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## SCIENCE OF SOCIALISM AND LAWS OF EVOLUTION

### Observations On the Law of Motion as Relating to the Growth and Development of Human Society.

A natural law is a generalization of observed facts showing the necessary and regular relation between them. The attention of a natural law is, firstly, our inability to think the opposite, and, secondly, its consistency with other natural laws.

Newton's first law of motion says: "A body continues in a state of rest, or of motion in a straight line, unless it is acted on by some force."

We are bound to accept this law because we cannot conceive the opposite. We cannot think of a body as being at rest and beginning to move without thinking of the force which moves it. And also we cannot think of a body as moving in a straight line and then changing its course as coming to rest without also thinking of the force which causes it to do so. Applying the second test, we find this law is in harmony with the other laws of physics.

And so in every science we have a number of natural laws consistent with each other and which explain the facts of everyday observation. The material from which these laws are formulated grows out of the common knowledge of the body of thinkers.

Sociology is that science whose laws explain the relations existing between the individual and society, and the changes in structure and function of the latter. The following five laws are put forward as being sufficient to explain all these relations and changes. From them a complete theory of social evolution may be deduced:

mit gives us "character." Can we think of any factor other than temperament and environment which helps to determine character?

(5) "The structure and functions of the social organism determined by the characters of its units."

This is equivalent to saying that the institution and actions of society are the result of the actions of all the units. Society is impersonal, and the changes in structure and function are due to the efforts of each unit to satisfy his desires in the most convenient way. Every individual, although his character is molded by circumstances, has some effect on the society which produces him. If the form of society is not determined by the sum total of its constituents, then by what is it determined?

Having dealt with each of the laws separately, we may now apply them in various combinations to the evolution of society, and if they harmonize with each other an estimate of their sufficiency may be made. Beginning with chattel slavery, we find here a number of human beings of low development. They have physical desires which move them to action. All things considered, they find it along the line of least resistance to work for their owners. Obviously, this mode of satisfying their hunger desires is determined by their characters and the presence of men who are cunning enough to enslave them. Were they more intelligent they would combine and satisfy their wants without slaving for a master. But, again, their characters have been developed amid these surroundings, and they can conceive of no other action. The slave-owners have desires which they satisfy along the line of least resistance. They are cunning, and there are ignorant men about them, so their line of least resistance is to make these ignorant men work and to own them like horses. Were the slave owners more intelligent they would teach the slaves how to work machinery, set them free, and buy them again by the day. From among the slaves the masters select slave-drivers, and these men, according to their lights, find their line of least resistance in driving their once fellow-slaves and in toadying to their masters.

And so we see that the actions of all these men make up a social system of slavery. We could not imagine a system of this sort built up of agitators, or of men all on a level of intelligence. There must be cunning, and ignorance. Once established, this form of society went on for hundreds of years, because it produced the elements necessary for its existence. But it could not last forever, although the essentials of it passed into the next historical form of society—serfdom. The serfs found it convenient to work three days or some part of the week for the feudal lord. The lord, on the other hand, found that a man who could not be bought and sold, but was only tied to the land, was a much more intelligent worker than the chattel slave. The serf had a "stake in the country," he had limited property rights, and so he did not trouble the baron by revolting too often. Serfdom developed into landlordism, in which the tenant is not even tied to the land but is compelled to pay rent for its use. Contemporary with serfdom the individual craftsman developed. He was not tied to the land, nor did he own land. He produced his wares individually and exchanged them for other things. As time went on it was found by some that men working together produced more than they did by individual effort. The men who were industrious and clever bought machinery and paid men wages to work for them. With the proceeds thus obtained they built factories, and so we have the formation of the historical classes of capitalist and proletariat. The capitalist, originally a worker along with his men, directing them, withdrew to the office after appointing a paid foreman to take his place. From the office he went to the director's chair, leaving a superintendent to succeed him. Today the capitalist is purely parasitic—industry goes on regardless of his coming out or going in. We have a large number of men who satisfy their elementary physical desires by working for capitalist corporations.

(1) Satisfaction of desire is the motive of all action.

(2) Action is always taken along the line of least resistance.

(3) The line of least resistance is determined by the character of the individual and the nature of his environment.

(4) Character is determined by temperament and environment.

(5) The structure and function of the social organism is determined by the characters of its units.

Let us take these laws in order and apply the first test—that is, to conceive the opposite.

"Satisfaction of desire the motive of action." Is it possible to think of action without desire? Many of our desires arise and are satisfied unconsciously. We breathe, digest, perspire, and so on, without conscious effort. If these desires are not satisfied they are uneasy—we have discomfort. The conscious desires may be divided, for the sake of convenience, into two kinds, the physical and the mental. The physical desires are for food and creature comforts; the mental desires are for self-approval and the approval of others. When the physical desires are satisfied, the mental desires increase—but in all cases and in all persons action is taken only to satisfy desire.

"Action taken along line of least resistance." This seems so self-evident as to need little emphasis. Every one tries to satisfy his wants with a minimum of exertion, and it is a question ever before each of us as to which is the line of least resistance.

"Line of least resistance determined by character and environment." It seems obvious that the individual's choice of action is conditioned by his environment and his capacities; that is, by what he is able to do, and what he is permitted to do by circumstances. Is it possible to think of anything else that helps to determine the line of least resistance?

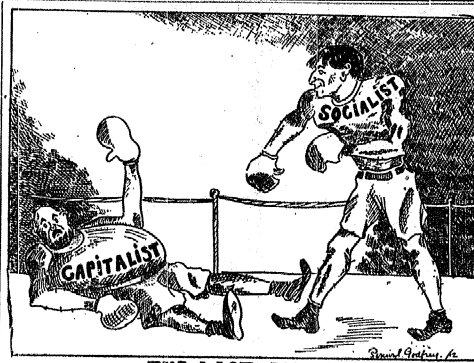
"Character determined by temperament and environment." By temperament is here meant the inherited or constitutional qualities of the individual. We are born with certain desires, and the development and satisfaction of these as circumstances per-

mit gives us "character." Can we think of any factor other than temperament and environment which helps to determine character?

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According to political economists the idle rich are socially desirable, because they make work for and give employment to others. If they went to work, or curtailed their needs, they would be selfish in thus depriving others of the blessed privileges of idleness. By the same sign the idle poor are also socially desirable, and, therefore, we need have nothing but complacency over the so-called tramp problem. Tramps give employment to policemen, detectives, judges, court attendants, prison guards, settlement workers, charity experts, reformers and many others. Let us be careful how we denounce them, lest we upset the whole fabric of criminology?—Life.



THE LAST ROUND

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**THE MACHINE AGE.**

Our civilization is essentially a machine civilization; the machine is its typical representative. The steamship and locomotive, which play such an immense role in our modern life, are essentially machines. Nearly all the products we consume have the stamp of the machine upon them; either they are fashioned by the machine or the machine brings them to us. The next social revolution will be fought around the machine—the machine will be the storm centre. Modern society cannot live for a day without the machine; and, unless it is to be always at the mercy of a decreasing handful of machine owners, it must make the machine social property—which again means the triumph of Socialism.—Arthur Morrow Lewis.

## THE WORLD-WIDE STRUGGLE

The present warfare between workers and the hirelings of a master class which is being waged in Christian countries today is truly worthy of more than passing notice.

Scarcely a single copy of any paper that you may pick up, fails to give an account of at least one fight that is being waged in some commercial centre between the producers of wealth and possessors of wealth.

If you, "Mr. Reader," will take the trouble to ask the first ten men you meet on the street why in this the twentieth century, where so much wealth can be, and is being produced with a minimum amount of labor there should be poverty on one hand and untold wealth on the other, sufficient to cause a continual struggle between labour and capital, you will doubtless meet with ten different answers, which would look something like the following if put into print:

"Oh, the workers are a bunch of discontented sinners who are never satisfied anyway. If they would go to church more and be obedient and not do any kicking, and by being diligent and industrious, they would soon become rich.

"The workers drink all they make and so don't save any wealth. When they join the temperance organizations they will be well off because they will save what they now spend in drink.

Well while the ten different answers will all be a little different, the two given above will contain the substance of the whole. If you don't think so try it and find out.

Now if you are of an inquiring turn of mind and given to pondering upon what you see and hear, you will come to the conclusion that you have not been aided in solving the riddle to any great extent. For you will observe that the workers have been a contending bunch of slaves who bore with their lot for centuries.

They have had the gospel of being good preached into them for ages. Have become converted to the Chris-

tian faith; have become so diligent and industrious, and have used their inventive faculties to such an extent that they only need a small fraction of their numbers to create more than the whole people can consume and yet the cold fact remains that even these industrious ones are constantly on the brink of starvation and are continually forced to fight to keep their wages high enough to keep them and their families from being forced down to live on hotted rice.

So much for their thrift. Now what about them becoming sober? Well if we look into the matter deep enough we will find that they, the workers, have received on an average of less than \$2.00 per day for each day they have worked, and have according to the statistics compiled by the master class created on the average of \$10.00 worth of wealth per day. Now it is very evident that granted they live completely on air and go naked and spend all they receive in wages in drink, yet that could hardly make them poor when they had yet \$8.00 of a surplus to their credit.

It is not the purpose of the writer of this article to go into the matter of what the wage workers create and what they receive in wages, but merely to suggest that the reader go into it himself.

However, to return, we find that the workers instead of spending \$2.00 per day in drink they have become so sober (of necessity) that they no longer touch pure liquor of any kind but are content with a glass of water with a spoonful of rank poison dropped in to give it the proper color. This last accomplishment "by the way" is the sum total of the magnificent results obtained by the strenuous efforts of a multitude of temperance organizations the world over.

Now with all that has been done by the churches yet, you find more poverty, more crimes, more strikes than ever before. Surely, therefore, when you find a man who answers your question, on the poverty question, in a manner that gives you more light the deeper you dig; surely you will be somewhat refreshed when you find your head getting above the troubled waters, even though the one who has been instrumental in setting you on the right track is a crazy socialist.

Well if you will read the Western Clarion for a year you will get a solution that when checked up will be found correct.

In conclusion, let me say, that if a solution of all the various problems bearing on social conditions is worth a dollar per year to you then you can have it in the Western Clarion. If not, then your entire mental tank is not worth one single copy of this paper.

J. PHILKINGTON.

## THE MASK REMOVED FROM CAPITALIST PRODUCTION

### Wages Continually Forced Downward Owing to Pressure Upon Labor Market of Growing Army of Unemployed.

A great many workers seem to have other. There is another rule or fact for inherent in the very nature of capitalist production which has to do with our hours and wages, and that is this: Labor as a commodity is bought and sold, and the rule governing all business transactions forces the buyer to insist on getting all he pays for, consequently when labor power is bought the buyer insists on getting as near as possible all the power the worker possesses. No matter how we organize, the unemployed army, which is ever increasing with the improvements in methods of production, will keep forcing us down to the standard naturally set by the nature of capitalist production and the wage system.

There is another reason why we cannot, under the capitalist system, lower the working time below the productive powers of the worker; that is, the race struggle. Up to the present time the struggle has been between different sections of the Aryan race. Now the struggle has shifted. Today the Mongolian race is fast coming into position; in fact, the struggle is now on, to challenge our supremacy. This struggle is for the worlds markets, and with the markets goes the civilization and independent powers of the vanquished. If the Mongolian wins in this struggle, he will impose his standards, his civilization and his racial characteristics on the rest of mankind, just as the Caucasian has done in the past. With the Mongolian enormous army of workers, used to a low standard of living, when their enormous power is applied to modern machinery and methods of production, it will simply mean, if we maintain our supremacy against such odds we workers will be forced down to conditions little better, if not as bad, as our Mongolian brother. A dark picture of the future, isn't it? If we workers allow the capitalist system to continue much longer it is a picture that will surely come true. Small hope to bring about a revolution by shortening the hours a little more and more till we receive the full fruition of our toil. For us to try would only result in the continuation of our own miserable condition.

But there is a bright and hopeful side to the picture. It has force only so long as the capitalist system lasts. With the end of capitalism, the struggle for a living, the struggle for the worlds markets, the class struggle, and the race struggle will come to an end.—The Three-Hour Day.

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While the wage system has not developed any other kind of property which threatens its overthrow, it has brought into existence a class of individuals, the proletariat, who, while they have no property, threaten the supremacy of the employing class on the ground that the employer is no longer necessary to production and that they, as the creators of all wealth, are the only factor vital to our social economy.

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J. H. McVety, Chairman

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1912

PEACE.

Peace, gentle Peace, once more abideth in Vancouver. The riotous and pluggery element that had for the preceding three Sundays indulged in violence and brutality upon peaceable and unoffending citizens, and by their ruffianly conduct grossly profaned the Lord's Day, were conspicuous on Sunday last by their meanness, docility and general good behavior.

Through the individual bulk of one of these blue-clad alleged "guardians of the law" would occasionally loom upon the horizon along the public streets as he hulked upon his way in the arduous task of "keeping the peace," not a pedestrian was assaulted, not an unarmed and defenceless citizen, however diminutive of stature, was beaten up. In fact the police of this city on Sunday were as nearly decent and well-behaved as it is possible for that sort of creature to be.

This sudden transformation from the coarse brutality and ruffianism of the preceding weeks to a standard of behavior bordering upon perfection, is certainly enough to take one's breath away. No one seems to know just what means were used to bring it about, but everybody is delighted with the result. Now that the police force has been turned in the way of righteousness, the citizen of Vancouver may go upon the streets with a comparative degree of safety, for he will only have to run the risk of being beaten up by the uniformed type of footpad and sandbagger. As these are less numerous than the uniformed ones and not nearly so vicious, he has at least a chance for his life.

At any rate the change of heart that has taken place in the city administration and its police force, speaks well for the instructions that must have been given during the past week. If such a striking improvement in the moral and ethical manners of a police force can be easily and expeditiously brought about, it is not unreasonable to suppose that but slight effort would need be put forth along similar lines to lift the ordinary footpad, sneak thief, porch climber, and similar petty rogues into the ranks of useful as well as ornamental moral reformers, Sunday school teachers and church deacons.

Now that the police have been called off, peace will abide with us until the force is turned loose to riot again. There is never any riotous conduct at meetings of workmen that is not due to the police directly or through its agents indirectly. There is no organized force in human society that is, in any manner, a menace to peace and good order, except the armed force—police and military—of the ruling class. Whenever that armed force is in evidence, brutality, violence, riot and bloodshed are as certain as the tides. If these be not openly indulged in without excuse the very presence of such a force can easily be made to afford an excuse by the exercise of such brutality as will compel resentment or such devilish cunning as may lead the hot-headed and thoughtless to commit some overt act. Never yet was there a police or military that was to justify its existence and indulge its appetite for brutality and blood.

Several thousand people gathered at Powell street grounds last Sunday and listened to the various speakers. A number of meetings were going on at the same time in various parts of the square. The best of order and good feeling prevailed. There were no police on hand, or if there were any there they behaved themselves in a manner truly commendable. Now the excitement of the past few weeks will subside and the citizen of Vancouver will once more resolve himself into a reasoning being instead of one largely dominated by his passions as during the past weeks.

In the interest of common decency it is to be hoped that peace may long abide with us, if we are to boast of a civilization worthy to be termed decent, the sooner the club, the bayonet,

(the policeman, and the soldier are relegated to the past, the better. With these still in evidence peace is an uncertain quantity. Just now it looks as though peace would prevail in Vancouver, at least for a couple of months or so. There is to be a provincial election within that time. See the point?

SAVING.

"The working man would not be so poor, if he would only save his wages." This and similar phrases we often hear; to show the fallacy of such this article is written:

Now this can best be shown by dividing it under three headings, viz: The Impossibility of Saving; The Possibility of Saving; The Effects of Saving.

The impossibility of Saving is quite apparent to the majority of workers, for the fact that he receives only of less than enough to supply his body needs and to be able to afford to marry. In some of the large, industrial centres, the corporation for whom he works, controls every thing. Take for example "the Model City" of Gary, where the Steel Trust owns everything. The cottages and shacks in which the ten-thousand workers and their families dwell, the streets, the stores, where you pay 25 to 35 per cent. more than in Chicago; where wages range from 20 cents an hour, for skilled laborers and 30 per cent. less than the union scale in Chicago for skilled mechanics, the impossibility of saving is quite apparent here and this is just one illustration how conditions are and are going to be throughout the industrial world.

The Possibility of Saving is today very remote and is getting even more so every year, this includes especially, such places as Western Canada. What are the possibilities of saving? (where the worker gets a small percentage over and above the cost of existence), has he not a right to a few of the luxuries in life, if it is only the picture shows and a day out once or twice a year to see the local agricultural and industrial shows. The only means of saving (?) the capitalist gives the worker, is by fraternal societies, government insurance and savings banks; the most of these are best left alone.

The effect of saving is the most important part of this article, for I want to show the reader that if every man who has a dollar or so to spare, was to put it in his stocking instead of spending it, the world would very soon be in chaos. For illustration, say everybody quit smoking, what would be the result to the tobacco workers, pipe-makers and all those connected with this large industry? They would have to hunt another job; the natural outcome would be that the ranks of the unemployed would be increased and make more competitors in the labor market. The same can be shown in the theatre, if the workers all quit going to see the picture shows, plays, etc., it would mean another half-million or so, job-hunters. Another point of the effects of saving is well shown by this true story. A harness maker, in a small village, who went with others to the local city fair very frugal in his habits; he goes to the store buys a new pair of overalls and jacket, while his mates go in decent clothes. Now, this man in an argument, was trying to show what he saved, the difference perhaps was \$20.00 until a Socialist, showed him that, as an individual his argument was good, but from a class view point, "he was cutting his own throat." Why, the fact that the \$20 saved, was putting the tailor out of a job, the tailor then might turn harness maker, and put another competitor for the harness maker's job. Another view-point I used against the saver. A shoe manufacturer employing fifty men at union wages, these men each save \$200 a year and put it in the savings bank. Now, what does our petty capitalist do? he goes to the bank, borrows the \$10,000 (that has been deposited by his men), buys and installs some up-to-date machinery, that will do the work these men have been doing; with the result that the majority of them are out of a job, those still work as machine tenders, at the bare cost of existence wages, in place of skilled workers earning union wages. Frugality in this case is "Killing the goose, etc." To sum up, wealth is not made by saving, but by spending. To get wealthy, the capitalist spends in buying labor-power, but receives far more than he gives.

A word to those who read this article. If you have a dollar or so to spare, better spend it on Socialist papers and literature, instead of supporting capitalist sheets, for you have the consolation of knowing that the printers, etc., generally get union wages, but more than that it will help bring the time when the workers will get "the full product of their labor" instead of wages.

J. A. WRIGHT.

He who believes in free-speech must always be prepared to fight for it.

He who "has not more to say his head," had better "keep moving!"

CLARENCE DARROW ON TRIAL.

In the course of his long and successful career Clarence Darrow has defended many indicted men but the experience has led him to face an indictment as an aftermath of the McNamara case in which he was chief counsel for the defense. He took the case with reluctance because the union leaders would have no other lawyer than the one who had devoted his life and fluent pen to the cause of labor, but it has involved him in the net work of complications through which organized labor is passing. When Darrow came to Los Angeles and organized his forces for the conflict and realized how little foundation he had on which to defend his clients, his foresight may have traveled over the world and enabled him to anticipate and prepare them as well as possible for the fate awaiting them, which he could only hope to make as light as possible for them and the unions trusting in their innocence.

Shrewd lawyer and judge of human nature as Darrow is, he was obliged to trust his office force with details of the defense and all proved to be sleuths from the district attorney's office instructed to watch for crookedness and report. If crookedness was practiced in Darrow's office it was undetermined with deeper, craftier plots on which to make a case of intimidation of witnesses and bribery of jurors. Who shall prosecute the crookedness of the prosecutor in the interests of law and justice?

The Superior Court room was crowded on February first, to witness the unusual spectacle of a great criminal lawyer, of national note, whose shoulders were bent by the hard study of years over important cases, standing beside his counsel, facing a young deputy attorney, eager to make a reputation for himself at the expense of the brainy man before him. He had hunted down all the evidence that could be secured through betrayals of Darrow's employees and looked oxalant in his physical insignificance as he stood before the court, the center of the stage charging and intimidating two counts. It will be a stern fight for reputation, the young deputy attorney ambitious to make one for himself in destroying that of a great labor attorney, who is determined to make the fight of his life, assisted by counsel Carl Rogers and Cyrus McNutt who already stand high above the smaller prosecutor like a strong oak the storms were beating against, as if his long fight for the labor cause had developed his strength for such a time as this. He will make a strong defense for himself and desires a speedy trial, which will begin here as soon as the crowded docket will permit. If the county prosecutor fails to secure a jury verdict it is rumored that the government will take a hand when the Indianapolis investigation is finished, the interest swings between that city and Los Angeles and enough criminal trials are on the docket to keep prosecutors in good exercise for a year or so. The trials of the dynamite tools while very serious for them, will be of lesser interest to that of the lawyer who is too strong in character and achievement to be destroyed in the height of his career by ambitious younger men. It was known to Judge Bordwell and both sides that the McNamara would plead guilty the day before the bribes were arrested and the charges sprung, so the defense will maintain they had nothing to gain by resorting to bribery as he had already given up their case. Judge Bordwell will be summoned by the defense to testify to these facts. The facts remain that Darrow's office was honey-combed with detectives who were his trusted employees while taking pay from the state for the information they could give of the defense's plans.

Los Angeles has recently annexed twenty square miles of territory which makes the city limits extend and cover 121 square miles. Some tourists from Vancouver Island have been deeply interested in the rapid way this city is doing things. They are studying our ways of meeting civic problems, building operations, harbor improvement, social life and viewing the scenery until they feel that so much newness and progress will give them mental dyspepsia when condensed into the doses of it they have been taking. We in turn go to the Dominion to learn new things. The labor problems of the North may not be so intense nor fermenting as those of the South while in as great need of satisfactory solution. The upheaval in the south has been caused by high explosive.

M. E. C.

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES.

(To Locals.)

Charter (with necessary supplies to start Local) \$5.00

Membership Cards, each . . . . . .01

Dues Stamps, each . . . . . .01

Platform and application blank per 100 . . . . . .25

Idiot in Finnish, per 100 . . . . . .50

Idiot in Ukrainian, per 100 . . . . . .50

Constitutions, each . . . . . .20

Idiot, Finnish, per dozen . . . . . .50

THE NEED OF THE HOUR.

By Clyde J. Wright.

No system can succeed in the hands of its enemies. It amounts to nothing if a friend of the present system advocates radical measures.

No system can succeed in the hands of its friends unless its friends understand the system in all its details. Socialism is a philosophy. Like all untried systems it is first a theory. To make that theory a fact is like building to the plans of an architect. In this revolution we are now in need of both builders and architects. It is possible to have an organization that begins and ends within itself. The Socialist party conventions and internal factional child's quarrels at times made some of us think that we needed two organizations, the one for the national "fuses," constitutional amendments, and "leaders" kindergarten, and another organization to fight capitalism and make our theories a legislative reality.

There grew up a rank and file that were suspicious. This suspicion meant experimenting; and experimenting, even if it was expensive, was educational. It is bringing forth for the first time the possibilities of a democracy.

The suspiciousness at first was only distrust. That suspicion and distrust as often caused the rank and file to hater with good work as with bad work. But its evolution is the hope of the world if it continues to make progress.

The rank and file is commencing to learn by its expensive blunders and to gauge its distrust to the point that will safeguard without damage to effective legislative construction.

The past dreamers and enthusiasts are just commencing to catch the meaning of legislation, political action and organization. They commence to see the other half of Socialism. The evolution of our party will bring order out of chaos as these busy brains absorb the ideas of government construction.

Socialism never did let the people know how necessary it was to have organized management both before election and after. Capitalism never did let the people know how much campaign money was actually needed and how much of it was unnecessary. The common people never were taught how much it costs to run a press without corruption money. All this had to be learned and the Socialists had to learn it in their own way.

Socialism can only succeed in the hands of its friends. Its friends are the rank and file of the common herd. And there its progress must wait until the rank and file qualifies, organizes and plans its battles and pays its bills. Socialism will die anywhere else. It could die in the hands of its friends and will if its friends don't apply themselves to the real problems of organized political action, but everything indicates that the rank and file are upon the threshold of an awakening.

THE WHITE SLAVE.

Throughout the history of civilization women have sold their bodies for gold. It is only in recent times, however, that women has been looked upon as a commodity through which fortunes may be made by a third party—the actual owner of her as one owns a machine. A man buys a machine to weave cotton into cloth, sets it up in his factory, runs it as many hours a day as he sees fit, and collects for himself the results of its work. The machine is a dumb and helpless partner in the process. Just so the modern dealer in the flesh and blood of woman-kind buys, steals or betrays into his power and place of business a number of girls and women, work them as many hours a day as he sees fit, and collects the proceeds of their labor for himself. The girls and women are dumb and helpless accessories to the process.

This is white slavery. The owner of the white slave does not own her—does not steal, buy or entrap her—for the satisfaction of his own lust. He does all this as a money proposition. It is his business, his way of making a living, of getting rich quick, to get rich at this business requires the same mad haste, the same speeding up, the same working of the wire to the last notch, that any other business requires.

It is frequently said that if the facts of the white slave traffic could be widely known, the American people would abolish this treacherous sore in our social body. Unlike most confident reformers, we believe the white slave traffic is imbedded in the profit system, and cannot be abolished, nor very greatly reduced, until poverty, in which its roots find deepest soil, is abolished. The fear of poverty, combined with a lax moral nature (freely caused by the struggle against disheartening odds for a livelihood) drives every man and woman engaged in the business to ever harsher exploitation of their victims.—Progressive Woman.

Socialist Party Directory

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Socialist Party of Canada, 2219 Government St., Room over Co-operators' store, Vancouver, B. C.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE. Socialist Party of Canada, 2219 Government St., Room over Co-operators' store, Vancouver, B. C.

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Socialist Party of Canada, 2219 Government St., Room over Co-operators' store, Vancouver, B. C.

MANTONA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Socialist Party of Canada, 2219 Government St., Room over Co-operators' store, Vancouver, B. C.

SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Socialist Party of Canada, 2219 Government St., Room over Co-operators' store, Vancouver, B. C.

MARITIME PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Socialist Party of Canada, 2219 Government St., Room over Co-operators' store, Vancouver, B. C.

LOCAL GAGNEY, ALTA., NO. 4, S. P. of C. Business meeting every Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock at the headquarters, 429 Eighth Avenue, Edmonton, between Third and Fourth streets.

LOCAL REGINA, NO. 6, S. P. of C. Business meeting every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock at the headquarters, 429 Eighth Avenue, Regina, between Third and Fourth streets.

LOCAL SASKATCHEWAN, NO. 7, S. P. of C. Business meeting every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock at the headquarters, 429 Eighth Avenue, Saskatoon, between Third and Fourth streets.

LOCAL WINDSOR, NO. 8, S. P. of C. Business meeting every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock at the headquarters, 429 Eighth Avenue, Windsor, between Third and Fourth streets.

LOCAL CALGARY, ALTA., NO. 4, S. P. of C. Business meeting every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock at the headquarters, 429 Eighth Avenue, Calgary, between Third and Fourth streets.

LOCAL EDMONTON, ALTA., NO. 1, S. P. of C. Business meeting every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock at the headquarters, 429 Eighth Avenue, Edmonton, between Third and Fourth streets.

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CORRESPONDENCE

ALBERTA EXECUTIVE REPORT.

The regular meeting of the Provincial Executive Committee was attended by Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and Messrs. Muehkat, Tipping and the secretary.

Correspondence was read and dealt with from the locals in Edmonton, Green Valley, Erskine, Bellevue, and from Organizer Dudden.

Receipts: Edmonton Local, doc stamps... \$ 5.00 Calgary local, doc stamps... 5.00 Erskine local, doc stamps... 4.70 Green Valley local, doc stamp 15.00

Total... \$29.70

Expenses: Dominion Executive committee, doc stamps... \$15.00 F. Danby, postage... 1.00

Total... \$16.00

Feb. 13. FRANK DANBY.

ST. CATHARINES LOCAL.

Dear Comrade: The following are the officials of the above local:

Organizer—A. H. Grewar, 156 Lake street.

Secretary—D. Thomson, 8 Summer street.

Recording Secretary—A. H. Grewar (pro tem).

Treasurer—J. Milne, 31 Water St. street.

Literary Secretary—J. Andrews, 31 Water street.

Propaganda Committee—J. Keen, J. Cowley, and F. Woodward, all of St. Catharines.

We held a propaganda meeting here on the 28th of January, when Comrade Green of Toronto delivered two lectures, choosing as his subject

THE SOCIAL UNREST.

The weather being a bit inclement, may account for our audiences being small, but faith in the constitution, and favored with better weather, we hope to do good work in the district soon.

Headquarters at 31 Water Street. Everybody welcome.

DAVID THOMSON, Sec.

REVELSTOCK OFFICERS.

The following officers for 1912 were elected:

H. N. Courlor, organizer.

B. F. Gayman, secretary.

John Lyon, recording secretary.

G. W. Bell, treasurer.

T. S. Cassidy, literature agent.

B. F. GAYMAN, Secretary.

MINUTES OF LOCAL FENNEL HALL

Sask. Feb. 4, 1912.

Present: (Chair),—Woloszyn, Habentich, Crow, Nyhault, Gale.

Election of Officers.

Treas.—Gale (re-elected).

Rec. Sec.—J. Crow.

Librarian—Woloszyn (re-elected).

Organizer—J. Nyhault.

Secretary reported 13 weeks bound delivery of Clarions for free distribution in neighborhood. Bill was ordered to be paid on motion of J. Crow, seconded by J. Nyhault.

Correspondence dealt with. Ballot on proceedings of H. C. Convention was taken and Secretary instructed to send result to Vancouver. Financial report for half year 1911 showing \$475 cash in hand on Dec. 31, was laid over till next meeting owing to chairman being unable to stay longer.

Dance to be held in Fennell Hall on 9th. Meeting adjourned.

CHAS. F. GALE, Sec'y.

COMRADE MCKAY.

On January 12th, the Socialist movement sustained a loss in the death of Comrade John J. McKay of New Glasgow, N. S.

Comrade McKay had been a Socialist for many years and was always found prepared to shoulder his full share of the work and financial burdens of the movement.

During the civil war he like many other young men enlisted in the Federal army believing that slavery was really to be abolished.

Many years later he began to perceive that he had merely been aiding his masters in ridding themselves of a cumbersome and unprofitable form of slavery and that the substance in its new form, wage labor, with its train of misery still remained. Our Comrade became a Socialist. In July of 1910 the writer visited New Glasgow and spent a couple of days with him. Even though a man of nearly seventy years of age he was busy reading and studying Gustavus Myers "History of the Great American Portunes."

And he discussed the issues of the day plainly and intelligently.

Our Comrade was not in entire agreement with many of us. He had never grasped Materialism and clung to the philosophy of the Nazarene. Nevertheless his work was good and we have no doubt his name will be used on the streets.

remembered by the many to whom he has shown the light of Socialism. And when the history of the present struggle is written and read by our posterity we have every reason to believe that the work of such stalwart pioneers as Comrade McKay will not soon be forgotten. It is in order that our Comrade may secure full justice from the historians of the future that this slight tribute is written.

Comrade McKay is survived by his wife, also a Socialist. We extend to her our deepest sympathy in this hour of bereavement.

ROSCOE A. FILLMORE.

HOW THEY COME

The Comrades named below are doing their best to make the Clarion pay for itself. Now it's up to all of you to get a hustle on. Don't let the plugs put them off any longer. Get a sub. from them, even if it's their last quarter.

- A. J. Osterberg, New Westminster, B. C. 15
L. R. McInnis, Sandon, B. C. 8
A. Stewart, Moose Jaw, Sask. 5
W. A. Blake, Victoria, B. C. 4
E. Simpson, Victoria, B. C. 3
W. Milton, Fernie, B. C. 3
Wm. McQuoid, Edmonton, Alta. 3
C. M. O'Brien, Edmonton, Alta. 3
F. Tipping, Calgary, Alta. 3
W. G. McClusky, Calgary, Alta. 2
F. Teeple, Brandon 2
J. Sidaway, City 2
T. W. Adshard, Toronto 2
J. C. Brightwell, City 2

Singles.

- E. Kuhn, Brandon, Man. 1
T. Mellen, Brandon, E. Pulcher, Brandon, D. McMillan, South Hill, Sask.; W. K. Bryce, Moose Jaw; Nels Sorlie, Milton, Sask.; T. J. Wallidor, Glenanna, B. C.; V. H. Anderson, Dewberry, Alta.; F. E. Creor, Calgary, Alta.; Leeds, City; H. Nelson, City; B. Manning, City; H. Davidson, Brantford, Ont.; J. Ralls, New Westminster; W. S. Phillips, Fernie; David Paton, Fernie; J. Melver, Rossland, B. C.; F. Blake, Edmonton; Lee Wilson, Barons, Alta.; W. H. Devone, Raven, Alta.; A. McNeill, Erskine, Alta.; I. Churgin, Calgary; A. Bonar, Moose Jaw; W. Steven, Victoria, B. C.

Fernie keeps climbing, New Westminster comes on, Winnipeg drops back to her old place, Edmonton returns to fourth place. This is how they stand:

- Vancouver, B. C. 1
Victoria, B. C. 2
Brandon, Man. 3
Edmonton, Alta. 4
Calgary, Alta. 5
Winnipeg, Man. 6
Toronto, Ont. 7
Fernie, B. C. 8
Moose Jaw, Sask. 9
Montreal, Que. 10
New Westminster, B. C. 11
Nelson, B. C. 12
Ottawa, Ont. 13
St. Fort George, B. C. 14
Silverton, B. C. 15
N. Brantford, Sask. 16
Chamberland, B. C. 17
Regina, Sask. 18
Brantford, Ont. 19
Ladysmith, B. C. 20

HERE AND THERE.

(By Watts.)

Dick McBride is not only Premier of H. C. but also Mayor of Vancouver.

The Province says, there was no obscene language on Powell street grounds Sunday, so the police were not forced to stop the meetings. This sounds like an election stunt to me.

Business is looking up in England since Lord Haldane's visit to Berlin. Let us pray.

The Good Samaritan Society is the name of a new society formed to aid the unemployed in Vancouver. One was also formed last week and is called the Chain Gang.

A Professor of Sociology has found ten separate species and many varieties of lies. He would do well to interview Vancouver's Mayor and several of our Editors. He would be sure to discover not only the ten species, but ten more besides.

The likelihood of a general Miners' strike in England is giving our tin pot monarch King George great anxiety but he hopes that conditions will soon be adjusted so that the miners' strike in England is giving our tinorally could be pacified. Will somebody give George a lemon and tell him to make the best of the few short months he has to resign?

The B. C. Elections will soon be on, what is the matter with all B. C. locals getting a bundle of Clarions?

The scene of the Free speech fight has been shifted from Powell street grounds to the side street. On Monday the clubbing and jailing continue on the streets.

The Scot Highlanders and the Orangemen were held in readiness for a big battle on Powell street grounds Sunday, but McBride pulled the strings and there was nothing for these longed-for murderers and crazy fanatics to do.

GETTING READY FOR BUSINESS.

Editor Clarion: We have started a campaign against capitalism and we need all the assistance we can get. Comrade Budden was here for four days holding (7) seven meetings which were a great success. "All" taken well with the farmers. He knows their position well, having been through the same experiences. We have decided to put a candidate in the field, as some of the reformers are working hard to run a farmers' candidate, instead of a liberal, so that it is imperative on us to show up the game. We are calling of a convention as soon as possible. Also we have started a campaign fund, so if any comrade has any of the stuff some folks are so afraid we are going to destroy send it this way to Comrade Anderson, Dewberry, Alta. We stand a good chance of electing a man here as the sentiment is strong against the present system. All we need is some speakers to educate people to working class economics.

We also had C. M. O'Brien here for two meetings which were very successful. Now Comrades we need some help as we have a large constituency and very few speakers so if any one can come we can find him hay and a few oats. Also a rig to get to the meetings. Some farmers said to a comrade the other day "that we had our nerve to butt in with a candidate when they had every thing fixed so that they were sure to elect their man." They are deathly scared and we are longing to leap into on insult, (if that is what they call it) if we can defeat the farmers candidate.

Yours in the scrap, C. W. SPRINGFORD, Organizer Local, Dewberry.

AN ADVOCATE OF MURDER.

Die Post, the official organ of the war party in Germany, had the following editorial recently:

"Only the diversion of a great war can arouse the best powers of the nation and subjugate the inferior qualities which find expression in the recent Socialist election victories. Germans have never thriven while enjoying an eventless peace. The German nation never yet has refused loyally to follow kings and emperors, especially along paths that lead to heights, even though 4,000,000 misguided delusions voted for a party which would dethrone the kaiser and destroy the monarchy. The kernel of the nation remains true to the sovereign. Let him be in no doubt on that score. Let him know that the shadows will disappear as surely as a fog before the sun the moment he calls upon his people for great political deeds. That this may happen is our wish, on the kaiser's birthday."

The above editorial sentiments could only have been spawned in the hellish brain of a degenerate lickspittle who wears knee-pads to worship royalty.

To perpetuate the reign of a royal parasite he would plunge a nation in war, in order that in the tragedies enacted on fields of blood and carnage, the German people might lose sight of the goal of economic liberty.

It is more important to the scribbling fiend in human shape that a king should hold his crown and throne than that millions of people should remain at peace with the nations of the world. The Kaiser must remain upon his royal pedestal, even though battlefields shall be strewn with the dead and even though the nations of the earth shall hear the wails of widows and moans of orphans. Rivers of blood are preferable to the dethronement of a kingly parasite and the boom of cannons are welcomed by a royal-worshipping editor, rather than peace, if peace shall mean the relegation of the regal-robbed toner whose reign is jeopardized by the intelligence of a people who are panting for industrial freedom.

The editor of Die Post will not be able to warm the fighting blood of the German empire. Four million 'misguided citizens' with 110 representatives in the Reichstag, will be more powerful than all the journalists of Germany who bend the knee to the Kaiser.

The brain and bone of every nation are realizing the cause of war and the class who stood in the fire and flame of war in the past will refuse to be sacrificed, in order that regal depositions shall live.—Miner's Magazine.

FERRER DECLARED INNOCENT.

Confiscated Property to be Restored to His Heirs.

Mr. William Archer writes: "I have not seen any mention in the English Press of a noteworthy fact which has just come to my knowledge—namely, that the Supreme (Civil) Court of Madrid has practically reversed the judgment of the Barcelona Council of War, and declared the innocence of Francisco Ferrer, of clemency indicated an uneasy plotters who were prosecuted acted under his orders; (3) that in none of the 2,000 prosecutions arising out of the riots was any trace discovered of Ferrer's participation or inspiration. The Court therefore orders the restitution to his heirs of his confiscated property. This news is communicated to a Belgian paper by one of Ferrer's excoutors, and there seems to be no reason to doubt its authenticity. It confirms what some of us had already suspected, that the King of Spain's recent act of clemency indicated an uneasy conscience with regard to Ferrer.

Repentance has come too late to the Spanish Government after the Judicial murder of Senor Ferrer. The Supreme Court has now found that the victim was innocent of any complicity in the revolutionary disturbance, for which he was shot in cold blood after the outbreak had been suppressed, and has ordered his confiscated property to be restored to his heirs. But that does not alter the fact that Ferrer is a martyr, and that his blood cries aloud to the people for vengeance. That is the worst of shooting a man first and trying him afterwards.—Reynolds' Newspaper, Jan. 1912.

PULPIT ECONOMICS.

Brooklyn, New York, January, 1912

Editor Clarion: Cutting as under is pretty good for the Republican Capitalist New York Times, that caters to such minded to whom it sells its papers, and thus lures by the profits, but even such an editor could not let the bad economics as expounded by the Bishop pass without a challenge. I am glad to see that there is at least one editor on the Capitalist Press of New York, who knows where the worker stands in the present capitalist or wage system.

Let us hope that some day he will be down and out and help us with his knowledge, which he now hides under a bushel.—McJ. Smith.

New York, Jan. 12.—The Right Rev. F. S. Spalding, Episcopal Bishop of Utah, at the Conference at the Church of the Holy Trinity on the Heights, Brooklyn, said:

Capital claims as its fundamental right 10 per cent. profit on the business it does. I dispute this. The right to life and happiness and safe guarantee to every worker comes first; then the profit. Which shall it be, flesh and blood, or 10 per cent. Capital may "claim" 10 per cent. but nobody guarantees it, and it seeks to get it at its own risk. Wages are

guaranteed, and are paid either out of capital or out of profits in advance of the 10 per cent. claim. The Bishop ought to be able to see that if wages are paid out of capital they cannot be paid very long, since the capital would soon be exhausted. In order that there may be stability in wage payments there must be profits, or capital will not work, and there is no way of making it work. Thus profits are the guarantee of the worker, and are the best if not the only guarantee possible. "Flesh and blood or 10 per cent." is a pons asinorum of both morals and economics. There cannot be wages without profits, nor profits without wages. Neither is possible permanently without the other. They exist as a combination, not an alternative. Neither morals nor economics requires either capital or labor to work without reward. Addresses like the Bishop's are no help to a troubled situation, which will be settled by sense, not by sentiment, however admirable the sentiment may be as sentiment. But there is always danger that sentiment may be nonsense.—New York Times.

WORK WOMEN LIKE BEASTS IN IRON PLANT.

Joston, Mass., Feb. 15.—Inhuman conditions prevail in the foundries and iron manufacturing plants of Massachusetts, according to expert testimony offered to the legislative committee considering the impending bill which prohibits women working in such places. Seven hundred women, ranging in age from girlhood to late womanhood, it is charged, work side by side with men in temperatures above 100 degrees, amid stifling smoke and poisonous gases.

When the hearing was resumed today it was agreed by the committee that every phase of the iron situation, so far as it affected women, should be probed, and it was expected favorable action would be recommended on the pending bill.

"I have seen women, scantily and improperly clad," said John H. O'Leary, International vice president of the miners' union, which is behind the bill, "hauling heavy wagons by chains, bent rows of men, to the ovens. The heat was stifling, and it was almost impossible to breathe because of the gases that filled the room. Because of this the women had their arms bare to the shoulders, and in order to get their bodies of refreshing air to their bodies their scanty garments were thrown back at the throat, so that their persons were exposed to

Know Why Socialism is Coming

Don't be a socialist unless you know why you are one. Know why Socialism is coming. Trace the economic development of civilization, through from slavery to the present and know why socialism is inevitable.

Victor L. Berger says:

"A few socialist phrases is not sufficient to make a scientific socialism. In order to know WHY SOCIALISM IS COMING, a socialist should have an idea of evolution, he must know history, he must know something of economic development.

We as socialists are vitally interested in the development of civilization. History for us is not a collection of shallow village tales, the story of coronations, weddings and burials of kings. For us the true story of history is the story of progress of mankind by gradual steps from brutal slavery to enlightenment, culture and humanity.

The manner in which one system has grown out of another, feudalism out of slavery and capitalism out of feudalism is most suggestive of the manner by which the Socialist Republic will gradually develop out of the present system.

To show how the Socialist Republic will gradually develop out of the present system, the Library of Original Sources has been published. It is a treasure mine.

The Library of Original Sources

(In the original documents—translated)

clears away the bigotry and superstition that has accumulated around religion, law, government, education, etc.—brings to light the naked truth and shows why socialism is coming. This wonderful library gives the authoritative sources of knowledge in all fields of thought—socialism philosophy, science, education, etc. The rock-bottom facts which for centuries capitalist writers have deliberately kept from the people.

Thousands of the Comrades in all parts of the United States and Canada have secured this library on our co-operative plan, and without a single exception are enthusiastic over it. Letters like these come pouring in with every mail:

John Sparrow: "Most helpful. Ought to be in every library."

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the gaze of the men workers, especially when they stooped to lift the chains or to empty or fill the wagons.

Minister Approves Conditions. "I have also seen women compelled to lift arm handle cores and molds which were so heavy they would tax the strength of the average man. There are seven hundred women employed in the Massachusetts foundries at tasks that utterly ruin their strength."

John E. Augur, representing various organizations which are arrayed behind the measure, told the committee a similar story.

Rev. O. H. Gifford, who appeared in behalf of the foundrymen, contradicted the other witnesses and said he had carefully investigated the allegation that women were overworked and appeared improperly clad in the state foundries. This was absolutely untrue, he said.

"As to these working women being improperly clad," he concluded, "I must say that a glimpse into the hall room of the social elite would show women more improperly clad than would be found in any foundry in Massachusetts."

Even those who cannot at once fully grasp the Socialist position and philosophy are beginning to see the wisdom of lining up with the Socialist Party.

"They feel that somehow or other a protest against today's intolerable conditions must be made and as why the old parties are bound to policies of perpetuating the present system and order of things, there is no other

way left to the voter but to turn to the Socialist Party, to the party of the working class, to the party of the present and of the future. For just as surely as the Socialist party is making itself a factor today, just as surely does the FUTURE BELONG TO IT and the workers.

THE SERVANT GIRL PROBLEM.

's easy to swing in a hammock, And watch the clouds roll by, And teach the cook from a cookery book

How to make rose-leaf tea, 'Tis easy to sit in the parlour, And talk to a howling swell, While the girl below with her hands in dough,

Must answer the busy bell, 'Tis easy to don a shopping gown, And twist your hair in a curl, While to scour and scrub, and boil and rub,

Is the fate of the hired girl, While she sweeps and cleans, and dusts the screens, And washes the window with care, 'Tis easy to turn in your scornful way and gaze with your haughty stare, 'Tis easy to walk in the moonlight night,

And listen to praises sweet, While the servant wishes mountaineer of dishes,

And weeps for her tired feet, 'Tis easy to tell if you only would, But you say you cannot see, Why Mary should leave such a lovely home,

To work in a factory. —Y. S. K. In Life.

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# PARKER WILLIAMS AND THE TIN POT NAVY

The resolution of Mr. BREWSTER on the Ottawa Government to establish a fleet unit and naval base on the Pacific Coast was discussed again today, the PREMIER resuming the debate. As Mr. BREWSTER is the only Liberal in the Legislature, it was necessary to have the resolution seconded to get it before the House, the member for Newcastle seconded him out by seconding it. This was gravely alluded to by the PREMIER in his opening remarks as a sign of a change of heart upon which he (PARKER WILLIAMS) could be congratulated. The great concern he was now giving to the naval defence of the Pacific Coast was cause for congratulation to the House and his constituency on his change of heart and policy.

The rest of the PREMIER'S speech was political, and he concluded by making an amendment to the resolution endorsing the policy of the Borden ministry in connection with the navy question.

PARKER WILLIAMS (Newcastle) said that an explanation was possibly due as to his attitude on the question before the House. As to the PREMIER'S remarks concerning himself, he was glad to say that the congratulations as to his change of heart were not deserved, and he would take the opportunity of placing himself in a correct position. Mr. BREWSTER represented one party on the floor of the House, and he (the speaker) another. When the present rules of the House were adopted the Government party and the Opposition formed about 75 per cent, and 25 per cent, respectively, of the membership. When the Opposition was in that position the House had adopted the rule that necessitated that a motion should be moved and seconded before it could come before the House. It had to be written in ink and signed by both. With the existing state of the Liberal opposition in the House unless he (the speaker) seconded the former's resolution it could not be discussed. Until the return of the member for Nanaimo he (the speaker) had been in the same position. Under those circumstances he had explained to the member for Alberni that he was willing to second any motion he required, even if it was to exclude the Socialist Party from the floor of the House. He was particularly anxious that the member for Alberni should have every opportunity to bring any matter he wished before the House.

In view of the position in the House it would be a gracious act on the part of the PREMIER to suspend the rules in that respect altogether. It was a small favor to ask, and the people would appreciate it if granted. Neither the member for Alberni nor the speaker should have been under any obligation to seek assistance from the other. Since the return of the member for Nanaimo he (the speaker) was no longer in that position, but matters were not improved from the standpoint of the member for Alberni.

As far as the naval question was concerned, he (the member for Newcastle) had no sympathy with anything of that nature. The PREMIER'S remarks as to his change of heart had been somewhat amusing to the House and himself and he would not complain.

While he never packed the flag around with him he was not insensible to the fact that British institutions compared favorably with any others on earth, and as long as present conditions existed he was willing to see the naval and military strength of Great Britain maintained. But in Europe, that country and Germany were rushing to financial bankruptcy in the race for naval and military equipment. No statesman in the House of Commons could pretend to see farther ahead than today, and no pretence was made that the ruinous race was to have any termination. The only finality he could see to it was that of one or other of those two nations going broke in the effort to surpass the other in war equipment. He believed that if the wealth wasted in that mad race was allowed to remain in the hands of those who produced it, poverty would be unknown. The patriotic agitation and Canadian nationalism had been overdone. It was a curious thing that Mr. BIRLING, who was chiefly instrumental in turning the white man out of the fishing industry on the Fraser River and supplanting them with Japanese should be so prominent in the agitation for a Canadian navy. His patriotic shouting was discredited in view of that fact.

After pointing out that while the Liberal government was at Ottawa the Conservatives had made it a political matter, and now that they had won the elections, protested that the question should be taken out of politics. The speaker took up the argument that the crushing loads of armaments borne by the leading nations were necessary for the maintenance of peace, and declared that the in-

creasing strength of the International Socialist movement was the greatest and most effective force for peace existing today. The only reason that blood was not shed over the separation of Sweden and Norway was admitted to be due to the fact that the Socialist workmen of both countries refused to fight each other. When the workers refused to go to war, war would cease; other classes got sick at the smell of powder. During the recent trouble of France and Germany over Morocco, both governments appealed to the International Socialist Bureau at Brussels to use its influence for peace, and that had more effect than all the navies of Europe. The Social Democratic Party of Germany had come out of the recent elections with 110 members elected; only one-third of the Reichstag, but representing over 60 per cent, of the electors, who had thus signified their allegiance to the views of the Socialist movement. The only remark made by the leading Socialists of Germany was that the result of the elections was a guarantee of international peace. In view of these facts the only policy for the Socialists of British Columbia was to take the same position as those in Germany and all over the world, and vote in favor of international peace.

MEPHILLIPS (Islands) followed. His opening remarks were along the line of party politics in answering BREWSTER, but he warmed up in dealing with the Socialist position until his enthusiasm for the "Hemphire" culminated in a series of patriotic shrieks. Cooling down again, he seriously justified expenditures on armament, because it provided plenty of work for the worker.

If the member for the Islands is not convincing, he is always amusing, when he expatiates on British glory.

**THE FIRST IN THE FIELD.**  
Comrade Grille has been nominated unanimously by Cumberland Local to contest that riding in the forthcoming election. This action is being submitted to the other local in the riding, at Courtenay.

**WHERE DO YOU STAND?**  
The medical crack may treat symptoms, but the physician aims to find and remove the cause of disease. How ridiculous it is then that we should "point with pride" to our charitable institutions, hospitals for the diseased and crippled and insane, etc., when it is a matter of actual fact that our industrial system, and the social system which grows out of it, produce fully three-fourths of all the miserable victims who fill these places to overflowing!

These institutions are, in the main, simply manifestations of our horrible social and industrial diseases. While today we can, with enormous effort, care for but a small part of afflicted humanity, yet our present facilities would be ample to provide for all if the number were confined to the actually unavoidable cases which would arise under a sane system.

It may be true that it is a Christian spirit which provides these institutions, but it is the violation of every Christian principle which supplies most of the victims who fill them, and the countless thousands who suffer and die outside of them.

In the world-wide efforts now being made to cure these foul social and economic diseases, the mere reformer, be he ever so sincere, follows the methods of the quack, and treats only symptoms. But the Socialist, following the scientific method, seeks the CAUSE, and, finding it to be inherent in the capitalist system, advocates the only possible solution to the problem—the elimination of the system itself. And, as this is in direct harmony with the law of evolution, and therefore inevitable, the question which we as individuals must settle with ourselves is, shall we step out as MEN and do our share in this great work, or shall we line up with the quacks?—Zanesville Socialist.

**Poverty.** The poverty of civilized man, which is everywhere co-existent with unbounded wealth and luxury, is always ugly, repellent, and terrible either to see or to experience; but when it assails the cradle it assumes its most hideous form.

Under-fed, or badly-fed, neglected, badly-housed and improperly clad, the child of poverty is terribly handicapped at the very start. It has not an even chance to begin life with. While still in its cradle a yoke is laid upon its after years, and it is doomed either to die in infancy, or, worse still, to live and grow up puny, weak both in body and in mind, inefficient and unfitted for the battle of life.

And it is the consciousness of this, the knowledge that poverty in childhood blights the whole of life, which makes it the most appalling of all the phases of the poverty problem.—John Spargo.

# C. M. O'BRIEN IN THE ALBERTA LEGISLATURE

EDMONTON, Feb. 2.—The grand-motherly care which the government propose exercising over the pool rooms did not at all appeal to the members of the house yesterday. C. M. O'Brien did more talking on this bill than he has all through the session, and his arguments were in some cases so strong and his language so strong, Mr. Bramley-Moore was another opponent of the bill and several other members took a whack at it.

There are some refreshing things about Mr. O'Brien—he talks in the house just like he does on the street. This is exceptional among legislators. A great many of them who talk the language of the street while on the street endeavor to get somewhat precise when they get on their feet in the house, and the result is that their opinions have to be translated from their ordinary thinking language to their parliamentary mode of expression.

**Never Changes.**  
But O'Brien uses the same language all the time. When he is propounding some of his political beliefs on the floor of the house he adopts the same language that he would use in a street corner speech on his political faith. In the house when he gets down to the matter-of-fact things of the world and temporarily forgets "the masses" and "the classes" that the Socialists tell us so much about that we already know ourselves—he uses the common slang expressions that are very clear.

Bramley-Moore, who was also active in his opposition to many of the provisions of the bill, is also something of a law unto himself, but his law is drafted in a much more restricted manner than that surrounding the Socialist. Bramley prides himself on his independence and is something of a Radical. He says lots of things in the house that a lot of us have not the actual nerve to say.

**Preventing Betting.**  
For instance when this pool room bill was in committee of the whole he referred to the regulation which prevents betting of any kind in a pool room. Bramley got up in his little place and said he thought a man playing a game of billiards should have the right to make a bet on his skill. Mitchell said there had been many complaints against gambling in pool rooms.

He suggested that these bets could be made outside the room. Moore said there was nothing to prevent a man making a bet in his home. These regulations were directed against the people who had no billiard or pool tables in their homes and had to go to the public halls.

O'Brien said the chief kick that came from the fathers of boys who played was that the sons "went home and told mother that the old man was gambling." He thought there should be a general expression of the opinion of the house and he would move that the words preventing gambling and betting should be stricken from the clause. The vote showed only O'Brien and Bramley-Moore voting for the amendment.

**The Age Clause.**  
A clause of the act states that no person under the age of seventeen years shall enter any games, nor frequent, enter nor remain in a pool room.

O'Brien objected to the seventeen-year restriction. Bramley-Moore thought the idea of cutting out all the objectionable features such as gambling, swearing and other reprehensible habits made the billiard halls a most desirable place for a young man to go. He demanded a vote on this and moved an amendment that this restriction should be removed, but it was lost.

O'Brien was promptly up on his feet again over the closing of the halls at eleven o'clock. He said it was a bill to prevent men from working between the hours of sunset and sunrise he would support that, and be consistent, but if they were allowed to work why not let them have their amusement also?

The clause reminded Bramley-Moore of the country squire who objected to village dances, because the people could not work as hard after late hours.

**Recreation Necessary.**  
Peter Gunn said the man who came in from the country wanted a little recreation and did not want to go to bed at ten o'clock and the pool rooms were about the only place they could go to.

W. F. Puffer did not see any more reason for closing off a pool game than a curling game.

Calgary had a regulation that pool rooms close at midnight, said Tweedle, and he thought that was late enough. Mr. Gunn moved that the pool rooms close at 11 on Saturday and on other nights at midnight.

Geo. Hoadley asked to have the hour of opening made 7 o'clock, and the mover agreed to the addition and the amendment carried.

The bill reminded O'Brien of the blue laws of Connecticut. Five years from now this bill would look as ridiculous.

**Clubs Exempt.**  
An exemption case was placed in the act which left clubs incorporated by the ordinances and the Y. M. C. A. out of the scope of the bill.

"A lot of ordinary bugs around this town cannot belong to the Edmonton club," said O'Brien, and this looked like class legislation. In British Columbia they would not give the working men clubs because they had a wad on the floors instead of carpets. He strongly objected to clubs having the privilege of playing pool or billiards while others had not.

Then Sifton said for once he agreed to the suggestions of the member for Rocky Mountain.

O'Brien promptly said he did not want the clause eliminated and there was a laugh, and then the amendment to have the clause struck out was carried, only Bramley-Moore, Cote, Stauffer and Tweedle voting against it.

**All Restrictions the Same.**  
So, by the way the act stands now, clubs, Y. M. C. A. and similar places are governed by the same restrictions as other regular pool rooms.

**CHRIST AND SOCIALISM.**  
To the Editor of The Leader.  
Dear Sir:

In Saturday's Morning Leader you report a lecture and discussion of the previous night on "Socialism."

One part of that report I find: "It was also pointed out that Christ could hardly be taken as an upholder of the Socialist View, as the acceptance of a God denoted the acceptance of a Master, and as Socialism recognized no Master, it must therefore recognize no God."

"This point was left delicately alone as being one of the points of Socialism on which none of those present cared to express an idea."

How far this was the mental attitude of the meeting, to the point raised I can only express a personal opinion, but being present, I know it was far from being my own position, and those representing the "Socialist Party of Canada," notwithstanding the fact that it was not further discussed.

The Chairman of the meeting had already extended to us more than the usual time for discussion and we were not at liberty to express our views unless the Chairman, on the failure of the speaker of the evening to reply, had invited us specially to consider the point. Under the conditions obtaining at the time, the question was not very vital to the discussion, and I saw no reason to encroach on the hospitality of the meeting, by asking permission to speak.

The question is not a difficult one, and having been presented to a large public in the manner it has, it takes on a considerable importance, and with your permission I will briefly deal with it. The real question raised is: what position does God occupy in Socialism? The answer is in brief: that which he occupies, say, in the science of Mechanics.

Socialism, appears as a scientific effort to determine the laws operating in the movements, and developments of society. It seeks to appraise the social mechanism as a whole.

It also corresponds, to a social and definite educative effort, of a character in keeping with the more or less accurate grasp of the science obtained. Hence, we have quite a number of phases of Socialism in action, corresponding to different stages of knowledge of the science.

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**W. STOKES.**  
I am, yours sincerely  
Rose Street, Regina, Feb. 4, 1912.

Great as is the uncertainty for all classes under our usual conditions, it is further increased by the crises which are periodically brought on, with the certainty of natural law, the moment production reaches a certain stage. The importance which these crises have assumed during the last decades and the general confusion of thought that prevails concerning them, justifies special attention. The great modern crises which convulse the world's markets arise from over-production, which, in its turn, arises from the planlessness that inevitably characterizes our system of commodity production. Over-production, in the sense of more being produced than is actually needed, may occur under any system. But it could, as a matter of course, cause no injury so long as the producers produce for the satisfaction of their own wants.—Kautsky.

It is now reported that John Mitchell and Peter Collins will be brought to Milwaukee to campaign against the Socialists, in the spring election.

The capitalists of Milwaukee can afford to engage the services of such men as Mitchell and Collins, and their training in the National Civic Federation equips them for rendering service to exploiters. The Katsers who sees "red" in his dreams should make arrangements to have Mitchell and Collins hurl their thunderbolts against Socialism in Germany.—Minor Magazine.

He who wants peace, may yet be called upon to fight for it.

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