

BALAM AND HIS ASS

Brother worker, have you ever perceived that little Biblical narrative of Balaam and the ass? If not, let me tell you about it. Balaam was an eminent gentleman, a prophet, a wise man, and the owner of an ass—a common ordinary little ass. Balaam had a business appointment with some other gentlemen of his time, and he "saddled his ass," as the story says, and went to keep it. On the way a difference of opinion arose between Balaam and the ass, and as a result, to quote again from the story, "Balaam smote the ass with a staff (club)." Balaam "smote" the ass with a staff, suffering as of his three times, and in all probability "fanned" its ribs "good and hard" each time.

And then a wonderful thing happened! The ill-used ass spoke! You would think that it would have used the gift of speech to say something out of the common, you would have thought it would, at the very best, have entered a vigorous protest. Nothing of the kind. That ass might have gone down to posterity in such a way that we would look at him now with respect and admiration. He might have used the gift of speech to ventilate the wrongs of all abused asses, and demanded justice as an ass of spirit. But no! That ass let the great charlatan, his master, make an immortal and historic appeal for liberty. What he did say was this: "And the ass said to Balaam, 'Am I not thy ass upon whom thou hast ridden ever since I was thine to this day, because now thou dost smitten me?'"

What do you think of that ass? That poor, miserable, humble, whining, spiritless, little burden-bearing brute. After being flogged with a club three times the best use it could make of the gift of speech was to emit a plaintive moan, howl like that! Why, any decent, self-respecting southern mule, if you were to hit him with a club, not three times, but even once, would do his best to "empty" you out of the saddle and stay in your ribs with a couple of well-directed kicks.

Fellow-worker, do you admire the character of the ass in the little narrative above? I hardly think you do, yet, is it not true that we are, lots of us, worse in some ways than ever that ass? We are, in some ways, somebody's ass all our lives? Are we not bound body and soul to a master even as the ass was? Are we not carrying someone on our back all the time, as that ass says he did? Do we not work for our food like the ass? Are we not asses—poor hardworking asses? When our masters hit us with a cut in wages of ten us away, what can we do about it? Turn us, as things usually do, much more than beef for consideration on the ground of long years of faithful service, just as that ass said, "Am I not thy ass upon whom thou hast ridden all thy life?"

Fellow-workers do you look as if we were, in some ways, the lineal "enough" descendants of Balaam's ass? During the past few years of prosperity, when we were getting our \$2 and \$2.50 or \$4 a day, and there was plenty of feed in the manger (two kinds of meat for dinner at the last house), and we were allowed to sleep in the (cheap) of the company's boarding house, we were not content with it! Did we not grin, lots of us, and give the merry "Ha! Ha!" (or He-haw) to the men (Socialist calamity bowlers) who told us of "hard times" coming?

But now, brother workers, the hard times have come. Our masters have more need of us. They turned us out! Out into the cold world. Away from the company boarding house, with its succulent hay, and the company's bunk house, with its warm beds. We are not content when they tell us to go! Nothing! Do men keep horses (or asses) they have no use for, that are no longer profitable to them? Of course not! And so we had to go when we were no longer profitable to our masters. Lots of us had years of faithful service to our credit, but that "cuts no ice." We had to go just the same. A "faithful ass" gets the club, or the stick, or the sack, just the same as any other ass, as we have

LET'S GET A HOMESTEAD.

Dear Comrade:—
 Maybe the experiences of a homesteader will be of interest to the readers of the Clarion. After the Granby Co. put their damnable scheme of black-list and discrimination into effect. Assistant Superintendent Williams advised me to go to Prince Rupert as a good place for a wage-slave but as was my habit, I took the opposite course and applied for and secured a quarter-section of land about forty miles from a railroad and the same distance from a graft center, the name of which makes no difference. Not being over-stocked with the wherewithal, and having six months before I was compelled by law to take up residence on my claim, I decided to offer my labor-power for sale, but could find no buyers, and for three months I resided to be a wage-slave. Just to show the independence of bosses at that time, a temple of justice was in course of erection, and a friend of mine applied for and secured a job, but was immediately discharged, and having the courtesy to ask what his wages would be.

Finally I secured a situation, for which I received the magnificent sum of one dollar and seventy-five cents for ten hours of slavery, and having what a prominent British Columbia conservative tells me is a large family, I was compelled to have some sort of shelter, and this being a real estate cursed burg, I was forced to pay \$8.00 a month for a 12x15, one-room shack, and the other bare necessities of life made by \$1.75 look worse than nothing.

So the time came to get on my claim. Having put up a shack, the warm part of it being made of mother earth, and having dug a few loads of coal from a vein which is as yet overlooked by the national wealth, and with a fair supply of Socialist literature, I am trying to pass the time away. While my better half is endeavoring to feed the family on, well, I won't say, but I expect she will be able to give the charity workers a few pointers on how to feed an unemployed next winter.

MAKE YOUR OWN SPEAKERS

As Comrade Browning's request for advice as to training of speakers has been referred to me, it is up to me to do the best I can in that way. As Comrade Browning is, presumably, the member of his Local to whom the need of speakers is most apparent, let me suggest that he try to get one to go right ahead and organize a class, calling upon all who wish to equip themselves as speakers to come together and make a start.

As soon as the class is formed it will probably be very small at first. Toronto started with but two; impress upon the attendants the need of recognizing the fact that they have received capitalist training in the past, warn them that, in consequence, many of the truths of scientific Socialism will at first seem strange to them, and that, therefore, it is very important that they avoid arriving at hasty conclusions, that they must accept or reject nothing without thorough study. This must be done from the very first. The aim is to get members join, as once, telling is never enough for any important thing.

"See that all members realize that a good knowledge of Socialism is not to be attained without long and hard study, and when it becomes apparent that any student is not doing the study he should, let whoever the class has chosen as its conductor take him in hand privately and give him a quiet lecture on the need of study; should this not be sufficient, repeat the dose at one of the class meetings. As the average of the class becomes higher, this work will be taken out of the conductor's hands to a great extent, as the general approval shown to eliminating the delinquents is very effective in stimulating the delinquents."

The aim at each meeting should be to make the most of the short time we are together; therefore, each member having anything to say should put what he has to say in the fewest possible words.

B.C. LAW FACTORY OPENS

Dear Comrade:—
 I arrived here yesterday to take up the work you have outlined for me. So far as this present session has gone nothing of interest to any worker under the sun, Socialist or non-Socialist, has occurred, with the exception of the presentation of Com. Hawthorthwaite to the Speaker as the "new" member for Nanaimo. Jim had to march up the middle of the House escorted by Parker and McInnis, and the local press remarked that he did not seem to relish the parade. "Time up to now" has been mainly wasted in making and listening to long, weary and barren speeches in the debate on the speech from the throne, all delivered from the typical bourgeois standpoint, from which property, rates and taxes are the only subjects of absorbing importance. The speakers I listened to on Tuesday last all harped on the same string, and all expressed a smug satisfaction with the "business" outlook of their respective districts. Naden of Greenwood, for instance, and the speakers who followed him, had a great deal to say in criticism and approval of the government's actions in Prince Rupert, in reserving a portion of the waterfront for the Province, but no reference was so far been made to the brutal exploitation under which the workers are suffering at the hands of the G. T. P. contractors. Workers may be daily crushed and maimed and injured by explosives, and cast aside to rot in the streets, but no mention is fit, like damaged pieces of machinery (as in fact they are, under capitalism), and will remain, and should remain, until they decide to overthrow the system that regards profits as the be-all and end-all of existence, and the growing additions to the sum of human misery necessarily entailed by such a system perfectly justified in view of the end to be attained.

The said Naden, of Greenwood, made a fine display of moral and virtuous contentment for the action of the Victoria Colonist in publishing a fake telegram from Borden, just before the recent election, affirming that the Conservative party was in favor of absolute protection of the Atlantic provinces, the authorship of which Borden has denied on the floor of the House of Commons. As the Liberal press in Canada is deservedly famous for its clean political tactics and never descends to lying and misrepresentation, it was certainly justified in its criticism—if the first part of this sentence is true, which it is not.

WEDNESDAY.
 The debate was resumed by McPhillips, who started with an analysis of the late Sir Joly de Lotbiniere, as spread himself in fine style on the subject of the Quebec celebrations, with touching references to the hardships and pluck of early pioneers. Altogether a fine example of oratorical fling waving.

McInnis.
 McInnis, in opening congratulated the Government and the House on the appointment of Mr. Taylor to the Department of Public Works. More especially were members on his side of the House to be pleased with the plan of action that discrimination against constituencies that returned opposition members to be House would cease. He sincerely hoped that the conversion of the Government in this matter would be permanent. What all speakers in the debate laid stress on was the prosperity in their respective districts and in the province at large. It seemed to him that these members were acting on the principle that if you keep on saying a thing often enough you will be able to believe it yourself.

Where was this prosperity? Since the last meeting of the House the wages of the working-class of the province had been forced down, the cost of living had been enhanced, while this resulted in big profits for employers of labor, the Government had no reason to congratulate themselves on conditions in British Columbia. It is true that American capitalists are coming after B. C. timber and minerals in order to exploit the workers of B. C. to their own advantage. There was no reason for gratification in that. What does this development

amount to about which we are hearing so much? Under the bonis started the population of this province was not so great as now, and the wage-worker received a larger reward for his services than he is receiving under this much-heralded period of prosperity and growing population. The previous speaker (McPhillips) had laid great stress on the growing feeling of solidarity among the people of the British Empire. He (McPhillips) was very glad to see it growing, not only in the peoples composing the British Empire but amongst the peoples of the whole world, as it meant a movement of world-wide scope towards better conditions.

The previous speaker had referred in terms of approbation to the celebrations recently held at Quebec. He (McInnis) and the Party with which he was affiliated, were unalterably opposed to these celebrations that recalled to memory events that it were better to forget. In the past, force had been the prevailing mode of advancement. In the future he looked for new methods of progress when the workers, instead of marching to battle at the word of a master class, will remain at home and occupy their time more sensibly in the intellectual development of themselves and others.

A great deal had been said as to the price of coal in Victoria and elsewhere. Well, if the people thought coal was too dear they would burn wood. Members of the House had been attacking the coal operators for this enhanced price of coal, but if they themselves were in the same position, as these coal owners, they would do the same. The steel trust could sell their product cheaper in Europe than in the U. S. Why? Because they found that production could only be carried on profitably with a certain minimum of output. If the home market could not absorb all of that product they were forced to take it elsewhere. If the coal operators can charge different prices in Victoria and Seattle it is none of our business. So long as the people let them own the mines they have no logical grounds for interfering. All this talk about fair profit and unfair profit is simply rot. The only "fair" profit is natural profit, that is, that you can get.

With regard to the Government's plan to carry out homes for themselves and families should not be charged for the land they needed, but should be granted.

One thing he would say, that those capitalists who had secured timber limits with the intention of holding them for some years in view of the probable depletion of the supply, with the object of pocketing a large profit, have no call on the Government for consideration. If they are willing to wait 40 or 50 years from the time of purchasing those limits until they get their profits, their interests ought not to be considered in any legislation to be enacted.

What the working people of this province required was better conditions. The class, whose useful labor enhanced the wealth of society should have greater consideration. They are getting to-day less wages, and their wages have less purchasing power than was the case years ago. If they were disabled in industry they were uncared for. These wealth producers must have greater protection. Scores of men in the mines, woods, and other industries are injured every year. How are they provided for? Men who have lost life or limb in the provincial industries must be compensated and their dependents cared for.

The Western Clarion

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ROBBERING CONSUMERS.

In reply to Com. Lindley's inquiry in this issue as to the possibility of workers being robbed as consumers as well as producers, it might well be asked...

On Propaganda.

Until economic conditions, or the environment under capitalism generally, bring an individual to the state of mind where he is receptive of our doctrine...

Out of the Dump.

Novels on the Poor are quite numerous. If the author be a bourgeois, you have the sense of getting the unfortunate Poor on the head from a great altitude...

Make Your Own Speakers.

What difference, said a comrade to me the other day, "What difference does it make whether the worker is robbed at the point of production or at the point of consumption..."

The Difference.

By William Restelle Shier.

"What difference," said a comrade to me the other day, "What difference does it make whether the worker is robbed at the point of production or at the point of consumption..."

Job Printing.

What we want is sound training, constant and vigorous propaganda, thorough and systematic organization.

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Job Printing.

company pays him by the ton because it knows that he will deliver more labor-power for the money that way than he would on two mules...

Similarly, the capitalists pay the farmer by the bushel and pound. All kinds of his farm, anyway, and so all the products are also theirs...

As for monopolies being able to put up prices for their "fair," why do they not put them up higher?

Were a monopoly to attempt to abnormally raise prices, one of three results would ensue...

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work, provided he has the goods and will deliver them whether they tickle the ears of his audience or not...

It is a fact worthy of note that there are two places, where there is an active movement, where the workers are organized as well as when they are not...

Chicago shows an increase of fifteen thousand prostitutes, that counting capitalist journalists. This would indicate that the "legion of the damned" is the only slave-driving syndicate that has benefited by the harder times.

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holding co-operative stores and abolishing customs duties. It is not to be expected that the propaganda-meeting and comrades are inclined to limit the propaganda of that kind...

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Socialist Directory

Every Local of the Socialist Party of Canada should run a card under this head. Also get your own Securities issue one.

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Executive Committee, 215 G. McLeod, Vancouver, B. C.

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MANITOBA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Executive Committee, 215 G. McLeod, Vancouver, B. C.

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Union Directory

When They Meet: Where They Meet.

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The Dream of Debs by Jack London. Socialist Review for January and February. 84 large pages monthly. Full of interest to every Socialist. One dollar a year.

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THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

This Page is Devoted to Reports of Executive Committees, Locals and General Party Matters—Address All Communications to D. G. McKenzie, Sec., Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

LITERATURE.

SECRETARIAL.

The attention of Locals wishing to start a lending library is called to the subjoined list of \$10.00 worth of books and pamphlets for \$5.00.

The Dominion and B.C. Provincial Executive meets Monday, February 8, 8 p.m.

The financial statement for the Clarion for this month is cause for congratulation to the sub. hustlers.

In this issue appears the first instalment of the proceedings of the B. C. Legislature. They will be of more than usual interest this year as they are being written by one of our comrades on the spot.

Be it particularly noted that this rate can only be made possible by reducing the extra work involved to the minimum.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON.

Dear Sir and Comrade, Aldrie, Scotland. I refer to the tragic fate of my dear son John T. Mortimer who is being sent me the Western Clarion.

I may say that a few here in Aldrie enjoy the Western Clarion as giving the workers the only true leading among all the fads and pet theories put forth by the various professors of Socialism.

TORONTO'S PROGRESS.

Editor Clarion: I am instructed by the English Branch, Local Toronto, to forward you for publication the appended summarized report of the findings of the auditing committee, consisting of Comrades Sirois, Young and Shier.

AN APPEAL.

Under the auspices of the Socialist Party of Nanaimo, a committee has been formed to take up a collection in aid of the widow of John Holden, who was killed in the explosion while in search of the missing man, Comrade Johns, who, by the way, was the secretary of the Northfield Local.

Order Made: If you want a bound volume of the Western Clarion for 1920, order now. Price \$2.50 extra prepaid.

HAMILTON.

Editor Western Clarion: Comrade and Dear Sir—I send you a self and hope to be able to help you in the Clarion, as I like it better as it goes on. I am also advising that the Comrades write good, spicy truths and send them to you, but if I am advised something that does not meet with your approval, you tell me and I will not be offended.

It is also my opinion that every Comrade should push the Clarion and endeavor to show the wages-laves that be true to themselves they should at least have a working class paper.

Today the teachers in the public schools made an appeal, to the children to bring one cent each to be used for flowers or purchasing them, to decorate Queen Victoria's statue.

CLARION FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Table with columns: Receipts to January 31st, Expenditures, Total Receipts, Total Expenditures, Deficit.

SHALL O'BRIEN HAVE A LANTERN?

Dear Comrade: I have met Comrade O'Brien and I need not say how much I think he is fitted for the position he occupies as organizer for the Party.

A HAMILTON OPINION.

Comrade: I herewith enclose two sub cards for one year each, which I have started at the expiration of our year. May say that the Western Clarion as it is free from the odor of the I. L. P. in either Great Britain or Canada is in every way worthy of being in the hands of every Socialist in Canada.

It seems to me the Western comrades have us in the East beaten to a stand still, and as for being there with the funds when required, well here they win again.

An very much delighted to read that one list of the long name of H. H. has been elected again by a substantial majority against the combined forces of capitalism.

EMDMONTON.

Dear Comrade: Just a line to let you know that although you don't often hear from our local, we are always plugging at the same old job.

Our librarian handed in his report at our last meeting, and although late it speaks for itself.

EXCHANGE OF COMMODITIES.

Agent the discussion going on in the Clarion, Comrade Edger, will you allow space for the following remarks.

STILL IN GOTHAM.

Dear Old Clarion: Since you are so kind as to publish my epistle, I'll return the compliment by writing you once more, for love begets love.

BRANTFORD, ONT.

Comrade Emmett held the floor at the last meeting of Local Brantford. He spoke on "Why I Am a Socialist," and gave us an account of his experience in the movement, going back as it does more than 27 years.

OTTAWA, ONT.

Dear Comrade: Just a few lines from Local Ottawa. We are just about getting into place, at least, we are trying to.

PROLETARIAE.

I came away thankful to leave this job as I left the other, and wondered if the comrades made every Socialist so discontented with his job (I mean appointments), as I was, and considering how rare the latter were, I wondered when I might get another, and determined not to be so particular another time.

ONE OF THEM.

Yours for the revolution, J. R. HUNTBAUGH, Secy.

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It was accompanied by a maid. I did not want to be too rude or personal, but it one day suddenly dawned on me that I had never been in a hotel like that before. I must admit that the capitalist system that generated all this was always telling me. Well, my keen Socialist conscience stretched out for nine days, and I began to think that if any of the comrades knew that I had remained there one day after knowing what the place was, I might damage the cause by damaging my reputation. I assure you it was no fault of mine for the police (and the "news" down here) would drop in by two-and three and played cards by the hour, which gave me a kind of sense of security, don't you know.

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Our librarian handed in his report at our last meeting, and although late it speaks for itself.

The year's homicides were 554. The fact that the number of suicides increased so greatly during 1908, while there was a large falling off in the number of homicides during the year just concluded, are both "curious and interesting," remarks the capitalist press.

Curious and interesting. The grocer gives no account of the other deaths caused by poverty, from starvation and malnutrition by low prices of spirits, or depression or unhappiness, or of the mind or of the heart, or from the drink.

Yours for the glorious revolution, C. M. S.

EXCHANGE OF COMMODITIES.

Agent the discussion going on in the Clarion, Comrade Edger, will you allow space for the following remarks.

Therefore, to try and dissolve the mist that betogs the mental horizon of many comrades about commodities exchanging in the market at their average value, I will take for illustration one branch of industry that I know something of, and that is the textile industry; the same illustration can be applied to all other industries.

The innumerable different kinds of fabrics manufactured in our textile industries last only for a period. Each kind, as it were, at its birth, becomes by degrees popular and usually its very popularity spoils its doom.

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Propaganda Meeting Every Sunday, 8 p.m. Cameraphone Theatre 58 HASTINGS ST. W. VANCOUVER, B. C.

PARTY PARAGRAPHS.

By Will R. Sher.

The extent to which Socialists are still circulating Bellamy's "Looking Backward" is surprising. This is a piece of Utopianism that has absolutely no place in Socialist propaganda. True, it is interesting, and in some cases might lead the reader to investigate the Socialist idea more deeply. But books of this kind are responsible for the public looking upon Socialism as an idle dream, a view which is exceedingly difficult to eradicate. Anything that savors of prophecy or deals in cut-and-dried schemes is to be taboed. In all propaganda, Socialism should be discussed only from the economic, historical, and to a limited extent, ethical standpoints. "Looking Backward," being a picture-book pure and simple, does not elucidate the principles and the social and economic determinants, nor does it show up the brutality and workings of capitalism, hence is not likely to stir anyone into revolt.

Adjectives prove nothing. Hard words prove nothing. Abusive language does nothing but convince but convince certain controversial matter which has recently appeared in the Clarion. If the comrades would calmly and logically state their case, laying down the facts one by one and showing wherein the other fellow is wrong, instead of throwing mud at those with whom they disagree, much ill-feeling would be spared and the issue at stake not obscured by a cloud of words. Indulging in personalities and losing one's temper intensifies factional differences instead of diminishing them.

Comrade Lyons complains that party activity makes such inroads upon his time that he has little leisure in which to study. Well, would it not be wise for such comrades to cut out certain kinds of party work, such as attending propaganda meetings, in order to have time to master the more important portions of the Socialist philosophy. It is exceedingly important that we each become thoroughly grounded in the principles of scientific Socialism, for not until we do, will we make effective propagandists, competent legislators and intelligent party members. No one ought to be satisfied with a superficial knowledge of our teachings, as, alas, too many are. The first duty of those who join the Socialist Party is to get up to their eyes in the study of economics, if not of history and natural science.

ANOTHER ONE.

Seeing that the heavy-weights of the Socialist Party of Canada are accused of not being able to clearly define what is meant by "Cost of Production," it's not surprising that the "forward empty feeling" will disappear. Did he keep on theorizing and nothing more he would eventually starve to death. The latter, of course, is also only a theory which the writer at present has no means of proving.

Now, in order to prove his theory, the afforesaid hungry animal proceeds to "go outside" of his usual bread and eggs, and then finds his theory was correct. He stopped theorizing and became practical.

Now, it is the same with what is

known as "Marx's Theory of Value." When Marx first propounded it, it was only a theory. But for the last 40 or 50 years it has been used in every way by applying it to modern society and has never been found to fail. Sometimes it appeared to, but on investigation it was found to be some "foreign" element temporarily distracting the public policy, just as an extra dose of "barley beer" might temporarily lead one to think his food was not performing its function of generating physical energy. As most Socialists know, Marx's theory is shortly "That in all articles of equal value there is an equal amount of human labor measured by time."

What seems to worry most of those who hear of this theory for the first time is, how to find out a means of proving it. The simplest method is to go to where the labor-power is introduced into the commodities and find out how much is inserted in a given number of articles and find it, in exchanging one with another, equal in value. In all articles of equal value there is an equal amount of human labor measured by time. In our case, the student will find that the manufacturer when he comes to exchange his goods for other goods or for gold, gives in exchange an amount of material with the same amount of human labor crystallized in it, as the material which he receives. Where machinery is used, as it nearly always is, it is first looked complicated, but on investigation it is found that the manufacturer when calculating the relationship which his machine bears to the product, merely figures out how many hours of time it took to make his machine, how long it will last and just drops of a certain number of hours which he adds to the value of the product, and if his figuring is correct by the time he has chopped off as many hours as it took to make the machine and transferred them to the product, the labor is given for the further proving that it is only human labor, not machinery which creates value.

It would be added as to the effect of the trust or combination on the market, it is asserted that the trusts have killed competition. Such is not the case. When an animal or plant is termed dead it has so changed its form that it cannot again assume its original function in nature. There are certain animals and plants, however, that when conditions don't suit them, lie dormant, but immediately conditions become suitable they assume their original functions. The trusts have simply had the effect of competition making it. He dormant, but immediately they make conditions such that it can perform its function, it will do so.

In order, therefore, to eliminate competition the trusts are compelled to keep prices such that no other manufacturer can compete or he will immediately go bankrupt.

CHECHACO.

B. C. LAW FACTORY OPENS

(Continued from page one.)

He well knew that an appeal on sentiment to the Government was like pouring water on a duck's back, but he would direct their attention to the fact that any one in that House was liable to get his job at the next election. Indeed if the Leader of the Opposition was to be believed, the Premier himself was as good as fired already. When he was reduced to wielding a pick for a living, he would be glad to have his hand placed on the legislation he (McInnis) was now advocating on the statute book. (A voice: "The premier is a lawyer.") Oh well, when the Socialist administration is in power we will give the lawyers all the work coming to them. It is up to the Government to provide for the injured.

The premier had revealed a great discovery of his at Rossland, which had not been mentioned from the House. He had discovered that the Socialists had been denying the existence of, and that was the difference between the two old parties. The only difference was that the Conservative party was the party of the workmen, and the Socialist party was the party of the unemployed. There was an opportunity to show if that was so, or if it was only a party that worked the workman. (Applause.)

After Brewster & Ross had spoken, the debate was adjourned by John Oliver. Comrade McInnis will introduce an act to amend the Metalliferous Mines Inspection Act. Comrade Hawthorthwaite will introduce an Act to Amend the Mines Act, and on Thursday January 28, will ask the following question:

"Has any action been taken by the Province in respect" to a resolution carried during the last session of the House memorializing the Imperial Government to enquire into all the circumstances in connection with Oriental Immigration into the Province of B. C.

"It not, why not?" is a question dealing with those employers of labor who discriminate against their employees for political reasons. J. H. B.

Thursday, January 28, 1909.

John Oliver resumed the debate on the address from the Throne and in criticizing the actions of the Attorney General, launched out into an ex-coriating personal attack upon "So a month" Bower that was good to listen to. Bower, with his face partially hidden from the view of the house, seemed to be hard hit, and on one or two occasions, when the member for the Delta drove home telling points, a dull red flush covered his face. Unfortunately lack of space forbids a report of the speech. "Honest John" was in fine fettle and Bower certainly got what was coming to him. Routine business occupied the rest of the sitting. Bower will resume the debate on Friday.

Friday, January 29.

John Oliver rose to point of order. He had been the recipient of various literary effusions since he had been in the House, and he had found one on his desk which he would submit to the House. It was a copy of a letter in future he would submit all such effusions of literary effort to the House.

Bower resumed the debate on the address from the Throne in reply to John Oliver. He attributed the vicious attack on himself by the latter to a belief in the Liberal ranks of an impending provincial election. A defence of the Government railway policy, a denial of undue political influence in the civil service. An order in council passed by the Semitt government prohibiting the sale of land was taken part in political life had been enforced for the first time by the present government.

Replying to statement made by a Liberal member that men who had got foul of the law in his constituency were warned to give up the idea of being wanted by the Liberal rank of the police, he stated the member (Voronst) to produce proof. If proofs were produced that any one under his control was exercising any undue influence as stated, he would deal with that man as he deserves.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite - Will the Hon. member act in a similar manner in the case of employers of labor?

Mr. Bower - I have no control over employers of labor. (Laughter.) Attacks upon licensing laws answered. Six licenses had been granted and 73 refused in the last 18 months. He challenged any Liberal member to name a single instance of a Liberal losing his license during the last 18 months.

Replying to John Oliver's attack upon himself he disproved the charges made against him in the administration of his department. From the viewpoint of the man up a tree, it is probably the best way to believe both of them equally worthy of credence. An awful picture was drawn of Seattle harbor poachers in B. C. waters. The depletion of "our" waters of fish, with the attendant loss of anything out of it, was horrifying.

The question of the right of the Province to control immigration into the Province is before the Privy Council and will be fought to a finish.

Nearly 8,000,000 acres of public land had been reserved for the pre-emptor alone.

The debate was mainly taken up in mutual recriminations, accusations and denials of graft and mismanagement in the conduct of provincial affairs, of no interest to the wage-slave who merely looks upon the capitalist legislatures as the most vulnerable spot in the armor of the capitalist class and the proceedings of interest to him only in so far as his mouthpieces find opportunities to voice the grievances and demands of his class. Those opportunities will increase in exact proportion to the expression of revolutionary demands at the polls. A strong Socialist vote throughout the Province, gained by an uncompromising revolutionary propaganda, is the most effective way of giving pause to those subservient tools of capital who have succeeded in deluding unthinking workers into allowing them to take care of their interests in the legislature.

There are three representatives of labor in the local legislature out of a total of 41, but they command an attention and uneasy concern from their opponents out of all proportion to their numerical strength, on the floor of the House. It is the knowledge of the powerful and uncompromising movement that has placed them there and shows every prospect of doubling their numbers at the next Provincial elections that gains and holds the attention of the House for our men.

Reformers and opportunists, take the tip. Parker Williams moved the adjournment of the debate. He will be the first speaker on Monday. McInnis's bill to amend the Metalliferous Mines Inspection Act, and Hawthorthwaite's bill to amend the Coal Mines Act were both introduced and read a first time. House adjourned to Monday. J. H. B.

Here and Now By "LEEDS"

Com. Parker Williams, M. P. F. carries the banner this week with eleven subscribers, one of which is stolen out from under Com. Cartwright's nose. It's up to Jim to make a raid on Lady Smith.

Comrade Nelson of Victoria, sends \$2.50 for a bound volume of the Clarion for 1908; Com. Gribble also orders an extra one.

Com. Chambers of New Westminster rolls in a half-dozen new subs.

The reports of the proceedings of the B. C. legislature promise to be a great improvement over last year's. Which is only natural as it is a good Socialist that is doing the reporting.

Com. Peterson of Northfield, renews his own and finds a new one. If every reader of the Clarion did just this we would have that bi-weekly Mc talk about.

Com. Angus McLeod keeps up the list from Rossland with another brace.

Comrade Heatherton sends us five from Greenwood, B. C.

Com. Austin, Nelson's energetic secretary, sends in two and reports a good meeting for Com. Sherman, also that the boys are preparing for the next fight and have a chip on their shoulders.

Com. Thos. M. Brown finds a companion for his lonely sub from White Bluffs, Wash.

From away north in Quesnel Com. Thomas expresses his anxiety for a bi-weekly by renewing.

Local Brandon renews his bundle for another 10 weeks.

If you want any of those bound Clarions for 1908, you had better make up your mind quick. Price, \$2.50.

Another sub from Com. Young and 25 to renew Local Toronto's bundle of one hundred. Please note that he is now Ontario Provincial secretary, address, P. C. Young, 129 1/2 Bleeker street.

Com. Drake of Bellevue adds three more to the credit of that hotbed of Revolution, the Crow's Nest Pass.

Com. Cheeseman has yet a couple to add to Toronto's list.

Guelph is anxious to have the reports of the B. C. Legislature and again renews its bundle; while Brantford complains that it is not receiving its bundle. It's up to the post office.

Com. Paterson sends on the money for Local Vernon's card and applies for a list of subscribers as he means to do a little organizing and sub. hustling on his own hook.

Com. Gayman sends in four besides the sixty sent in by the Local.

Three more for Vancouver is Com. Norman's stunt this week.

Comrades E. Hyatt, Wootton, and the reliable O'Brien have a couple each.

Also one each from Comrades Karne, Grader, Stephenson, Bunting, Ingram, Koenig and others.

THE SOCIALIST WOMAN'S NEW ACTIVITY FOR SOCIALISM.

The February issue of The Socialist Woman is devoted to the child labor problem, and a half dozen valuable articles by prominent writers including Theresa Malkiel, John Spargo, May Beals, Kate O'Hara, Lida Parce, Agnes Aronson, and Josephine C. Kaneko. It is a fine contribution to the Socialist literature. This number ought to be in the hands of every child loving parent in this land. From its March issue The Socialist Woman will be known as The Progressive Woman and the paper will be an active propagandist for Socialism among non-Socialist people. It is high time that practical and unceasing effort should be taken by Socialists to reach new people. We cannot be satisfied with a handful of converted Socialists, but our activities should be extended to new people and gather them to our ranks. The adoption of a new name for The Socialist Woman is timely and a wise one. As its first attempt to reach a new field The Socialist Woman will publish an arousing article entitled, "What is the Woman Question?" The article will occupy at least three full pages and it certainly deserves the close attention of every supporter as well as every worker of the cause of woman. The Socialist men especially should read every word of "What is the Woman Question?" The March issue will be a special surfrage number, prepared for the special purpose of getting set aside by the N.E.C. Executive Committee and will be out by the middle of February. Ex-

PLATFORM Socialist Party of Canada

We, the Socialist Party of Canada, in convention assembled, affirm our allegiance to, and support of the principles and programme of the revolutionary working class.

Labor produces all wealth, and to the producers it should belong. 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 their property rights in the means of wealth production and their control of the product of labor.

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

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

The irrepressible conflict of interests between the capitalist and the worker is rapidly culminating in a struggle for possession of the power of government—the capitalist to hold, the worker to secure it by political action. This is the class struggle.

Therefore, we call upon all workers to organize under the banner of the Socialist Party of Canada with the object of concentrating the public powers for the purpose of setting up and enforcing the economic programme 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 the collective property of the working class.
2. The democratic organization and management of industry by the workers.
3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use instead of production for profit.

The Socialist Party, when in office, shall always and everywhere until the present system is abolished, make this answer to this question its guiding rule of conduct: Will this legislation advance the interests of the working class and aid the workers in their class struggle against capitalism? If it will the Socialist Party is for it; if it will not, the Socialist Party is absolutely opposed to it.

In accordance with this principle the Socialist Party pledges itself to conduct all the public affairs placed in its hands in such a manner as to promote the interests of the working class alone.

Tyolaiset Canadassa "Tyokansa" Box 197, Port Arthur, Ont. Se on Canadassa ainoa Suomen liikkeen aineellinen, joka talustele ainoon kuin puolesta. Edistat tyovaen luketta tilaamalla Tyokansa. Makaa ainoostaan, 31.50 vuoksesta "Vakatekna" Makaa, 31.25

SMOKE KURTZ'S OWN KURTZ'S PIONEERS OR KURTZ'S SPANISH BLOSSOMS BEST IN B.C. CIGARS

NELSON, B. C. D. G. McKenzie. Dear Comrade:—I am sending you \$5.00—balance on hand from Dominion campaign for J. J. Since we made this report we find that Revolution was \$30 short in their report and we recommend that amount be refunded to them through you. The balance we turn over to the Provincial Executive for provincial propaganda purposes. Yours in the fight, I. A. AUSTIN, Sec. Central Committee

C. PETERS Practical Boot and Shoe Maker. Hand-Made Boots and Shoes to order in all styles. Repairing promptly and neatly by done. Stock of staple ready-made. 2455 Westway Ave.

PATENTS PROMPTLY SECURED. We solicit the business of Manufacturers, Inventors and others who require the assistance of having their Patent Inventions transacted by Experts. Preliminary advice free. Charges moderate. Our Inventors' Advice sent upon request. Barton & Barton, New York Life Bldg. Montreal; and Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

UNION MEN when in Victoria don't fail to eat at the EMPIRE RESTAURANT The best 25 cent meal in the City. G. W. Bruyck, Mgr. 346 Johnston St. Victoria, B. C.

TO HOUSEKEEPERS If you would like to spend less time in your kitchen and woodshed, and have much more time for outdoor life, recreation and pleasure, look into the question of doing your cooking with a Gas Range. Telephone your address to our office and we will send a man to measure your premises and give you an estimate of cost of installing the gas pipes. Vancouver Gas Company, Limited.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Within the next few days will be published "Rebel Rhymes" by that particular poet, the afforesaid remarkable revolutionary recitations ever printed. The price is 25 cents a copy. The afforesaid limited number of copies will be sold, you had better send in your order at once.

"THE UNKNOWN" Care Western Garion, P.O. Box 386, Vancouver, B. C. Only cash orders will be considered. Special price to Locals and dealers.

Wanted At the Ymir General Hospital, a duly qualified Doctor and Surgeon. For further information write W. B. McISAAC, Sec. Ymir General Hospital.