. One faction of capitalists may be interested in certain schemes that will work detrimentally to the interests of some other

fact. A fight will be on between them for possession of the law-making power, each with the object in view of safeguarding its interests. Each will appeal to the workers for assistance and resort to ever device known to the unscrupulous political trickster to convince them that their interests as workers will suffer in consequence of the success of the opposing faction. Too many workers allow themselves to be deceived into taking sides in these purely capitalist quarrels. When it comes down to a question of holding the workers in subjection to exploitation at the hands of capital there are no factional differences in the ranks of the capitalist class. The workers must have access to the means of production in order to live. This they can only obtain by selling their labor power in the market as a commodity. In so doing, they merely sell themselves on the installment plan. So many hours' labor power for so much wages. Everything in Canada in the shape of resources of the earth and machinery of production that is worth owning is now the property of capitalists or capitalist concerns. We may render direct thanks to our legislatures for this. They have faithfully played their part by affording to capital whatever protection has been required to enable it to corral the means of production and hold the workers as wage slaves for exploitation. As the machinery of production becomes more highly developed and perfected the productive power of labor increases by leaps and bounds. No matter how great the increase it accrues solely to capital. The wage slaves are still held in leash and forced to sell their labor power in obedience to the inexorable though unwritten laws of the market. Capitalist legislatures, either in Canada or elsewhere, provide all of the necessary legal machinery to hold the slaves in subjection and prevent them from encroaching upon the sacred profits of the ruling class. That is what capitalist legislatures are for, and right well do they perform their functions. Canadian legislators, like all others of the capitalist breed, are great on the "dignity of labor." They are profoundly impressed by it so much so in fact that they sweat every possible safeguard against the lessening of the burden upon labor's back for fear of detracting from that "dignity" that is the laborer's most precious possession.

Canadian labor is, however, awakening and getting in line with the world movement for emancipation. There will be busy times for capitalist legislatures from now on devising ways and means to hold the slaves in sweet content under capitalism's skinning process. There is also trouble ahead. Let it come.

C. M. O'BRIEN, Combermere, Ont., April 30, 1907.

A British parliamentary paper shows that emigration depleted the population of Ireland last year of 25,318 persons, being 8.3 per cent per 1000 of the entire population. The United States continues to be the Irish Mecca, having received last year 76 per cent of the emigration. It is pointed out by this paper that 4,110,000 persons have emigrated from Ireland to various countries and that this number equals 93 per cent of the present population of the country.

# THE TIME HAS COME FOR "PARTING OF THE WAYS"

## Trades Unions Should Throw Away Old Shibboleths and Make Open Declaration for the Abolition of the Wage System.

History is being made in the city of Fernie that will make interesting reading to the people of an enlightened period when our present wage-dominion shall have been relegated to the oblivion that awaits it. What will give the future democracy cause to laugh is the present futile beating of fists against the prison walls of capitalism, and our pitiable attempts to break free. Truly, the workings of the gray matter of individuals is cause for wonder when one hears prominent leaders of men crying out for "square deal," demanding "justice" and other like phraseology that falls so glibly from the lips of the modern Demosthenes when making the usual "strong union speech." To the casual observer it is a case of Words; Words; Words, with never an action that will make for, "to the producer the full product of his toil." The time is now ripe for an open declaration of all trades unions for Socialism, and to throw to the winds the old shibboleths they have stood for so long, and see that their only possible way out is by concerted action that leads to the taking control of the legislatures from the powers that be. Too long have the workers been indoctrinated with "the sacred rights of capital," "vested interests," etc., not only by the capitalists but by union leaders themselves who have carefully refrained from showing the workers they, too, have a right under the existing regime — the right to starve.

In the present "dispute" (good word, dispute) between capital and labor, nearly all the powers of organized government are being brought to bear upon the wealth-producers of this district to resume profit-making for their masters. We have heard Mr. Cushing depicting the unfortunate "misunderstanding" between employer and employees and he makes the assertion that if he had the power to settle the matter, "he could settle it in ten minutes." Poor, foolish mortal! he, like the rest of the "good intentions" bourgeoisie, "will do anything for the workers but get off their backs."

There is also a certain deputy minister of labor who to my mind is the most capable man the capitalists have brought forward. He is clever, educated, and can attain to flights in oratory. To say the least, he is a power to be reckoned with. In the speech he made to the miners he showed diplomacy of no mean order and pictured the sufferings that would accrue to the workers in other industries, to mention nothing of the paralyzing of business. He concluded his peroration with an appeal to their humanity, and to rise above the sordidness of material things and invited each and every one to subscribe to the prospect. Write me as one who loves his fellow man."

All this might have had results earlier in the game, but at the present juncture the advice given was like pouring water on a duck's back. The fish do not rise to the bait thrown so readily as before. The eleven of Socialism is working through the labor organizations and before many years have rolled by we who are alive may witness such scenes as depicted by Wm. Morris in "News from Nowhere." Already the wish is father to the thought when we see in capitalist papers reports of the rushing forward of "human butchers" to be stationed at convenient points should their "services" be required. In all countries we hear of the interest of the proletariat and if we think for a moment the capitalist class will stand by and do nothing to prevent us going on to our goal, we are living in a fool's paradise, and a rude awakening is in store for us. The crying need is for organization and education. The organizers are waiting to join hands with the industrial workers and the movement requires strong men who are prepared to sacrifice themselves for the cause. The proletariat of Finland gave us a lesson. Shall we heed it? "MODERN LOWLY." Fernie, B. C., May 4, 1907.

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## "UNDESIRABLE CITIZENS."

Children and fools are prone to speak the truth. At least so it is claimed. The wisdom of maturity in the normal man of this glorious profit-mongering age naturally prompts him to frequently shun the truth or handle it only in diluted form. In the majority of cases it pays better to do so. This in itself is quite sufficient justification for so doing.

Roosevelt the garrulous, has blurted out some truth in his declaration that Moyer, Haywood, Pettibone and Debs are "undesirable citizens." As the garrulous he is not a child his classification should not be difficult. In truthfully designating the aforementioned persons as the "undesirable citizens" he has, unwittingly, no doubt, did a greater service to the labor movement and caused more serious damage to the interests of the thriving capitalist class whose tool he is, than could have been effected by those whom he declares "undesirable" in a life time.

Desirable citizenship is of necessity determined at the present time solely from the capitalist or ruling class standpoint. It logically follows that any one who dares to question the right of capital to rule and rob is unfit for citizenship in a capitalist civilization. Nothing could be plainer. Although it was an unwise thing to do, Roosevelt blurted out the truth. The unwisdom of it arises from the fact that it un masks the real status of the slave under the rule of capital and is more than apt to fan the smoldering embers of rebellion in his breast into the fierce flames of revolution that will sweep the counting house and bargain hunting capitalist crew into oblivion.

If there is one thing needed to prompt the working class to action no matter how drastic in order to free itself from the tyrannical rule of capital, it is that the status of labor under the present system of property be made plain to the workers themselves. Through his utterances in regard to Debs and his imprisoned comrades are the utterances of a fool, judging from the standpoint of capitalist interests, they are of inestimable value to the working class in disclosing to its members their real position under the rule of capital. Desirable citizenship only so long as they remain cringing and docile slaves "Undesirable" the moment they dare to raise their voices in protest against the galling yoke of their servitude.

The men referred to by the spectacular idiot in the White House as "undesirable citizens" are well known to countless thousands of the American working class. They have led open, honorable and upright lives. Though accused of a multitude of crimes by the hirelings and tools of the contemptible ruling class, they stand today unconvicted. They have engaged in open and honorable warfare in behalf of their fellow workingmen. They have voiced the highest and noblest aspirations of the class that carries the burdens of civilization upon its back. In so doing they have battled in the cause of human progress and a higher and better civilization. As men, clean men, men of principle, men who sink their personal ambi-

tions in the common cause for humanity's uplift; they tower above the cheap occupant of the White House even as that brigand, armed with his "big stick," might tower above a tumble-bug in mortal combat.

And yet this "fool in his folly" doeth good. The truth blurted out by this self-exalted personage has caused an awakening across the continent. Thousands of workingmen are now seeing themselves as capital sees them. They are beginning to realize their slavery, and that as slaves they are tolerable only while docile. If they dare to aspire to better things; if they dare to voice their aspirations for liberty and a more humane existence; if they dare even dream of ending the sneaking, cowardly, hypocritical and vulgar system of wage slavery under which life to them is well nigh intolerable, they become "undesirable citizens," to be clubbed, beaten, imprisoned or railroaded to the gallows.

The American workingmen owe a debt of gratitude to "Teddy the strenuous" that it would be impossible to pay and dishonorable to repudiate. Although it will increase the debt it is to be hoped his fool garrularity will effervesce frequently.

## TO IMPEACH A PIMPLE.

Radicals among the Chicago labor men are now agitating for the purpose of securing a presentation to the United States Senate at its next session of a petition demanding the impeachment of President Roosevelt upon the grounds that he "received, or caused to be received," large sums of money from Harriman and other capitalist high-binders for campaign expenses in aid of his own election to the presidency. It is further charged "that he is guilty of a violation of propriety by expressing an opinion prejudicial to Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone," the imprisoned officers of the Western Federation of Miners.

This is not only a waste of time and energy, but it falls far short of the mark. It would be idle to impeach the malodorous Roosevelt, even if such a thing were possible, while leaving the present system of exploitation unimpeached. Roosevelt himself is but a surface indication of the underlying cause that is forever forcing the workers more deeply into the slough of misery, degradation and despond. He is but a capitalist pimple on the surface of human society indicating the poison that lurks in its vitals and is eating away its life.

To impeach Roosevelt, leaving the rule of capital untouched, would be merely to remove one pimple to make way for another just like it, or even worse.

Capital has long since become a public nuisance. It has converted the earth into a shambles in which enslaved labor is daily crucified for profit, and the world's market place made a den of inscrupulous thieves.

The need of the hour is the impeachment of capitalism and the breaking of its baneful rule. It is up to the working class to do the job. Neither time nor energy should be wasted in impeaching pimples.

## SOARING PRICES.

Prices are still going up. An advance in the price of flour has been registered within the past few days with good prospects for a still further advance in the near future. The upward trend of prices is noticeable in almost everything one has to purchase. Superhuman efforts are being made by the workers in all parts of the country to advance the price of their labor power to at least keep pace with the increased cost of living. In this they are not meeting with general success as the labor market as a whole is too well stocked with this particular commodity to admit of any marked upward trend of wages.

If wages (the price of labor power) were to advance in the same ratio as the price of other commodities, this advance would nullify all advantage to be gained by the sellers of these other commodities. The interest of the sellers of other commodities, therefore, lies in the direction of holding wages to the lowest possible level while advancing the price of their commodities to the limit. The plentifulness of labor power, coupled with the fact that the number of its owners cannot be limited without destroying the supply, makes it more difficult to force its price up than is the case with any other

commodity. While other commodities are to be, and frequently are, monopolized by a limited number of owners, the same is not true of the commodity labor power. The disturbing factor of competition is always at work to upset the calculations of the sellers of labor power in regard to the disposal of their merchandise. Labor power is purely a merchandise, the sale of which is determined by the circumstances of the market, circumstances over which the sellers of it have less control than do the sellers of any other commodity.

This upward trend of prices cannot last. There will be a collapse, and that, too, in the near future, that will work out more widespread disaster to capitalist institutions than any previous occurrence of the kind.

Signs are plentiful to show that such a collapse is pending. There is already a tightening of the money market. Notes of warning are being uttered from quarters peculiarly sensitive to approaching troubles in the financial and industrial world. It is a mathematical impossibility that the present era of inflated prices and buncombe capitalist prosperity can long maintain its present gait. No one need be surprised if it has already reached its limit and the reaction sets in within the next six months.

## CRIMINALS ALL.

There are people weak enough in the upper story to believe that the police are charged with the duty of upholding the law in the interest of public morality and decency. That their particular mission in the present scheme of things is to prevent violations of the law, and in case of any violation, ferret out the criminal and bring him to justice. Nothing could be further from the truth. The police department is itself an aggregation of crooks and criminals of the lowest type who carry on their criminal career under the garb of law.

It is notorious that every police department on earth is reeking with the stench of its own corruption and rottenness. Exposure after exposure is made of low-down black-mail schemes carried on by the police. Crimes are condoned without number upon payment of hush money by criminals. Police raids in the "tenderloin" districts of cities are not made for the purpose of suppressing such vices as may obtain there, but for the purpose of compelling the wretched denizens of such quarters to pay tribute to the foul gang of criminals that constitute the police department itself. The money thus wrung from unfortunate victims of present civilization who are hurled into that vortex of vice and degradation known as the under-world, drops merrily into the pot from which the police ghouls and vampires draw their delectable sustenance. Whenever this devil's stew runs low in the pot, a spasm of morality manifests itself in the police department. A round-up is made and the stew is replenished by the blackmail levied upon the victims of the police drag-net.

After having been "shook down" in the police court they are again tossed loose to recuperate their fortunes in the same old way, and make ready for another police hold-up.

This sort of thing has been going on in Vancouver from time immemorial. During the past week denizens of the tenderloin district have been rounded up by the dozen and mulcted of from \$18 to \$40 each. And this has been, not in the interest of morality and decency, but merely for the purpose of obtaining swill for the sustenance of a gang of uniformed blackmailers and confidence operators.

About the best piece of work done by the Vancouver police in a dog's age; and by far the cleanest, was the summoning of a couple of dozen Mount Pleasant infants for riding bicycles upon the sidewalks. A sneak, commonly known as a "plain clothes" man, did the job. These youngsters were brought in to the police court and, we believe, fined \$3 or \$3.50 each. In addition to this, they were forced to examine the condemning presence of the prostitutes from Chinatown, as well as the police, police court hangerson and other criminals there gathered, for the space of a couple of hours while awaiting punishment for their hideous crime of riding a "bike" on the sidewalk.

The city of Vancouver should be proud of its police department. The moral atmosphere of the city was never more sickening than at present. Dozens of alleged restaurants are running merely as booze joints for the accommodation of those

characters of both sexes. Some of them are but sorry blimps for assignation houses; others the scenes of nightly, carousals disgraceful in the extreme. Never was vice more open and unfettered in the city's history than now. In the face of all this, the best the police department can do is to round up a few fallen women who ply their calling only in the "restricted district," and harass a few work-women's children for innocently infringing some petty municipal ordinance.

That "plain clothes" man who so cleverly detected these infants in their crime and so unflinchingly brought them to justice ought to be promoted. The talents of such a Sherlock Holmes should be given a wider field upon which to operate than a Mt. Pleasant sidewalk and a bunch of school "kids."

Our esteemed governmental guardians at Ottawa, in conjunction with the Washington bunch, have increased the rate of postage on publications passing between the two countries from one-half cent per pound to one cent for each four ounces or fraction thereof. This increase has been made in the interest of the common herd, of course. As these worthless papers sent to Ottawa to safeguard our physical, mental and moral health, more especially the latter, it is indeed a wise provision to erect barriers against contaminating influences crossing the line in either direction. Let the Yankees keep their literary poison at home. We can produce a rank enough substitute on this side of the line. By shutting out the foreign product, "home industry" will receive a much needed stimulus. The postage should be raised to \$4.00 an ounce. By all means agitate for it.

Now that the Salvation Army's scheme of bringing workmen into the country to take the places left vacant by strikers, has been exposed, it is hoped this aggregation of mediocre humbugs will revert to its original and legitimate purpose of joining the devil, and heretofore refrain from mixing in earthly affairs beyond taking up a collection.

With eight men shot in the streets of San Francisco in a fight between strikers and strike-breakers, it looks as though the class struggle was being "nobly" waged in the California metropolis.

## THE FIRST OF MAY.

May 1, International Labor Day, has come and gone, and to judge of the attention paid to it by the press its importance in the calendar years greater with each succeeding year. Labor strikes and demonstrations are reported from all parts of the world wherever the class-conscious workers are struggling for economic freedom from the rule of capital. The Montreal comrades seem to be in the lead in Canada in the observance of this holiday, and their street parade and mass meeting have greatly stirred up the labor-skinning fraternity of the priest-ridden city. It speaks volumes for the estimate placed upon our much vaunted "British institutions" by their defenders and upholders when the mere proposal of a few workmen to peaceably assemble and discuss their demands is treated as a fit. From what we know of the Montreal Socialists, we believe they are quite capable of explaining to the real intent and purpose of capital, and the social and religious institutions which are based upon it—namely, the robbery of the worker—in such a way that no amount of patriotic slush or spiritual dope will have its usual effect of fulling them into the comatose condition which makes their exploitation easy.

The actions and behavior of the "students" of Laval college, in assaulting and disturbing the street parade bears eloquent testimony to the nature of the "studied" gentry. While the labor market of the Canadian workingman has been systematically glutted by the importation of covey labor in great hordes from England on the east and India on the west, we have also been afflicted with a pest which is even more obnoxious. A great part of the hungry clerical who have been deprived by the French government from continuing their nefarious occupations in that country have lately turned their eyes

and their somewhat hasty steps towards this country. Just how many of these were at the bottom of the attack on Canadian workmen in the streets of Montreal will never be known, but we cannot repress the wish that the French government would find some other plan of disposing of their undesirable characters besides chasing them over here to breed mischief for us. — Proletary, in Winnipeg Voice.

## THE SOCIALIST M. P. P.'S

Editor Clarion:  
I have just read some of the speeches and criticisms of the Socialist members in the B. C. Legislature, and although I am not a professional Socialist, yet must admire their standing up and representing the claims of the working class. Although the members are few, yet they give Premier McBride more trouble than four times as many Liberals. In fact, it is highly instructive to see how nearly alike the Liberals and Conservatives are getting to be. Especially did I appreciate the criticism of the university scheme. The Socialist members touched the sore spots when they pointed out whose children were going to benefit by a university, where it was to be located, whom would the land be bought from, whose property would be blessed with the "unearned increment," etc. The Socialists see that the university scheme is only another exploiting scheme under the guise of doing something for education. But you know that Satan always appears as an angel of light. The labor element of B. C. have reason to feel proud of the way their representatives have represented them during the late session. The university would be all right provided the coal mines, timber limits, water privileges, town and city sites—all owned by the exploiters—were taxed to build it. But no. They are going to tax it out of the hides of those who work. For myself, I am a single taxer, and yet I am reading all the Socialist literature. I want to know every side of the problem and aim to bring about the desired result in the easiest way possible.

Trusting that the Clarion and the Socialist members will get the appreciation that they so richly deserve, I am, yours truly,

A FRIEND.

## RISKS OF CAPITAL.

Last year no fewer than 110,769 non-fatal industrial accidents were reported in Great Britain, compared with 99,540 in 1905. Fatal accidents numbered 1,116, against 1,063. Only 27 of last year's total were females, and 107 were young persons. The largest number of accidents in any one industry was 145 in the construction of buildings, as against 117 in 1905; 143 fatalities occurred in docks, and 118 in metal foundries. Mechanical machinery accidents were responsible for 308 of the deaths; 10 deaths were due to electric shocks, and 871 were caused by "persons falling." Hoist fatalities numbered 36, and cranes were responsible for 89.

Glasgow, with 131 deaths, occupies the unenviable position of first in the list of towns, and it was in the same plight in 1905, with 117 deaths. Birmingham had 98 fatalities. Manchester 85, East London 57, and South London 59. Lead poisoning cases in the year numbered 638, against 592 in 1905, and there were 66 cases of anthrax, four of mercury poisoning, and five of arsenic poisoning, making a total of 707, with 54 fatalities, against 603, including 49 fatalities, in 1905.

Samuel Gompers, president, and Frank Morrison, secretary, of the American Federation of Labor, have as yet "nothing to say" of the President's utterances concerning the officers of the Western Federation facing trial on the charge of murder in Idaho. The persecution, instead of the prosecution of these men, and that by the most corrupt capitalistic influences in the country, is no longer a matter of conjecture on the part of any observant, well-informed workingman in America, and unless Sam and Frank get a move on them and take a stand, show their colors, before the entire body of union labor precedes them, there are some several million union men who will have something to say regarding the lukewarmness of their leaders when in the face of the enemy and when organized labor is on trial for its life. —Common Sense.

# Socialist Directory

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

**PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**  
Socialist Party of Canada. News Secretary: J. A. Pearson, Secretary: Box 835, Vancouver, B. C.

**BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.** Socialist Party of Canada. News Secretary: J. A. Pearson, Secretary: Box 835, Vancouver, B. C.

**LOCAL VANCOUVER, No. 1, S. P. OF CANADA.** Business meetings every Monday evening, 8 p.m., at the Pacific Hotel, 1011 Broadway. Educational meetings held second Monday of each month in each month in Grand Theatre, Frederic St. Secretary, Box 44, Vancouver, B. C.

**LOCAL WINNIPEG, S. P. OF C. MEETS** every Monday, in the Adelaide St., at 7 p.m. News Secretary: 220 Princess St., Winnipeg, Man.

**LOCAL NELSON, S. P. OF C. MEETS** every Monday, at 7 p.m., in the Empire Hotel, 2nd Floor. News Secretary: I. A. Austin, Sec'y.

**LOCAL NANAIMO, S. P. OF C. FINISHES** every Monday, at 8 p.m., and fourth Saturday of each month at the Pacific Hotel, corner of 7th and Broadway. News Secretary: J. A. Pearson, Secretary: Box 835, Vancouver, B. C.

**LOCAL TORONTO, S. P. OF C. MEETS** every Sunday, 8 p.m., at 1111 Bloor St. West, Toronto. News Secretary: J. A. Pearson, Secretary: Box 835, Vancouver, B. C.

# Union Directory

When They Meet: Where They Meet

Every Labor Union in the province is invited to place a card under this head. \$1.00 per month. Correspondence please note.

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF** Bridge and Structural Ironworkers, Local No. 1, 1111 Bloor St. West, Toronto. News Secretary: J. A. Pearson, Secretary: Box 835, Vancouver, B. C.

**PHOENIX MINERS UNION, No. 4, W. F. O.** News Secretary: J. A. Pearson, Secretary: Box 835, Vancouver, B. C.

**TEYDIA MINERS UNION, No. 113, W. F. O.** News Secretary: J. A. Pearson, Secretary: Box 835, Vancouver, B. C.

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# LABOR

News, Views, Aspirations and Activities of Those Who Do the World's Work—Local, Provincial, Dominion and International Events Indicative of the World's Industrial and Political Growth and Development

CONDUCTED BY R. P. PETTIPiece

**V**ANCOUVER is fast becoming the centre of industrial activity and development in Western Canada. This, in a word, means that more wage-earners are being employed by owners of capital, in the process of wealth production, than ever before.

Because of this utilization of the natural resources of the Canadian West, the relationship between wage-earners and employers express itself in many and various ways. The daily press reports give ample evidence of this. To know and understand just what is going on amid all this strife and clamor for industrial supremacy is an interesting theme, worthy the attention of every thinking man.

The working class of Western Canada, for the most part, is composed of thinkers. True, they have been unable to agree upon the solution of the problem which confronts them; but even the partial awakening has been responsible, to a large extent, for the tremendous increase, during the last two years, in the circulation of British Columbia newspapers.

The modern newspaper of today seeks circulation. To acquire this, the demands of its readers must be met.

Just the minute the workers of this or any other land demand a daily newspaper, wholly devoted to the cause of Labor, it will be brought into being.

Certain it is, anyway, that the big daily is fast superseding the country weekly, and even labor papers, for the reason that it can cover nearly every phase of life, bring buyer and seller together, and, in addition, furnish the world's news, delivered daily, at very small cost.

If this be true, it's about up to the workers of Western Canada to demand a daily paper of their own.

At least half a dozen Socialist dailies are now thriving across the line.

How about ONE in Canada? Let's hear from you.

A great many workers are blind to the fact that the Socialist agitation is giving them innumerable benefits which they would never receive otherwise.

Shakespeare very nicely put it when he said: "You take my life when you take the means whereby I live." But if brought up to date it would read like this: "You own my life if you do own the means whereby I work."

The Johannesberg S. A., unemployed are making their presence known by daily processions through the streets of that city. The municipal council is arranging to start relief work. Only a change of flag.

The last few meetings of Vancouver Trades and Labor Council were taken up largely with internal affairs. The carpenters' strike and "reports from unions" went far to prove the irresistible conflict of interest between brothers Capital and Labor.

Says a Paris cablegram: The startling growth of Socialism in France is attracting the attention of students of political economy through Europe. Socialism is reaching a development and a strength here that it never has attained in Germany, Belgium or any other of its strongholds.

At the recent general election, 88 Socialists were elected to the parliament of Finland. Of the Socialists elected, 73 are men and 15 are women. The Conservatives elected 47 candidates, the Reactionary and Swedish party (combined) elected 54. The granting of woman suffrage was due to the propaganda of the Social Democratic party and constitutes the basis for the recent victory.

The annual Socialist convention of the state of Washington was held in the city of Seattle, beginning Saturday, 9 a. m., May 4, 1907.

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council will meet in Labor Hall next Thursday evening; parliamentary committee on Wednesday evening.

Secretaries of labor organizations are invited to send in items of interest to members to this department not later than Wednesday— for Saturday's issue.

"Is this a Christian civilization?" a Socialist writer. Of course it is. Did you ever hear of savages starving themselves because there was too much food?—Ez.

British Columbia legislators are about to vote themselves an increase in salary, but the working-man prefers the old way in butting up against a police club trying to get an increase in his wages.

The Protest Conference of Philadelphia participated with the Central Labor Union in the May Day parade which the latter body arranged. The conference was represented by a float in the parade and the Moyer-Haywood case received prominent attention.

Newfoundland's cod fishery gave employment to 70,000 persons in 1906, during which year 23,037,388 pounds, valued at \$1,205,936, were shipped from Labrador to Europe. The workers' strike was just sufficient wages to buy back enough food to enable them to repeat the operation this year.

Despatches from St. Petersburg still continue to pour in as corroborative evidence of the social revolution now going on in Russia. The transformation of feudalism into capitalism is costing much blood and disfigurement; but no power on earth can stem the tide or set aside the laws of Nature. The rule of autocracy must go. And go it will.

The labor problem is not how to boost wages or how to reform slavery, because wages cannot be boosted by combination nor slavery reformed except by and for the benefit of the masters. Labor's problem is how to get possession of the means whereby it lives and the wealth it creates. Any movement short of this deserves only the contempt of every working man with intelligence.

"I am a Socialist, and not a Prohibitionist, because I believe the appalling consumption of liquor and tobacco and other artificial and pernicious stimulants and narcotics is the direct result and not the cause of the strenuous struggle for existence which forces man to welcome with outstretched arms the temptings of only temporary relief from its nerve-racking toil and worry." This is the conclusion reached by the eminent Frances Willard after a life-long labor in the cause of temperance.

Modern labor men may be interested in labor conditions in 1793, as set forth in an old law. This old-time statute of England contained the following six clauses: "Any stone cutter who joined a union was to be sent to jail for two months. They must work from 8 o'clock in the morning until 8 o'clock at night. Wages are not to be higher than 48 cents a day. Each man was to be allowed three cents for breakfast. Anyone who refused to work was to be imprisoned for not more than two months. If any employer paid higher wages he was to be fined \$25.

John T. Mortimer, who went to British Columbia to campaign for the Socialists in the late provincial elections, and who has since been speaking for the party in that province, is in Winnipeg—Voice.

It is the work of Providence to change the face of things, and remove them from one face to another. All conditions are subject to revolution, so that you need not be afraid of anything new. — Marcus Aurelius Antoninus.

Vancouver carpenters are to repeat the experience of local machinists some three years ago. They want to once more convince themselves that the Liberal government's Alien Labor Law isn't worth the paper it's written on.

The usual spring quota of disturbances in the labor market are somewhat in evidence in Canada just now. The daily press is full of details of the rebellion from coast to coast. The "identity of interests" between capital and labor is rather difficult to discern.

Evidently the workers of Montreal are preparing to celebrate Labor's international holiday, May 1, if the following excerpt from a Montreal daily be correct: "There was an echo of last year's May Day Socialist parade at the meeting of the council yesterday afternoon. Ald. Levy, who brought up the matter, asked the following questions: "Is it to the knowledge of the police committee that Socialists and associated bodies having subversive tendencies to public order and to the maintenance of existing institutions, are preparing to hold a public demonstration in the streets of the city on or about May 1? "If so, what preventative measures do the police committee intend to take to face this situation? "If not, do the police committee propose to take means to study the question?"

The Cost of Capital to the Workers—Industrial accidents occurring to 287 individual work-people in Canada during the month of March, 1907, were reported to the Department of Labor. Of these 79 were fatal and 188 resulted in serious injuries. In addition, 170 fatal accidents were reported as having taken place prior to the beginning of the month. Information not having been received by the department before March, 1907. The number of fatal accidents reported in March, 1907, was three less than during the previous month and eight more than in March, 1906. Of 213 returns received during the month giving the ages of the victims of industrial accidents, 15 referred to persons under 21 years of age, 38 to persons between 21 and 45 and eight over 45; 102 persons were over 21 years of age, but their exact ages were not specified."—Labor Gazette.

A new phase of the question of the right of public employees to organize has arisen in France. The schoolmasters of several districts have formed associations under the instigation of the Radical Socialists, and have joined the general labor federation. There is no attempt to conceal the fact that the purpose of the organization of teachers was the propagation of the doctrines of anti-militarism and the general idea of solidarity of the interests of the working class against those of the capitalist class. The government promptly forbade teacher syndicates." M. Briand, in announcing the decision of the deputation, said: "Because of the nature of your services, the state can never permit you to act as other employees do. You are not working for an ordinary employer, but for the state, and revolt against the state is revolt against the country whose representatives vote your salary."

Twelve hundred carpenters were involved in the recent str—"lay-off" in Vancouver.

Vancouver butchers have formed a branch of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters with a charter membership of 42.

Ramon Morales, editor of "El Obrero Socialista," of Guadalajara, Mexico, has been imprisoned for his vigorous advocacy of Socialist principles.

A raise in wages for the working class cannot be legislated. The immutable laws of supply and demand apply to labor-power just as any other commodity.

In a letter to the Labor Bureau, Ottawa, from the Western Fuel Company of Nanaimo, B. C., under date of April 1, it was stated that the company could give employment to 100-150 underground workers, including miners, shiftmen, brushers, drivers, pushers, etc. The wages of day-men were stated to run from \$2.50 to \$3.25 per shift. Why not have appealed to Brigadier Tatlow direct?

The Cigarmakers' Union of Vancouver are urging their international executive to pay the per capita tax of Canadian branches in to the Trades and Labor Congress, the central legislative body in Canada. If affiliation of all Cigarmakers' Unions in Canada by this means is effected, it will considerably strengthen the Canadian body, and probably become a potent factor in the future policy of the Congress.

A "Vandeville Benefit Smoker" will be held under the auspices of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 213, at Elks' hall, Robson and Granville streets, on Tuesday, May 11, in aid of Fred Delisle. Mr. Delisle, a member of the union, has suffered permanent injuries as the result of a fall while engaged at his work. Every workman in the city should attend, so that a substantial sum may be realized. Admission, 50 cents.

Will Flood the Labor Market, in Order to Keep Wages Down to Cost of Subsistence.—An arrangement was recently made by the Immigration Branch of the Department of the Interior, Canada, for obtaining a high class of immigrants in continental countries. Under its terms a bonus will be paid to booking agents for immigrant farmers, farm laborers, gardeners, stablemen, carters, railway workmen, navvies, or miners, who have signified their intention of following farming or railway construction in Canada and for female domestics. The bonus will amount to ten shillings for adults of 18 years of age or over, and five shillings each for children. The bonus is to be paid to selected steamship booking agents in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Germany, Austria, Russia, France, Belgium and Switzerland. The agents will be carefully selected by the Assistant Superintendent of Immigration in London, England."—Labor Gazette.

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## The TERMINUS

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One of the most dangerous menaces of "China-towns" in a community is that of unsanitary conditions—and Vancouver is no exception to the rule.

The Immigration into Canada for eight months, from July to February, was 67,688 by ocean ports and 27,869 from the United States, an increase of 47 per cent. over the corresponding period of the year before.

The 65,000 members of the Bricklayers' and Masons' International Union for the third time are taking a referendum vote throughout the country on the question of joining the American Federation of Labor.

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