



CLASS 43C. H96

Vancouver, British Columbia, Saturday, August 3 1907

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THE CAPITALIST PRESS AND ITS CHIEF FUNCTION

As a Perverter of Facts and Disseminator of Falsehood It Proves an Invaluable Factor in Holding the Slaves of Capital in Subjection to Exploitation.

"In every historical period the prevailing mode of wealth production determines the educational institutions of that period."
To-day we have the capitalist mode of producing commodities, and consequently the capitalist class controls the forces which fashion public opinion, and the most important of these is the public press.

The rule of the classes is always based on the ignorance of the masses. We find, therefore, in the history of the popular press is now the suppression of facts and the dissemination of falsehood.

The verity of this statement was well expressed by John Swinton at a banquet held by the editors of New York a few years ago. Swinton was one of the intellectual and moral giants of his day. His soul recoiled at the prostitution of his manhood. He said:

"There is no such thing in America as an independent press. You know it and I know it. In every city you who dare write your honest opinions, and if you did you would appear in print. I can paid \$150 a week for keeping my honest opinions out of the paper I am connected with. Others even are paid similar salaries for similar things. I don't want to write for a trifling amount but on the streets looking for another job."

"If I allowed my honest opinions to appear in the paper I am connected with, I should be obliged to leave twenty-four hours my occupation would be gone."

"The business of the New York Journal is to destroy the truth, to lie outright, to pervert, to vilify, to flatter at the feet of Mammon and to sell his goods and his country for his daily bread."

"You know this and I know this, and who fully is this to be counted an independent press."

"We are the tools and vessels of rich men behind the scenes. We are the jumping jacks; they put the strings on our dance. Our talents, our possibilities and our lives are at the disposal of other men. We are intellectual prostitutes."

"There are no free slaves, the victims of capitalist greed. The message of Socialism is for them also, but they are blinded and misled. They deserve our pity rather than our scorn. They are not morally steeled in a bad environment."

"We see the proletariat, these 'intellectual prostitutes' flaunted in our faces at every street corner. We see food, bread, and clothing, and we see in every reading room, and wherever we assemble we find a multitude of these buttresses of capitalism."

"The editor of the New York Journal on May 19, 1907, fully endorsed the declaration of Swinton and of the Socialists when he said: 'Property should not be used to rule one way or another. It is operated by the few, not the subtle hand in the past. I believe it will control public opinion by the control of the press.'"

"To-day we have most glaring proof that the Associated Press, the largest trust, is operated from Wall Street. The press deprives its material which it has helped to create. It is a business like that to supply their editors, agents, and proprietors. The message of Socialism is for them also, but they are blinded and misled. They deserve our pity rather than our scorn. They are not morally steeled in a bad environment."

"The Chicago Tribune said: 'The simplest plan probably, when one is to put a little strychnine or arsenic in the most other suitable, is to strap it to the back of the horse and let it be carried around the city square.'"

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CAPITALIST FALLACY.

Some people say that because labor needs railroads, mills, mines and machines, therefore the laborer and the capitalist are equally necessary.

There are several big slips in this reasoning. The laborer owns labor power and the capitalist owns capital.

The laborer is attached to his labor power, and when he sells he must go along with it and endure whatever discomforts are attached to its use; but the capitalist may live in New York or in Europe, while his capital is being used to produce wealth in the coal mines of Pennsylvania or the slaughter houses of Chicago. The laborer does not need capital—or rather he needs the things which are now called capital—but he does not need the capitalist.

If he has no use for the capitalist in the production of wealth he has still less use for him in the distribution. When the laborer has used his labor, mines, machinery and manufacturing plants for the production of wealth, the capitalist—who has no share in the wealth production—turns up and demands the lion's share in the distribution of the product.

Here the trouble begins. The laborer wants higher wages. The capitalist wants bigger profits, although these must come out of the same product. What one gets, the other cannot have. Hence either boycott, riot, or a strike, open shops, injunctions, and all the other phases of industrial warfare.

The first is chattel slavery, the second is Socialism—Brauer Zeitung. When the workers, as a class, own the means of production capital will no longer exist. The term capital applies only to the instruments of industry and the resources of the earth when owned by one class and used as a means of exploiting another class. When the working class owns them, this exploitation will cease, as there is no lower class to be enslaved and robbed.

BEAUTY OF HIGH WAGES.

C. C. Cole, American consul at Dawson, Alaska, has prepared an interesting, and in one sense attractive, table showing wages and salaries paid in the Yukon country. Mechanics, he says, get \$10 for a ten-hour day, and common laborers rarely less than \$5 a day. Clerks working in stores get from \$10 to \$20 a month, and wages for every kind of work is high in proportion.

If this should make you feel like pulling up stakes and making tracks for the Yukon, wait until some other figures given out by Mr. Cole are cited. Boarding house keepers charge an average of \$10 a month for board and lodging, and a single square meal at a restaurant cannot be had for less than \$3. Eggs are sold at \$2 a dozen, and a 120 a ton, and milk is 45 cents a quart. The only comparatively low price is on beef and butter, each of which sells at 50 cents a pound. It sells therefore, that wages in the Yukon go just about high enough to enable a man to live modestly—certainly no better than here at home on such a high wage. Such figures as Mr. Cole's take all the romance out of a trip to Alaska, and many impetuous youths and dissatisfied men who had about made up their minds to go to Alaska and get rich suddenly, will change their minds about it and stay where they are.—United Mine Workers Journal.

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THE BY-ELECTION ON SATURDAY, AUG. 3

Little Interest Manifested by the Electorate—Liberals Put Up No Candidate—Conservatives Forced to Depend Upon Carriage and Auto-Mobile—Socialists Speak Nothing.

A pressure of work in the Clarion office, combined with other circumstances, has made it once more impossible to get the paper out on time. It is held on the issue of a report of the results of the by-election in the electoral district on Saturday, Aug. 3. The results are as follows: The date of calling the election and polling day. Nominations were made by Mr. Martin on July 29, and on Friday, Aug. 2, the election occurred in the electoral district of the by-election. Mr. W. J. Bowser as Attorney-General. The Conservative government recently entertained the idea that no opposition to Mr. Bowser would appear in the field, and to name this adopted as a hasty measure as possible in the matter of calling for, and holding, the election. The Conservatives, however, found, as is seldom the case, and are never subject to cold feet. As soon as it was announced that Mr. Martin was a candidate, they were taken to put a candidate in the field. A meeting for that purpose was held on Wednesday evening, July 31, and Mr. Martin was selected as the candidate. The Conservatives, however, found, as is seldom the case, and are never subject to cold feet. As soon as it was announced that Mr. Martin was a candidate, they were taken to put a candidate in the field. A meeting for that purpose was held on Wednesday evening, July 31, and Mr. Martin was selected as the candidate.

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A SPLENDID AUDIENCE LISTENS TO KIER HARDE

Sixteen Hundred People Attend Meeting at Recreation Park on Friday Evening, August 2, to Hear the Famous Labor Member of the British Parliament.

"All's well that ends well." It has long been said, and the old saying applies very fittingly to the political meeting held at Recreation Park last night. It ended well. Some sixteen hundred people were present, and they heard much plain, ringing political truth, and no doubt some left the meeting with the right, or a better, light in their mental mouths, better able to discriminate and select between the two political sides proffered than at the electoral feast to-day.

The idea that some essential and fundamental differences exist between Socialism of Keir Hardie and the Socialism of Canada, or at any rate of Vancouver, seemed to pervade the minds of the speakers, as it does of the white working class and the toilers standard of morality and culture prevailing everywhere, if the Japs could be taken over to Canada. It was so profanely dealt with: For the crowd in the main treated it hilariously; the bit of Grit stage-play and hocus-poems by some palpable and overdone, the curtain dropped, the owner took the heart away, and no doubt the bleeding was soon stopped. Exit macrocosm. It is a pity that the Japs, in their lack of time prevents any lengthy and detailed report of this meeting. It will be sufficient to say that Comrade Kingsley spoke well, and was pointed and pungent way. He emphasized the fact, as proved by Keir Hardie's speech, that Socialism, in its practical conception, is the same in the new world as in the old. He exposed the hand of the capitalist behind Jap immigration and the false and insincere concern of the old parties for the well-being of anybody but themselves.

Scottish and English had spoken; it was fitting an Irishman should conclude, and he did, somewhat explosively—for the enemy.

In some plain and scathing words, J. H. Heaton, M. P., P. P., stripped the mask of piousness that on the faces of wily politicians posing as the virtuous guardians of the people. The fact that the job was done with a curfew-curtain, as it were, instead of a full and open discussion, was pointed out by Comrade Keir, accustomed to the smooth courtesies of British parliamentary practice, and ignorant of the characteristics of the bores that prowl around the workers' stockades in these wild and woolly parts of Great Britain.

The above is a fair criticism of Comrade Hardie, but in the modest hope that some may see more clearly the nature of the work of the Japs, common den in all human communities and in all parts of the world, and the various conceptions and aims, yet methods and tools of warfare will vary according to the environment, the social and obviously of course, differing types of men will form the same influences, be produced.

In addition then to the disfigurement of the late-writers, we have the greater and better satisfaction of taking the pulse of the voters. Keir Hardie's honesty and a whole heart calling him "Comrade."

The Japanese have adopted our most glorious civilization, are now peddling its blessings to less favored people in the far East. They have a high spirit that has always attracted the white man while working the same business. The Korean representative at The Hague "Peace Conference" has been putting up the most absurd howl about the conduct of the Japs in his country. He has called them "barbarians, hard-barkins and murderers," and asserts that "Japan is trying to steal Korea as barefacedly as ever highwaymen robbed a coach." Neither the "peace conference" nor the Japanese should claim the right to be "barbarians." Such backward and uncouth people always put up a squawk against the advent of civilization. They don't know what is good for them but we do, and so do the Japs. When they are once properly civilized they will become the most advanced and most civilized people in the world. They are also moral, ethical, spiritual and a lot of other good things to boot.

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PARTY MATTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS VANCOUVER BY-ELECTION

The Official Count Gives the Vote Cast at the By-Election Held in Vancouver on Sat. Aug. 3, as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Candidate and Votes. Rows include Bowser (Conservative) 2359, Kingsley (Socialist) 521, Spoiled Ballots 16, Rejected 11.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY.

From the Introduction to the Platform and Constitution of the Socialist Party of Canada.

Speaking from the standpoint of race usefulness, there is but one useful class in human society. This is the working class. This is not only true now, but was always so.

For centuries the working class has been an enslaved class. Bearing up on its back the burden of civilization, it has been allowed but a meagre participation in civilization's benefits.

That we are approaching an era of stupendous change and upheaval, regarding social and industrial institutions, no careful student of current events will dare dispute.

The constantly increasing pressure brought to bear upon the workers through the high development and enormous concentration of capital, is creating such an ocean of unrest and discontent among them that its volume must in the near future stream itself in a flood tide of rebellion that will sweep from its foundations the structure of capitalist society.

By the very nature of present wealth production and the character of its tools and implements used in carrying it on, it is purely a social or collective process. That is, men produce the wealth necessary to satisfy their needs by working together, jointly or collectively, each individual doing his small part or share in the great process of making all things.

It is safe to say that this social or collective power to produce wealth is common to all things. The only staple to produce enough to satisfy the reasonable wants of every individual, without the hours of labor being excessively long. That such a happy result is not obtained at the present time is due to one fact alone. There is but one obstacle in the way of such a harmonious diversity to be wished.

That obstacle is capitalist property in the means of wealth production. Capitalist property is not private property. Neither is it collective property, using the term to include all of the people. It is class property, a stage of property between individual and collective.

Incidentally, the article betrays a most pitiful ignorance (if I grant him honesty) of the Socialist philosophy. I do not quote further from the article as I presume all militant Socialists take this magazine. I have met a number of I. L. P. men who have all asserted that Keir Hardie did not deny the "class war" and in not one instance did I find those I. L. P.'s could give a definition of the meaning of the class struggle, so I was naturally eager to see Keir Hardie face to face and see what he had to say.

The gigantic machinery of production of today instead of being an aid to the comfort and welfare of mankind, is, under capitalist class ownership, merely a huge lever whereby an enormous stream of profits from the flesh, bone, blood and marrow of the only useful portion of human society—the working class.

Such is class ownership of social things. Such is capital. By agglutinating, plus declamation and socialist argument, an enormous pulpit and professor attempt to apologize for capitalist property, justify its existence, and give it divine sanction.

Without the means to establish its legality, protect and defend it, it would fall to the ground instantly. Government is the instrument of capitalist property today, as it was one time the instrument of feudal or chattel-slavery; its purpose in each case that of holding the slaves in economic bondage to the master.

The wage slaves of today have the franchise in at least some countries. They are beginning to intelligently tug at their chains. They are getting to understand that their bondage is due to the fact of class ownership of the things upon which they depend for a living, and that this class ownership is maintained solely by the power of government, or the state.

That is why the Socialist Party of Canada is carrying its existence. Under its banners the workers of the Dominion intend to peacefully and legally brush aside the obstacle of capitalist property and make of Canada the home of a free people. A people free because they till the soil, weave, forge and spin for themselves to enjoy, and not for the luxury, splendor and profit of a useless class.

For some time past there has been considerable discussion among party members in this city as to the position taken by the Independent Labor Party in general and Keir Hardie in particular on the class struggle.

Judging by articles I have read in a number of periodicals it is obvious that the opinion that it was far from clear. For the sake of brevity I will quote but from one of them.

The International Socialist Review of October, 1904, in an article on the International Congress, says, after speaking of Keir Hardie's satisfaction with the adoption of the Dresden resolution: "Keir's are not a verified, therefore, to see in the next number of the Labor Leader after the one containing this remarkable article, another communication from Keir Hardie in which he draws up an indictment of the 'class war' and decides the entire class struggle philosophy to be wrong."

Shortly, Keir Hardie did not deny the fact of the class struggle, but differs widely in his definition from the position taken by the Socialist Party of Canada. I asked him: "Do you take the ultra-class-conscious revolutionary position?" (I thought I would put it strongly). He replied: "No, I do not." There was an answer in freshness, honesty and directness; one meets so many in discussion that evade, dodge, twist and turn. That it is a great to meet an opponent who does not wrap his meaning up in a mass of verbiage till the point, if any, is lost sight of. He went on to say that the trade union movement was the class movement; that the political movement was not a class movement at all, his argument being that the trade unions were composed of workmen entirely, whereas there were some capitalists in the political movement.

Now, I am not going into any lengthy argument on this, though I am prepared to do so if any one wishes to take up the cudgels, though I don't see how any one can who has taken the pledge of the Socialist Party of Canada.

Sufficient to say that if I had to take the definition of an individual, I would prefer Keir's as an authority to Keir Hardie. I will cite briefly a few of Keir Hardie's remarks.

First: That Frederick Engels told him before he died that the Independent Labor Party approached more nearly to the Marxist position than any other party in the world.

Second: That the I. L. P. candidate

running under the auspices of the Labour Representation Committee were run as "Labor" men only, but returned as Socialists. Queer thing. What were the other candidates run by the L. R. C. as "Labor" men, and who made no pretence of being Socialists, returned as? The point is too fine for me.

Third: That the reason we were no further ahead in this country was because of our compromising position, comparing our results with those in England, retaining the whole of the thirty "Labor" members, and setting them against our three stalwarts. What are the facts? The only member of the British House of Commons run on the straightforward Socialist ticket is Will Thorne of West Ham.

The chief reason of so many "Labor" members being returned was the dissatisfaction caused by "hard times." You will notice Keir Hardie claims any returned as "Labor" and bunches them in disguise. Under the same line of argument we could claim Allen Stubbins, Verville and Ralph Smith, but we have no wish to do so.

This will suffice for this time. I should like to have had a longer talk with Keir, he had an appointment with a reporter and was going to spend the rest of the evening at Comrade Simpson's house, so regretfully we had to terminate our talk, which was characterized by the greatest possible affability and spirit of fairness. Keir Hardie is evidently too much a man to terminate our talk, which was characterized by the greatest possible affability and spirit of fairness.

WILFRED GRIBBLE 31 Withrow Ave., Toronto, Ont., July 26, 1907.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE.

The class struggle began with the prehistoric tribal wars, and can be derived from the inheritance of industrial disaster handed down to them from the forces of barbarian warfare. This class struggle was shown in the servile rebellions when slavery had been made the status of the working man. This class struggle was shown in the labor unions and the strikes, when the wage system had been fastened on the toiler, when he had been robbed of any opportunity to use the resources of the earth in his own right, had been refused the right to live without a master, and had not been guaranteed even the right to have a master. This class struggle is shown now in the struggle for Socialism, which is by no means the end of the world. It is the same old warfare, at last informed as to the nature of the rights of the toilers and equipped with the power of the ballot in the struggle

to secure those rights—John Stuart Mill.

More than 1000 persons were killed in the coal mines of Pennsylvania last year according to a report issued by the state department of mines. Just what percentage were owners, and what percentage employees has been carefully left out of the report.

NOTICE is hereby given that 60 days after date I intend to apply to the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described lands, situated on Pemberton trail, one mile west of Green Lake:

Commencing at the northeast corner of lot 2107; thence east forty chains along the line of lot 1811; thence south eighty chains; thence west forty chains; thence north eighty chains to point of commencement. Dated June 3, 1907.

WILLIAM LEWIS, P. H. PETERSON, June 8, 1907.

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Grid of 50 numbered items (600-649) including necklaces, brooches, rings, and watches. Each item includes a small illustration and a brief description of its features and price.

SEE NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE FOR FURTHER LIST OF PREMIUMS

EVENTS IN THE INTERIOR.

Comrade J. B. Osborne Addressed Largest Meeting Ever Held in Nelson—Activity in the Crow's Nest Region.

I met Comrade J. B. Osborne on Tuesday of last week, at Crow's Nest on Wednesday, at Hosmer on Thursday, at Michel on Friday, at Piko on Saturday, at Fernie again on Sunday.

The comrades are very much elated over the large vote cast at last election. They are as active as ever, but more and more active, and as a result of this activity the movement is growing rapidly.

I had a fine open air meeting at Moyie on Sunday evening. The day before I joined Comrade Osborne en route to Nelson. The comrades had everything ready for a "not guilty" meeting. It was the largest meeting ever held in Nelson and Comrade Osborne did justice to the occasion.

Comrade Osborne discouraged the idea of hero worship by showing that the case of Haywood was not a movement, which is ever making the proletarians more conscious of their class and uniting them in defence of their common powers.

Comrade Osborne dealt very fully with the growth and decay of social activity. He showed conclusively that a master class is no longer so successful in maintaining its rule so long as it could control the lawmaking and executive machinery of government.

What a change has come in the workman's opinion of himself during the last few years. A decade ago he was almost as well satisfied with his life as was a slave.

The Roosevelt administration has made a most vicious assault on the umbrella trust. The steel trust, sugar trust and other trusts have been lucky enough to escape observation so far.

"Fighting Joe" Martin issued his challenge to the police. He was arrested Thursday last and held in debt to the value of \$30 per month. Bowers, during the evening, as a result of addressing a handful of people at Reception Park, he contracted such a severe case of political chills as to take all the fight out of him.

THE FOLLY OF SECRECY IN LABOR UNIONS

The disclosures made during the Haywood trial show the utter folly of the organizations attempting to keep their deliberations secret. Capitalism has bred altogether a too prolific crop of skulls at Crow's Nest. It has successfully carry on proceedings with an assurance of secrecy.

Nothing can be done, any more, mean and contemptible than for one of the human tribe to allow himself to be used for the purpose of betraying his people into the hands of those who thirst for his blood.

But the capitalist jungle is full of such loathsome creatures. It breeds them as naturally as a swamp breeds mosquitoes. They are everywhere in evidence ready to perform any office, no matter how foul.

If the unions would destroy the usefulness to the capitalist of this class of vermin, let all meetings be held with open doors. Let everybody be welcome to listen to the proceedings.

Let everything be open and aboveboard upon the part of the workers. If they are to be successful in their demand an increase of wages, let them openly proclaim it and go to it. If they become politically and economically conscious, let them organize to demand from the housepots and rally their fellows to the conquest of the public powers and mastery of industry.

Remember that the Western Clarion office is prepared to handle all kinds of printing. It is from job work that the paper is kept going.

The Empire: A huge Slave Pen, four-fifths of the dumbest of which were made by doing their bodies and their lives day by day to the one-thing that they had in common, their money.

TRIUMPHANT PLUTOCRACY.

Chicago, U. S. A. June 8, 1907. Dear Sir: I have been reading in one of our Socialist papers an extract from what I suppose to be one of your editorials, and am constrained to write you to congratulate you upon your judgment of the economic and political situation in this country as illustrated by the trial of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone.

To illustrate what I mean I will say that I belong to the engineering profession and earn a salary of about \$150 per month. Yet I also belong to the branch of the Socialist Party and do what I can to spread the doctrine of Socialism. I went through the public school in the formation of public opinion in spite of the dense ignorance of the agricultural population and the activity of the capitalists.

General Sherwood was the orator of the day at Dresden, O., on July 17th. He said that he had read the constitution and was well acquainted with its provisions. He said that he had read the constitution and was well acquainted with its provisions.

The men in the factories and workshops are little better than slaves, especially where there are no unions to back them up. Do you wonder that Socialism is spreading like a prairie fire? I have got my opinion of its growth from actual figures and from my own experience in various parts of the country.

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James Stark & Sons, Limited.

ANNUAL JULY CLEARANCE SALES

BARGAIN TIME IS HERE—the time of the year when dependable Summer merchandise may be bought at emphatic saving prices. Whatever you want, no matter how large or how small write us or see us.

SUMMER SUITS, WAISTS, WASH SKIRTS, LINEN COATS, MILLINERY, UNDERWEAR, DRESS GOODS, WASH GOODS, HOSIERY, LINENS, ETC., ALL SELLING NOW AT JULY CLEARING PRICES.

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General Sherwood was the orator of the day at Dresden, O., on July 17th. He said that he had read the constitution and was well acquainted with its provisions. He said that he had read the constitution and was well acquainted with its provisions.

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