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THE AGE LONG STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM OF PRESS

Showing How Liberty Can Be Gained and Held Only By Ceaseless Struggle and Vigilance.

Nothing can be clearer to the student of contemporary history than that the condition of society is one of chaos, and that the modern mind is unutterably befuddled. The order of the past, it is true, is fading from the memory of man, but, unfortunately, so far only undisciplined energy and morbid curiosity seems to have taken its place. Something is sadly needed at the present juncture to act as a restraining agent, an agent to restrain the volcanic impulses of the time, and to direct them, i. e., guide them out of the labyrinth of confusion into the scientific path of progress. That something is not beyond suggestion, however much it may be beyond immediate realization. It is a more powerful revolutionary political and industrial organization, controlling a more potent and virile press, that is the paramount need of the hour. A more powerful and more active S. L. P. This is not written in a spirit of partisanship. No existing organization has attempted, so far, to do what the Socialist Labour Party has persistently endeavored to do—scooped away illusory and artificial freedom of propaganda, disregarded all the eccentricities of thought and all the divergences of practice, and consistently has kept before the race one common goal of reason and effort. The pronounced danger of the time is the comparatively weakened hold we have on consequence. The so-called herophants of progress today are, for the most part, cranks who treat the progressive idea in a manner that can only be described as loose or easy. To them progress means anything from going to an Ibsen drama to cultivating a taste for monkey-nuts. The result is the present uncertainty of aim and weakness of effort, which is mainly responsible for the meagre importance shown toward the significance of the age. Nothing could illustrate this better than the case of the

Syndicalist Prosecution.

An Act of Parliament, milder and rotten with age, is suddenly raked out from the rubbish heap of antiquity, to justify the incarceration of three inoffensive men. The "progressives" send forth a wall about the freedom of the Press being attacked, pass hosts of resolutions condemning the act, and demand the release of the victims. One thing they did not do, they did not attempt to maintain the freedom of the press by deliberately repeating the "offence." They had, like the wily shopkeeper, "something just as good" (or bad), but that "something just as good" was not the genuine article which had jeopardized the freedom of the press. The S. L. P. alone stepped into the arena, and, by publishing the indelict article, preserved the integrity of the press, in spite of consequence.

The most pitiable exhibition of ignorance and lack was certainly that displayed by Blatchford in the Clarion, March 30th. He wrote: "noamfenseofraend AetofsofvaIdf "Consider the consequences of the two kinds of policy. A crowd of hungry strikers break a few windows and loot a shop; the magistrate read the Riot Act, the soldiers are ordered to fire, some three or four men or women who are innocent get shot. What good does that do the workers? Or an excited orator utters some scathing and says, 'Now send me to prison.' He is sent to prison, has a bad time, and comes out weak and ill. What good does that do the workers?"

"What good does that do the workers?" A more sane person would ask what harm might not have befallen the workers otherwise. "That is the real point, and to elench it a lesson in history will not come amiss. Every privilege that the race now enjoys—that is worth enjoying—had to be wrested from the reluctant hands of tyrants. Not necessarily by argu-

ments of force, war, and assassination, nor by terrorism in any shape or form. Violence may be instrumental in wringing a concession here and there, but all great victories are

Moral Victories.

Victories won through the unselfish endeavours, the indomitable courage, the perseverance and self-sacrifice of men and women who place principle before personal comfort or self-aggrandisement. The greatest battle ever fought on these lines and carried to a triumphant issue by the prosecuted, was undoubtedly the struggle for the freedom of the press, and its central figure, its grandest hero, its bravest soldier, was Richard Carlile. The struggle for the right to express opinions by word of mouth, has been going long. In this country one's mind goes back to the days when the gentlest methods used to suppress unpopular opinions were boiling alive, burning at the stake, the rack, etc. Later, in the not quite such "good old days," one thinks of Piers the Plowman, John Ball, the priest of Kent, who was hanged, drawn and quartered for "sedition," and the much more mercifully treated James Nayler, the gentle Quaker, who, for alleged blasphemy, was sentenced to be put in the pillory, whipped by the hangman, repilloried to have a hole bored through his tongue with a red-hot needle and his forehead branded "to the skull" with the letter B, made to ride on horseback to be whipped, and then committed to prison "during the pleasure of Parliament." All this, of course, was "religiously" carried out (Dec. 1666).

Toward the close of the seventeenth century, partly due to the disturbances of the Civil War and partly to the many fantastic shapless religions had assumed during the Stuart Dynasty, Atheistic and Unitarian ideas became popular. Open attacks were made upon such theological doctrines as the Trinity and the Virgin Birth, and the teaching of secular philosophers were very gradually permeating the masses.

During the reign of William and Mary a statute was passed making a denial of the Trinity or "a blasphemy of the Bible" a penal offence. This was partially repealed in 1813, after many people, mostly Unitarians, had suffered imprisonment, confiscation, and disgrace for breaking it.

In 1893 William Freoke was fined £500 for publishing a leaflet called "A Brief but Clear Confutation of the Trinity." Christ, "railing against God and cursing Christ." Thomas Aikenhead was hanged at Edinburgh in 1696, Mr. Locke, during this period was expelled from Oxford University, and Mr. Whiston from Cambridge. It is generally believed that the fear of Mr. Locke's reasoning being applied to the theolog- ical questions was responsible for the statute against blasphemy as we know it today. Shortly after this a Mr. Thos. Woolston was prosecuted and found guilty of blasphemy in a work entitled "Six Discourses of the Miracles." He received eighteen months' imprisonment (March, 1720). A little later Peter Annet was fined, imprisoned and pilloried for a work containing nothing more dangerous than Unitarianism. Later, he established a paper called the Free Enquirer, for which he was fined, pilloried, and imprisoned for one year. He was then

These prosecutions aroused but little public interest at the time, but they surely led up to one of the most recent years of age. (Oct., 1761). markable agitations of the nineteenth century. It began with the first legitimate attack on the Christian religion published in this country—"Thomas Paine's 'Age of Reason.'" By legitimate means, I mean legitimate in a critical sense. Many attacks had been made prior to Paine's advent, but they were devoted for the most part to isolated doctrines and ideas. Paine boldly attacked the whole structure of superstitious Christianity in a lucid and scholarly style, using every weapon to be found in the armoury of criticism—wit, irony, pathos, and logic—in his work. Through the efforts of the "Vice Society," a zealous organization with a most appropriate name, founded by Wilberforce, the "slavo emancipator," (sic), Thomas Williams was prosecuted in 1791, for publishing the first and second parts of Paine's "Age

COSTS MORE TO LIVE IN JUNE THAN EVER BEFORE.

NEW YORK, June 3.—It costs more to live in this, the month of June, 1912, than ever before in the history of the United States, except perhaps during war time. Prices are on the average nearly ten per cent. higher today than a year ago, according to trade authorities.

Food products are the highest on record. Meat, eggs, butter, fish, potatoes, coffee, tea, sugar, salt, molasses, rice, beans, and peas average 22 per cent. higher; wheat, corn, oats, barley, flour, etc., 33 per cent. higher.

Fruits are the only things good to eat that have grown cheaper in the last twelve months, but they still are higher than in 1910. Leather products cost 12 per cent. and chemicals and drugs 13 per cent. more than a year ago. Textile goods, however, are a trifle cheaper. The average increase in food products is nearly 20 per cent. The biggest advances have been in meat prices—beef, 26 per cent.; hog products, 40 per cent., and mutton, over 50 per cent.—"World" Financial News.

BOOTS IN FOUR MINUTES.

While the cobbler of a few generations ago took over a day to make a single pair of boots, some factories now turn out no fewer than ten thousand pairs in the same time.

How is it done? It is all the work of a vast piece of machinery, worked by hundreds of different men engaged upon various portions of the boot. Each boot takes just four minutes to make, and the total cost of the labor for a cheap pair is about 36 cents.

The buttons, or eyelets, for instance, are thrown into a machine with the leather to which they are to be affixed, and in less than a twinkling of an eye out comes the finished article.

An English financier in telling of the prosperity of Canada, says: "Since arriving here, my expectations have been greatly eclipsed by what I have seen." Sure, anybody with the least gumshoe can see that the Canadian slave can produce ten times more wealth than the English, and are contented with far less of what they produce, thereby helping to build up the banking accounts of their masters.

BUSINESS' AND ITS MEANING.

It is always business, and business; an ugly word with a still uglier meaning. It means the altar of modern sacrifice to me, where man slaughters his fellowman for the sake of greed and need. Business of today presents to my mind's eye the up-to-date torture chambers, with all their ingenious methods for tormenting. There is nothing whatever noble or honest about modern business. Like sly foxes, we judge our man, size him up to see how far we can skin him; without scruple we tell the most enormous lies for gain, smile for gain, flatter and implore for gain. We, in business, act like prostitutes in this big brothel called modern society, and we do our best to gain efficiency in this great game of deceit. Society goes so far as to build colleges where our young men could learn the noble art of modern business. Our business correspondence, with its Yours truly, Sincerely yours, etc., is the limit of dry hypocrisy. Our traveling salesmen carry fine daggers up their sleeves when they shake hands with their clients. They make believe they enjoy their conversation, when deep in their hearts they feel a longing to be miles away; perhaps at some little cottage, where a loving wife and children wait them, where they need not play the million. I consider him who deals in millions in Wall Street as pitiable as a creature as he who sells suspenders and collar buttons on the streets of a large city. They both have to use the serpent's means, the wheedling and coaxing.

What a miserable occupation, and supposed to be the most honorable of modern times. I am not one of those that pray for the good old times to come back. They have been hard enough on the down-trodden; but I would a hundred times sooner live among a lot of outthroats, bandits and straightforward robbers of the middle ages, who attacked openly like men; I would rather keep company with West India pirates of Morgan's style, than with our modern, bigoted, hypocritical sharks called modern business men.

J. K. MERGLER.

The Socialist party has got to be a fighting party. When it ceases to fight, it will be time to call in the undertaker.

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

When you work for a master he takes from you something for nothing, and you get in return nothing for something. Did you ever consider your master's reason for letting you have a job? Well, I don't know whether you have or not, but I have. That he is not running a charitable institution or a soup kitchen is very evident. Well, what is he in business for, you might ask. I will tell you. Your worthy master is in business for "profit"—note the word "profit." "What is profit?" Profit is surplus value or unpaid labor. It stands to reason that profit represents that part of your day's work which your master takes and gives you nothing for in return. When your master gives you a job for a day, week or a month, you have sold yourself to the service of your master for such length of time. Now, as labor power is a commodity on the world's market, it must necessarily sell at the cost of its production. What is the cost of production of labor power? Well, as a laborer can't work and exist on nothing at the same time, it stands to reason that the cost of production of labor power is presumably the necessary food, clothing and shelter that a laborer consumes in a day, in order to do a day's work. Now, we understand what the cost of production of labor power is. Sometimes labor sells at a little above and sometimes below the cost of production, if the demand for labor is greater than the supply, the price rises; on the contrary, if the supply of labor is greater than the demand, the price goes down. In some times that the worker is on the side of the under-consumer. So from the above it is evident that labor power is a commodity on the world's market. Your master buys your labor power or your life-force at the market price. It is no concern of his whether the price is enough for your existence or not; all that your master concerns himself about is this: His motto is to get as much of something for nothing as he can, and to give you in return as much of nothing for something as you like to take, so that the foregoing analysis we may draw this conclusion, that the estimated wealth of the world in dollars and cents is

nothing but surplus value or unpaid labor or that part which labor produced and got nothing for in return. In fact, profit is only a polite name for stealing. I said in the foregoing sentences that labor sells at the cost of its production or reproduction. Now I will endeavor to show you how the profit trick is worked. Suppose you sell your labor power, or, in other words, your power to convert the latent resources of the earth into social wealth to a master for a day of ten hours for two dollars. The first five hours of the day you produce a material value equal to two dollars, but although you have produced a material value equal to two dollars in the first five hours of the day, you can't stop work at the end of the five hours. You sold your labor power for ten hours, and in the second five hours you produce another material value equal to two dollars. In ten hours you produce a material value equal to four dollars, and all your dollars goes into your master's pocket. Now, the four-dollar value was actually produced by you. Your master owns that which you must have access to in order to live, and that two dollars that you produced and did not get is the toll he soaked you for the loan of a job. And if you intend to get that other two dollars in the future which your master pockets, vote the straight Socialist ticket, which stands for the abolition of the wage system, bag and baggage, to that oblivion which it is so eminently qualified to adorn. I can rest assured that you have cast your vote in the interest of the only useful class in society, the working class. The capitalist class are absolutely parasitical; capital never produced anything but parasites and wage slavery, and I say to hell with it, and all its hangars on such as the peddlers of "pie in the sky" (lawyers or word splitters, in short, technicians), detectives, red-coated butchers, thugs, capitalist politicians, including Conservatives, Laborites and such fakes. I will have to quit as the pen-point is getting red-hot.

Yours in the scrap for the whole hog.

CLARION READER.

THE WORKING CLASS OF THE WORLD REVOLT

Strikes, Revolutions and General Discontent Is a Sure Sign Workers Will Eventually Get Their Own.

The capitalist class of all countries are now beginning to wonder if the workers have at last thrown off their accustomed apathy and if they are now in earnest. The apologists of the system have certainly done their utmost to draw the attention of the workers to the defects of their old weapon the strike, and it would seem that their labors have been in vain, especially in this case in Great Britain. The repeated failures of socialist strikes has only served to increase the hopes of the workers in the general strike, and the failure of labor representatives in the House of Commons to do anything of benefit to them has strengthened their faith in this method of attacking capitalism. The conditions under which the vast majority of the working class live in "Christian England" is at last galling them to such an extent that they seem willing to adopt any means that promise an overthrow of the present system of production. That these conditions produce a bitterness of feeling against the capitalists is not at all unnatural, and should serve to enlighten those in this Western country who fall to see the folly of attempting to suppress the propaganda of working class political action. The present system of production bears within itself the germ of its own destruction, and emphasizes the importance of the working class being sufficiently educated to take control at the critical moment. Capitalism must develop and the workers have to take a hand in their own interests and see that their emancipation is accomplished as quickly as possible, and now is surely the time to get in effective work to this end.

The fears of revolution are being expressed in Great Britain, and Lloyd George is credited with having said that "anxiety has been expressed that the structure of society may break down under the increasing strain of the wage movement. But it cannot be removed merely by the addition of a Minimum Wage Act. The workers now want a place in the situation. They are now not only reading newspapers, but often books on economics. It is the knowledge that makes the difference."

This is the utterance of a Liberal member of the British House of Commons, and stands in strong contrast with the attitude of Claude Lorraine, a Tory M.P., who suggests compulsory arbitration. However, the solution of the difficulty does not lay in the hands of such gentlemen, but is for the working class themselves to decide. In knowledge lays their power, and it is quite evident that there are many in the ranks of the workers who are at last realizing this great fact. That the general strike is the most successful method of accomplishing the desired end of the workers is somewhat doubtful, but at any rate it will have the effect of arousing the dormant powers of the workers and directing their energy with rancorous vigor. The suffering entailed by a national strike is one of the greatest factors against which organized labor has to contend and it is always the members of the working class who feel most keenly the results of the conditions resulting from these tactics. Still it serves to accentuate the common interest of the workers in the overthrow of a system which permits a small minority to dominate their livelihood with the co-operation of those of their class enlisted as unformed assassins in the protection of such privileges. All these rights between the workers and the capitalists serves to show that these troubles are eventually thrown into the political arena to be dealt with by the executive committee of the ruling class, who see to it that the rights of property are duly protected by the powers of the state. The workers have not control of the state and it is up to the working class to capture this power in their own interests, realizing that they must combine their strength on both the industrial and political field that their triumph may be complete.

Not only in Great Britain is the working class movement taking on an aggressive attitude, but all over Europe the flames of discontent are spreading and "no compromise" is becoming the watchword of the workers all the world over. The interests of the workers in all countries under

capitalist domination are the same, and the discontent in one country has its effect on the ideas of workers in other countries, and it is this interrelation that accounts for the rapid spread of the revolutionary working class movement even into so-called prosperous countries such as Canada. The great problem confronting the class-conscious workers is to enlighten their apathetic comrades with sufficient development, and upon this question depends to a great extent the peaceful inauguration of the Co-operative Commonwealth, and it is well that those who are so anxious that the education of the workers shall not proceed take heed that they reap what they sow, and if the national strike does no more than hasten the enlightenment of the working class it cannot be said that it was all in vain. The triumph of the workers is only a question of time, and the time is in the hands of the wage workers. When they know enough then will be the time.—Fernie Ledger.

CAPTURE THE CLUB.

The News-Advertiser of Vancouver bemoans the fact that the I. W. W. strikers on the Canadian Northern lost some twenty or thirty thousand dollars and nothing but sore heads to show for it. Very true, but the same News-Advertiser would be still less pleased if these men had spent that amount in a raid on the law factory at Victoria. For instance, let us see what thirty thousand dollars would do in a political sense. Five thousand dollars would pay the nomination fee of 50 representatives in British Columbia after redistribution; \$10,000 would keep five organizations in the field for at least a full year. The balance of \$15,000 could be used to another British Columbia with Socialist literature, and the results would be 10 or 15 working class representatives in Victoria. Ten or 15 would not be a majority, but enough, I venture to say, to keep any government jumping always on any questions affecting the working class. Organization for the purpose of capturing the government for the working class is the one thing needed in British Columbia, as well as the rest of Canada. In Wards 3 and 4, Vancouver, there are at least 3,000 workmen who are not on the voters' list—caused by lack of organization. An attempt is being made to distribute literature all over this riding once or twice a month, but owing to lack of organization and funds, it cannot yet be done. No attempt is being made to carry our message to the homes of those whom we must have votes before we can hope to succeed. There is no question of the Socialist Party of Canada having the goods; it is all a case of delivering them. What are you going to do about it. Don't you think it is time to get ready to carry this riding for Socialism. If you are a member of the Socialist Party (if you are not, you should be), turn up at your next meeting and put up the proposition that your local gets busy on organization work. Divide your districts into wards, order a supply of leaflets from the Clarion office and start a regular house to house distribution. Talking of leaflets, No. 9 is the best yet. A million at least should be strewn throughout Canada. Your population divided by five is about the number you need. What are we going to do about it. Are we going to sit quietly by and allow our class to continue butting their heads against a stone wall and not show them how to get around the obstacles of capitalist property. It means a lot of hard work and big expense, but no revolutionary working class yet was over daunted by obstacles. It is a question of all pulling together in the same direction. For one am prepared to help all I can and will put my shoulder to the wheel with any bunch that is prepared to do things. Organization is needed; say, what are you doing about it?

LEBIDS.

Verily the lot of a Vancouver policeman is a tough one. Not only must he violate the Lord's Day Act by working seven days a week but in addition to working for the boss he must lie for him as occasion demands. How'd you like to be a policeman? Size the only essential.

LOCAL VANCOUVER
Propaganda MEETING
Every Sunday Evening
Empress Theatre

(Continued on Page Four)

THE WESTERN CLARION

Published every Saturday by the Socialist Party of Canada... OFFICE ADDRESS, LABOR TEMPLE, DUNSMUIR ST., VANCOUVER, B. C.

RIGHT OF FREE SPEECH VINDICATED

Several men have recently emerged from New Westminster goal after having served sentences of from two to three months for being members of an unlawful assembly...

They were then and there members of an unlawful assembly contrary to the form of the statute in such cases made and provided against the peace...

reasons for apprehension were his instructions which he carried in his head. One officer had said that whenever he saw a large crowd he feared trouble...

Socialist Party Directory

- DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Vancouver, B. C., meets every second and fourth Monday... BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Vancouver, B. C., meets every second and fourth Monday...

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1912.

COGS.

A recent inquiry into the operation of the United States Steel Corporation discloses some facts that should prove interesting to those who earnestly seek for enlightenment as to the cause of industrial unrest among the laborers...

The Attack on Free Speech.

For some years up to and including 1911, it had been the custom in Vancouver to allow all labor, political and religious meetings which were held in the vineyard of modern capitalism...

Mr. J. W. de B. Farris, counsel for Mr. Pettipiece, then cross-examined the witness.

Assuming that you had known that the by-law did not apply to the Powell street grounds would you have gone there to enforce it?

With a convincing appeal to the jury to decide the case on its merits as they may see fit.

Mr. Farris closed one of the most able addresses that has been delivered in this city on behalf of free speech...

To any one who was ever in a modern steel mill it will be readily understood that the conditions under which these men work are something horrible. Working in a heat that is stifling and packed by huge machinery...

On the day appointed a large crowd of unemployed men gathered on the Powell street grounds. Around the grounds there also gathered a large crowd of citizens who came attracted by the hope...

Mr. J. W. de B. Farris, counsel for Mr. Pettipiece, then cross-examined the witness. He stated that there was not an occasion to make an arrest?

The jury retired at 6:05 p. m. At 7:30 p. m. in the courtroom before the judge the legal quillmen were making an indifferent attempt to prove the guilt of the prisoners without taking up any of defendant counsel's points.

No feature is shown for either the health or life of these men. Slaves are too cheap in this characteric age to make it worth while to conserve their number. That they are killed almost daily at the steel mills is a fact so well known that it no longer is deemed worthy of comment.

Several more witnesses were called for the prosecution but their lessons were evidently well learned and added nothing of interest. At this point, an order was given that the accused McClintock was to be allowed to go.

Several more witnesses were called for the prosecution but their lessons were evidently well learned and added nothing of interest. At this point, an order was given that the accused McClintock was to be allowed to go.

Quite a number of young lads are just now being dragged before the Australian courts, fined and sentenced to terms of imprisonment, for various offences against the Federal "Labor" Government's infamous conscription laws.

The workers of the Steel Trust are merely cogs in the machinery of production. This is true of all workers in capitalist industry. As part and parcel of the industrial plant of capital, they are entitled to no greater consideration than any other part thereof.

Witnesses were asked by the prosecution if they had seen anything of a banner which had been carried through the streets and through the demonstration to be held on the 28th.

Witnesses were asked by the prosecution if they had seen anything of a banner which had been carried through the streets and through the demonstration to be held on the 28th.

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.

Just cogs in the capitalist machine of production, that's all. Not human beings with souls to save and hearts to feel, or anything like that, but mere cogs to be used and worn and worn in golden profits for parasitic owners and either killed in the process or kicked off the premises when no longer needed.

Two counts were contained in the indictment. First, that the accused, "with intent to carry out a common purpose, unlawfully did meet and assemble together in such manner as to cause and intend to cause disturbance in the neighborhood of the assembly, to fear on reasonable grounds that the persons so assembled as aforesaid would disturb the peace tumultuously."

No evidence had been submitted that there had been inflammatory speeches or preparations for violence of any kind. It had been stated that some of the accused had shouted "We will fight for free speech. To fight in this instance means to fight the fight in the courts. The man had practically said: "We believe we are right, arent you if you will, and we will fight it in the courts the best way."

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 program of the working class, as follows:

PLATFORM Socialist Party of Canada

We, the Socialist Party of Canada, in convention assembled, affirm our allegiance to aid support of the principles and program 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 products of labor belong to the capitalist class. The capitalist is therefore master; the worker a slave.

PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Duo Stamps, Platforms, Duo Cards, Constitutions, Receipt Books, and Warrant Books.

SUBSCRIPTION CARDS

Table with 2 columns: Term and Price. Includes 5 Yearlies (\$3.75), 10 1/2 Yearlies (4.00), and 20 Quarterlies (4.00).

CORRESPONDENCE

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE

4, 1912.

Present—Menzel, Anderson, Karme, Kavanagh, McVeety and the Secretary. Karme in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

An application for charter was received through the Alberta executive committee, from Thos. Hooker and others of Bassano, Alta. The charter was granted, the local to be known as Local Bassano No. 50.

A communication was received from Howard H. Caldwell, giving his speaking dates in California, Oregon, and Washington up to June 16th, when he would be available for a few dates in British Columbia if wanted.

Financial report for May was as follows: Balance on hand, May 1st.....\$271.72 Receipts during month..... 91.75

Expenditure \$363.47 Balance at end of month.....\$ 82.20

Comrade Wm. Watts was elected to act as secretary in place of Kingsley, resigned.

It was moved and carried, that Local Vancouver, No. 69, be requested to appoint a committee, to audit the books to June 1st, which would be the beginning of the new secretary's term of office.

Kingsley notified the committee that the publication of the Western Clarion since January, 1906, had entailed a loss running up into thousands of dollars; that the present price he received for its publication (\$60 per week) was at least \$40.00 per issue less than the job was actually worth; that, with the exception of some assistance rendered by a limited number of comrades, which assistance covered less than 20 per cent. of the actual financial loss incurred, the entire burden of this shortage had fallen upon his shoulders and he did not see his way clear to continue to carry it any longer than until the end of the present month, June. Beginning with the first issue in July, the cost of publication would be the figure determined by the Vancouver Printers' Board of Trade.

The committee took no action in the matter. Adjourned.

E. T. KINGSLEY.

PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE

4, 1912.

Present—Menzel, Anderson, Karme, Kavanagh, McVeety and the Secretary. Karme in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Communication from secretary of Local Fernie referring to conditions in that locality since the recent election and enclosing statement of campaign expense was received. Also one from J. A. Moisio, secretary of Local Port Moody (Finnish) returning the charter of that local, as it had been decided by a vote of 6 to 1 to affiliate with the S. D. P.

The financial report for the month of May showed as follows: Balance on hand, May 1st.....\$ 86.20 Receipts during month..... 97.90

Total.....\$174.10 Expenditure during month..... 47.50

Balance at end of month.....\$ 126.60 Report approved and warrant ordered drawn to cover expenditure. Adjourned.

E. T. KINGSLEY, Secretary.

HOW THEY COME

The trials and tribulations of an editor especially a Socialist, is something fierce. We have readers of all temperaments to try and satisfy; sometimes we succeed, but mostly we fail, as, for instance, the last week or two we have asked our readers to get one sub. each. We did not scream about it; we did not take up a lot of space with big type; we did not tell you that you ought to be damn well ashamed of yourself for not hustling subs; we did not tell you that we would throw up the sponge if you did not come through with some cash. No, we simply looked up the finances and found that we would have to run the Clarion on hot air if the shokels did not come in faster, and as we have no hot air around here at present we simply asked you in a quiet, bashful and easy-going way, taking care not to offend you, but in a pleading sort of way asked you to hunt up the necessary dollar to keep this paper in the field of action, and to date we have the splendid (?) results as stated below. We shall not weep, as we know the amount of forbearance it has needed to keep the paper going during the last ten years, but we will still look forward to the time when the party members will realize that the Clarion is a necessary factor for keeping the S. P. of C. alive.

Here are the trail blazers for the week:

- A. S. Julian, Calgary, Alta..... 3 G. O. Vennelund, Granum, Alta..... 3 J. Watson, Winnipeg, Man..... 3

Singles. D. Paton, Fernie; W. Maxwell, Cumberland; S. Grimson, Fraser Ave., B. C.; Mrs. Bertha Clayton, B. C.; J. W. Winterston, West Demara, B. C.; C. McO'Brien, Calgary, Alta.; W. H. Anderson, Dowsberry, Alta.; Wm. McQuoid, Edmonton; A. Patterson, Winnipeg; G. M. Brandon; D. Diamond, St. Catharines, Ont.; Lee Williams, Toronto; B. G. Salk, Montreal; H. G. Ross, Glace Bay, N. S.; A. McBrude, D. Brook, "Leeds", N. E. Campbell, E. Tipper, and H. Cattell, Vancouver.

Bundles. Portland, Ore., 100; Local Markerville, Alta., 10; Local Bassano, Alta., 10; Local Toronto, Ont., 20; Local Stewart, B. C., 5.

The only move made this week is by Toronto. It looks as though Cumberland is going to carry away the prize of the two volumes of "Ancient Lowly." They have certainly earned it, considering that the local was only formed this year; but there is still a chance for some one else, maybe some one else intends to play a trump card at the last minute.

- This is how they stand:— Vancouver, B. C..... 1 Winnipeg, Man..... 2 Calgary, Alberta..... 2 Toronto, Ont..... 6 Victoria, B. C..... 6 Edmonton, Alta..... 7 Cumberland, B. C..... 7 Moose Jaw, Sask..... 9 Fernie, B. C..... 9 Brandon, Man..... 10 Montreal..... 11 New Westminster, B. C..... 12 North Battleford, Sask..... 13 Nelson, B. C..... 14 Silvertown, B. C..... 15 South Fort George, B. C..... 16 Glace Bay, Nova Scotia..... 17 Ottawa, Ontario..... 18 South Hill, Sask..... 19 Lethbridge, Alta..... 20 Send in for mailing list and rustle up the expiring subs.

TO ALL CONCERNED.

In conducting your business with the Dominion Executive Committee, the Provincial Executive Committee or the Western Clarion, you will confer a favor by observing the following rules:

- 1. In regard to business with the Dominion Executive Committee, address all communications and make all money orders payable to The Dominion Executive Committee, S. P. of C., Labor Temple, Vancouver, B. C. 2. In regard to business with the Provincial Executive Committee, address all communications and make all money orders payable to The Provincial Executive Committee, S. P. of C., Labor Temple, Vancouver, B. C. 3. In regard to business with the Western Clarion, address all communications and make all money orders payable to The Western Clarion, Labor Temple, Vancouver, B. C.

By leaving the name of the secretary out much confusion is avoided in the event of a change in an office. Do not send money by mail. Always purchase postal note, money order, or express order. If remitting by cheque, exchange must be added. W. M. WATTS, Secretary.

What's coming over some of the lawyers of the labor-haters? Characterizing John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie as the two biggest criminals of the century, Earl Rogers, a Los Angeles attorney, in discussing economic conditions before the Woodmen of the World in that city, declared the nation was on the verge of a great calamity. "If my baby cried for milk," said Rogers, "and I had none to give it, the world would give me enough to satisfy her or I would tear the front off of a national bank in my effort to get it." Rogers was the attorney for the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association for some years and has flopped over and undertaken to defend Clarence Darrow, whom he fought formerly. Senator Borah, who attempted to hang Meyer, Haywood and Pettibone for the mine owners, is also talking more radical every day and seems to be trying to live down his past. A man with a conscience is bound to feel his prickings sooner or later.—Cleveland Citizen.

After having dwelt for years on an island just off Vancouver, several families have been driven off by having their shacks burnt up to make way for a business enterprise. Several dozen families squatted there years ago, but the government decided that it could be better utilized for business purposes than for homes, so have forced the squatters off. Does capitalism destroy the home?

WANTED

At Ymlr General Hospital a duly qualified Physician and Surgeon to take charge June 1, 1912. For further information write W. B. McIsaac, Secretary, P. O. Box 606, Ymlr, B.C.

EDMONTON ELECTION.

The election is over. The intelligent (?) electors of Edmonton (?) have again returned to power a servant of their masters. C. W. Cross, Liberal, enters triumphant upon another two years' labor skinning. Well, be it so, since it is not otherwise. The Socialist Party held a strenuous campaign; meetings were held in the open air, literature was distributed, a great deal of good propaganda was carried on, crowds surrounding and applauding the various soap box performers.

The Liberal and Conservative elements were forced into the open to hold "labor" meetings; they were heard in their own den and flabbergasted by Socialist questioners. Comrade Knight spoke from the Conservative platform and shone well, in contrast to the flabby drooling of the various Conservative orators (?).

Labor was the one topic of the day. Comrade Farnilo dealt savage death blows from the gallery at one meeting, "stumping" the poor Conservative member and reducing him to a resemblance of "3 cents worth of dog meat chewed up ugly."

Lord Salisbury once said of the proletariat, "Give the brutes a circus," and the political tricksters of Edmonton took his advice; they hired the kiddies' band who pranced around blawin-a-blast—or is it a skellock? The city band blared defiance and death to all opponents of the Cross faction. 8 Night was made fearful by bombs and rockets, auto hooted and scoted about, pandemonium reigned. The last night of the duel saw the capitalist ranged in battle array; torch-light processions and parades made a fearful din; the proletariat were made drunk with guff and led like lambs to the slaughter.

It was, however, around the polls that things assumed their most comic aspect. All the shovels and grading slaves working on the railway were rushed into town in the Liberal interests. The delicate arts of "four-flushing" reached their apex. Anything from a Chinaman to a tomat- as was presented at the voting booths as intelligent electors. Blanket stiffs from British Columbia were brought forward and sworn as "gentlemen" or contractors, thousands were turned away who dare not take the oath, patriots overloaded with bottled zeal lurching before the returning officers to register a vote in favor of the railway policy. Returning officers sweat and swore, the Conservative agents challenged every voter, well-known city men were forced to "hiss the book." The booths resembled miniature battles wherein Ajax's and Hector's did deeds of valor. The hotels belched forth the degenerate of all races to vote for King Capital. It was politics with a vengeance. The trades union element did mightily in the masters' interests, voting almost on mass for Liberal or Conservative. Intelligent voters, indeed! Property owners who had paid \$100 on a \$500 lot in "Hollywood Heights" or some other remote subdivision, cast a ballot in their own private interests. Well done, indeed; good and faithful servants, enter thou into another period of commercial pricy. The Socialist Party have maintained their position in the face of the masters' most desperate efforts, voting for emancipation from wage slavery. O'Brien, McQuoid, Farnilo, Knight and Budden "soap-boxed and thundered." Things were doing.

At this writing 345 is the total Socialist vote, but final returns are not to hand; no doubt the last count will show an increase over last election. In all 16 open-air meetings were held where \$128 was collected, and in all about \$350 were raised. It was well done; go forward and do better! A. BUDDEN.

TEN YEARLIES A DAY.

The Clarion plied up a big deficit for the month of May just closed. Ten yearly new subscribers a day in addition to those regularly received would have brought everything out even. Are there 1,000 readers who will go good for ONE new yearly subscriber per month? Are there 400 readers who can do it? Or better still, are there 300 readers who are of the calibre needed to take hold of a good thing and guarantee ONE new yearly reader (or two half-yearly or four three months) per month? If there are, we want to hear from you. In fact, it is absolutely necessary that you take hold of this proposition at once and put it through or there will be no paper in a short time. The Clarion is not run for profit; if it were it would be everything to everybody, with the result that soon it would be nothing to anybody as far as its principles are concerned. But it is published for the purpose of pointing out the straight and narrow way to Socialism, the path of God and the

that a Socialist paper should contain nothing that is not scientific, which means correct, true and makes the best and clearest Socialist of its readers. So once and for all it is up to you, reader, to make good. As Eugene V. Debs would say, "Arouse, ye slaves!" Are there 400 class-conscious slaves in Canada who will without fail add the equivalent of one new yearly to the list of this paper's readers each month? What you do, do quickly. We are waiting. Yours in the fight,

THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA.

PICK AND SHOVEL MEN WANTED.

The present Canadian Government, representing the Conservative party, was at the last Dominion election elected by the people to represent their interests in the House at Ottawa. No one was more surprised at the change of Government than the Conservatives themselves, although their press at that time, as at all times, always stated that their party would be elected to power, which was a bluff move on their part to catch votes, as the ordinary working stiff likes to be on the side he thinks will win. We, as Socialists, must not expect to get into power by some such fluke as that, for whilst our principles and program is for the betterment of the human race, it is so different from the other parties that the slave portion of society look at it (through the teachings of the capitalist class) as a theory that is not practical and which will turn the present peaceful system into a reign of anarchy.

Now, fellow slaves, we can only get into power by the intelligent vote of the working class, therefore it is up to us to educate the masses, keeping at it steady year in and year out, not at spasmodic intervals as we have been doing. Nothing is better suited for that purpose than the distribution of leaflets by us. Below will be found a list of locals which are distributing them. If you are not amongst them it's up to you to see that they soon will be. If I like to ask you by what method of propaganda do you expect to bring about the revolution.

- Local Brantford, Ont., No. 15. Local Barons, Alta., No. 47. Local Bassano, Alta., No. 50. Local Calgary, Alta., No. 4. Local Cumberland, B. C., No. 70. Local Crawford Bay, B. C., No. 72. Local Coleman, Alta., No. 9. Local Central, Alta., No. 40. Local Dawsberry, Alta., No. 36. Local Diamond, Alta., No. 48. Local Edmonton, Alta., No. 1. Local Enberby, B. C., No. 65. Local Eagle Hill, Alta., No. 43. Local Fernie, B. C., No. 17. Local Fort George, B. C., No. 72. Local Glace Bay, N. S., No. 1. Local Innisfall, Alta., No. 2. Local Kamloops, B. C., No. 50. Local Kingman, Alta., No. 49. Local Linda, Alta., No. 45. Local Lethbridge, Alta., No. 13. Local Lougheed, Alta., No. 34. Local Langley, B. C., No. 73. Local Moose Jaw, Sask., No. 1. Local Montreal, Que., No. 1. Local Michel, B. C., No. 16. Local Medicine Hat, Alta., No. 20. Local Markerville, Alta., No. 31. Local Merritt, B. C., No. 68. Local Mound, Alta., No. 33. Local Meeting Creek, Alta., No. 29. Local Maple Coulee, Sask., No. 8. Local Nelson, B. C., No. 4. Local Ottawa, Ont., No. 41. Local Regina, Sask., No. 6. Local Red Deer, Alta., No. 11. Local Revelstoke, B. C., No. 7. Local Rossland, B. C., No. 25. Local Sydney Mines, N. S., No. 7. Local Sandton, B. C., No. 36. Local Silvertown, B. C., No. 67. Local Summeiland, B. C., No. 42. Local Stueetun, Ont., No. 28. Local South Fort George, B. C., No. 61. Local South Raven, Alta., No. 44. Local St. Catharines, Ont., No. 30. Local Vancouver, B. C., No. 69. Local Salmon Arm, B. C., No. 51. Local Silver Creek, B. C., No. 62. Local Toronto, Ont., No. 1. Local Vernon, B. C., No. 38. Local Winnipeg, Man., No. 1. Local Ymlr, B. C., No. 31.

There are also a few comrades who are distributing leaflets without the help of any local; these are: Comrades C. M. O'Brien, Wm. Coulter, McKay, B. C.; George Edward, Champion, Alta.; A. D. Kellogg, Carmanay, Alta.; Edwin Smith, Yorkwood, Alta.; Alex. Beaton, Glenora, Sask. Why not make another?

Direct action was turned down in the national convention of the Socialist Party of America. We may not altogether agree with their new platform, but we are pleased to see that they have turned down the weapon that is doing so much harm to the working class movement and to the participants themselves. Prisons for workers; palaces for strikers! Such is the humanitarian policy of the meek and lowly hourigone, so plous in their professions of belief in the fatherland of God and the

WAR AND ECONOMICS.

Is the abolition of armaments possible? The idea is certainly indicative of progress. To call a halt in the wholesale slaughter of human beings; to stop the construction of weapons of destruction, lethal weapons designed for man to murder his fellow beings, is to be commended. It is strange that men in this Christian era should devote their time and energy to the improvement of engines of death. "Thou shalt not kill," is supposed to be a Christian ethic, and yet after nearly two thousand years of Christianity we are living under a system of society, which calls upon men to be ever ready to fight and destroy their fellow creatures.

Murder is murder. If an individual murder is a crime to be punished, why is wholesale destruction heroic and to be applauded? It is a pertinent query. Upon examination, modern warfare has many curious aspects, the most remarkable being the fact that those who bear the brunt and burden of the wars, who pay for them and have to make the sacrifice of life and limb, derive no advantage whatever in the case of victory.

Now the human family is divided into two parts or classes. A small class and a large class. The former class, being those who at present control the power of the state, and own, or rather hold, the natural resources of the earth, and the means of production. The means of production being railroads, factories, mills, mines, etc. The second and larger class comprise those who do not own the means of production and yet are compelled to do all the work in the process of producing the necessities of life. It is this latter class—which we will call the working class—that is the real useful part of society, and included in it is every worker, both mental and physical, who receives a wage or salary. In its ranks are those who wrestle with nature, wrenching from her secrets that are used to help man in the struggle for existence. It is members of this working class who have the dangers of the mines, who plow the soil and haul the seas. It is this class who have built enormous cities, and linked them up with wonderful systems of transit, and have brought the continents closer together by lines of shipping. Yes, it is the working class which has made all things possible.

It is the other smaller class which, by its action of this capitalist system, is enabled to own all the natural resources, without doing a single useful thing. The working class possess nothing but its power to labor, whilst the drones and parasites own the earth and all upon it, including the workers, who must have access to the machines of production in order to live.

Yes, the workers are the slaves; the owners are masters. The workers are dependent on the resources of the earth, which they do not own. Therefore they are compelled to ask the owners' permission for the use of these. The masters' terms to the workers are that they go to work and produce wonderful quantities of wealth for the masters' use, whilst the workers themselves must accept barely sufficient of the actual necessities of life to enable them to work. This is commonly termed working for wages. It is the wage slaves who produce the instruments and munitions of war and sacrifice themselves in battle. All this in the interest of their masters, who are forever calling for more profits, that they may continue their enjoyment of the good things of life.

Profit. That is the cause of all modern warfare. Each separate nation has its section of capitalists—the lookout for new fields to exploit—that is, some where to get rich. Some country from which may be obtained profits. Something for nothing. To gain their own selfish ends the master class of each nation educate their workers to fight for and protect their (the masters') interests. The workers of Germany are taught to hate the English people, because the German masters are envious of the English masters' possessions, and vice versa, so that should the opportunity occur the workers of both countries will be ready to fly at each other's throats.

The real reason they do not understand. They call it patriotism. If they called it profits, they would be right. Anyway the victorious masters are the only ones to derive any benefit, and the workers have to continue to suffer in their old jobs. Just so long as the useful portion of society permits itself to be fooled and refuses to fight for itself, so long will the working class continue in the degrading position it now holds. But let us not despair. The future has a bright appearance. With the development of capitalism, the workers are getting a necessarily advanced education. Thus will an evil system destroy itself. The masses are learning many things. They are beginning to think for themselves. They are refusing to be longer fooled and are learning to fight in their own interests. The workers are beginning to recognize that the army, navy and police

only exist for the protection of capitalist property, that they are the hired murderers and thugs of the master class, the forces by which the workers are prevented from having the benefits of the resources of the earth. Now it is very plain that the economic position of the workers does not justify them in taking part in any warfare on behalf of their masters. Upon the earth there is plenty for all. There is no real need for any man to want, and it is only the power of the master class that causes the terrible poverty and suffering among the wealth producing class. The master class in their efforts to maintain their position, cause to be wasted huge quantities of wealth. Thousands upon thousands of workers who might be producing the necessities of life, are kept employed, devising and producing implements of war. Thousands more, aye millions, in useless idleness as standing armies and navies. These men are utterly useless to human society as a whole. They produce nothing whatever, and yet live upon the toil of those who work. Yet these idle millions are essential in order to preserve the present order of society, a fact which of itself is sufficient to condemn it.

In order that a small part of human society may obtain the good things of life for nothing, the workers—men, women and children alike—must work long hours in the shops and factories of capitalists, and for wages that oftentimes scarce cover the cost of the barest necessities of life. All that really deserves the name of home life to the workers is ruthlessly destroyed in order that capital may reap its profit and its unformed thugs, ruffians and murderers be paid for their bloody work, and its apologists, both profane and pious, kept in suitable frame of mind for its proper sanctification and legalization.

If every man's labor was of a useful nature, there would be no need for women and children in productive industry, and man himself will labor for less hours when things are produced for use alone. The abolition of armaments is impossible so long as a system of exploitation exists. Robbery can only be carried on by force, and the army and navy is the force that is leveled at the workers to keep them in submission. It is very clear that the workers cannot improve their position by so-called direct action, revolt, or strikes against such organized force. To act effectively in their fight for freedom, they must get right at the heart of the system.

The conquest of state or government must be the aim and object of the working class. It is then the people can strike the death blow to an order of society which has served its function of permitting enormous fortunes on one side and terrible poverty on the other. An unnatural condition, with its trailing evils, robbery, graft, crime, vice and war. The workers can do it. Their victory lies in the exercise of political power. They are many, their masters few. By this token they can conquer their freedom. Vote for Socialism. W. H. STERN.

A CHRISTIAN CIVILIZATION?

The tarring and feathering of Ben Reitman in San Diego is one of the latest crimes that has resulted from Christian teachings. While not agreeing with the doctrine taught by the Direct Actionists, we certainly cannot agree with the methods used by the Christian citizens of San Diego to suppress Anarchism. Read the printable account of the crime and see if you still believe this is a "Christian civilization." "The men who captured me in my hotel," said Reitman, "looked like business men. When I refused to go with them they put revolvers against my body, covered my mouth and dragged me to an automobile. The police outside the hotel cleared the way for them.

"While taking me to the place of torture in the desert, thirty miles from San Diego, my captors thrust pencils in my nostrils and ears, stuffing fifth into my mouth and sticks through the whole terrible trip. They continually called me the vilest names I ever have heard.

"When we reached the desert, another party was waiting. They had built a big fire and they took me up to it, stripped me and began such fiendish, inhuman torture that the details are unprintable. I begged them to kill me and end the pain and they replied that they wanted me to go away and tell how San Diego treated my kind.

"They said if Miss Goldman was there they would give her the same dose."

The chap that start wars do not fight them. It is the workingman who is put forward as cannon food. Think of the damnable situation where the workingmen of one nation shoot down the workingmen of another nation just because their rulers have fallen out, or just because the wealth interests of their country demand extended markets!

RELIGION

THY NAME IS SUPERSTITION

Leaflet Number Ten

BY J. H. BURROUGHS

Primitive man must have been an unhappy and perplexed individual. He was surrounded by natural forces that manifested themselves both to his detriment and benefit. Thunders poned and lightnings flashed, splitting the rock and the patriarch of the forest, and killing his companion of the chase. Flood, fire and earthquake gave their added testimony to the existence of an evil-disposed power, always near, never seen, whose awful omnipotence was beyond mortal conception. He naturally ascribed these terrors to some powerful, malignant, individual, in human shape (for he could conceive of no other man then, as now, making God in his own image) who took delight in causing sorrow and distress to shivering mortals. He was the "evil one," who needed to be appeased by bribes of good things to eat, and plenty of them. Primitive man's idea of heavenly ecstasy being to gorge himself to repletion he unconsciously endowed the figure of his brain with tastes that he himself possessed, and his conception of the attributes of his deity was necessarily drawn from the source of all his ideas—his own immediate environment. What he considered good was surely desirable to his God.

Other forces manifested themselves in an opposite direction. The warmth of the sun, the fruitfulness of the earth, the cooling breeze, the rain refreshing the parched earth, and numberless other agreeable effects could only be the results of the activity of an opposite nature to that of the evil one. This deity had to be thanked, and when a period of storm and famine gave way to one of mildness and plenty, what more natural than to ascribe it to the victory of the Good One over the Evil One? One was to be prayed to for success in the chase or in war, and for protection against the Evil One. The latter had to be appeased by the sacrifice of the most precious of his primitive wealth, in order that he might be kept in good temper.

Thus arose the ideas of God and the Devil, founded on man's ignorance of the laws that govern the forces of nature.

Every step taken by man along the pathway of knowledge has increased his skepticism as to the existence of a supernatural devil, who was responsible for the unhappiness caused by flood, drouth, famine, fire, earthquake, or sickness. He has learnt, in a large and consequently increasing measure, to control many of those forces that were wont to strike him with terror and dire forebodings when they ran amok—or at least to forestall their coming, and by preparation to minimize their effects. The science of meteorology tells him when to expect floods and drouths. By strengthening the banks of the rivers he minimizes the ravages of the former; by building reservoirs and dams he stores up the water in time of plenty to provide against the time of scarcity, or uses it to turn the desert into a garden. The science of seismology is rapidly becoming an exact one. It has discovered the weak spots in the earth's crust, and has explained the causes of earthquakes by a perfectly natural pulling and straining of the strata in process of adjustment, and the activity of volcanoes with an understandable explanation of their causes.

Flood and fire and lightning have been chained and controlled, and made to perform in man's service, and the ancient tale that they were the manifestations of an evil supernatural power, lost loose to punish man for his transgressions, or in malignant spite, is smiled at, and reserved as a tale to frighten little children into being good.

The veil that hid the unknown has been torn aside, and the terrors that were inspired by the very existence of the unknown have been brushed aside with it.

In the same way, he has discarded the idea of a beneficent supernatural deity who was his friend and protector, and the enemy of the Evil One. Observation of the effects of his own activity, on the materials supplied him by nature has shown him that many of the results obtained are superior to what he had previously considered the gifts of a good spirit. With the growth of his knowledge and understanding of natural laws he can perform wonders of creation, that, in spite of the Bible, "add cubits to his stature," and multiply his strength a thousand-fold. By pressing a button he can provide or deny light to thousands of his kind. By pulling a lever he can set in motion mighty machines, his own creation, that perform the work of a host. Time and distance he has annihilated, continents and oceans are made to serve his ends, the empire of the air is surrendering to his assaults, and the heavens he scans with his telescopes, searching their innumerable recesses, classifying tabulating, weighing the planets, following them in their paths, predicting their coming and going, in perfect understanding of the laws that govern them in their movements. And in all he finds no God superior to himself. He has found that all things, animate and inanimate, but himself are the blind subjects of natural forces. He alone is able to look these mighty powers in the face, bend them to his will. He has discovered that the universe is eternal, yielding implicit obedience to inexorable cosmic laws of birth, growth, and decay, operating in an eternal cycle of change, in utter disregard of puny humanity. The light of scientific research has been turned on the dark places, and God and the Devil are rolling their blankets.

Supernatural religion has lost its hold on the masses. Priest and parson see their influence dwindling, and the ruling classes are correspondingly uneasy at the growing independence of thought among their subjects. The "divine right" of kings of all descriptions, whether they be of dynasty, or of mine, rail, and soil, is being seen in its proper light as but the might of the strong to oppress the weak. The spell of creeds and liturgies is vanishing, and the disinherited are getting ready to measure their might against that of the Lord's anointed. The churches, handmaidens of the rulers, are behaving like hens that have hatched out ducklings, beating the air and wailing the echoes with their cacklings of reproachful distress at the unnatural perversity of their erstwhile docile wards, now manifesting an intention to strike out for themselves.

Militias of Christ and Forward Movements are financed by the wealthy to combat the growing tendency to independence of thought amongst the hitherto thoughtless—but all in vain.

To compensate for the vanishing efficacy of the superstitious chloroform, the rulers are strengthening their brutal forces of repression, preparing for the day when their right to rule and rob will be definitely challenged by their victims. Cadet corps, Boy Scouts, and militia are being held up to the young and thoughtless element of the working class as holy and patriotic institutions for the preservation and protection of the God-ordained dispensation of capital and human slavery. "The dog barks, but the moon sails on."

Human society moves in obedience to laws as inflexible as those that govern the movements of the planets. Capitalist production has chained the forces of nature and broken the chains of mental enslavement. Cause and effect obtain as unceasingly and unerringly in the brains of the human race and in human institutions as in the heavens. The modern working class is fast beginning to realize that the titanic forces of modern machinery are the product of its brain and hand, responsive to its slightest touch, and that knowledge has engendered in its collective brain a growing confidence in its

collective power and irresistible might. It no longer looks to heavens of brass for a supernatural savior, or to the classes above it for a Moses to lead it out of the house of bondage, but is becoming conscious of the strength that resides within itself. It is growing in the knowledge that "he who would be free, must himself strike the blow," and is equipping itself for the task that lies before it—to put the finishing touches to man's age-long struggle with nature for the means to satisfy his physical needs, by wresting the marvellous machines of modern wealth production from the hands of the few, and placing them in the hands of society.

Then, with superstition and slavery behind it, its feet for the first time planted on the soil of freedom, humanity will pass through the gates of a new dawn, and enter upon a period of achievement, for which the toilsome passage through the jungles of evolution, from cave to steel mill, has been the cruel but necessary apprenticeship.

THE FIRST GARDEN CITY.

Strange, isn't it, how the minds of these terrible Socialists, with their Athens, Free Love and Drunkenness (1) run on creating ideal cities, states and worlds for mankind to dwell in.

Here we have a Morris with his dustman "Doffin" in gold lace before the face of the Swiss mountains we first enter H. G. Wells' wonderful world state, and come back reluctantly to real life in the roaring London streets.

How deep and real is this craving for a better state of things was once more evinced by the appearance several years ago of the book of Ebenezer Howard, whose dream "Garden Cities of Tomorrow" resulted in England in a practical demonstration of a Garden City of today. What is better still, it led to a whole movement towards better city planning and housing conditions all over the world.

As a result of its advent, Garden Cities and Garden City Suburbs, both public and private, have sprung up, not only in England but all over the civilized world.

Only this last week I saw in an English paper that there was a fresh scheme afoot to deal with 700 acres in the North of England in Garden City Fashion, while it is no news to Canada that Toronto is considering a Garden City Suburb, and that Wimpsey has its scheme already in hand.

On first coming to Canada, I saw that part of Toronto by the lakeside by night, and had a sudden rush of homesickness for Garden City.

Those white, sloping, gabled houses among the pine trees conjured up another city dreaming in the moonlight and the hush of the common near.

There was "in the air," too, a sense of contact with big developments of human energy, and there was space and freedom to the west.

It was a familiar Garden City thrill over again. One got it there, however, from the stir of big humanitarian movements with the bigness of outlook and freedom of thought they always bring along. It was a drawback in Toronto, to note that all this joyous striding of energy was, as far as an outsider could judge, merely for private ends.

The Letchworth Garden City is about 30 miles from London. The Garden City estate consists of about 4000 acres, and on one-third of this area the city is being built. A belt of agricultural and park land is being reserved round the city, the idea with the agricultural land being to bring a market to the door of the small holder, and on the other hand to bring the social attractions of the city's life within reach of the lonely worker on the land.

The Garden City promoters wisely prevented real estate dabbling by keeping the freehold of the land in their own hands. Building leases were, however, granted for 99 or 999 years.

They also put in hand the gas and water supplies and the sanitation of the city. There is a proviso, I believe, by which a residents' council may take over these undertakings on behalf of the community within a certain stated number of years. Then in all probability the city will be practically free as a result of the profits of these enterprises.

I have just been looking over a book of 65 pictures of the city recently published.

Many very beautiful houses are there, and among them the houses of the workers are well represented. They are in arrangement, sanitation, lighting and fresh air facilities, palaces to what the workers generally get for their portion.

Of course, as certain of us agreed in the solemn conclaves we held on every subject under the sun, Garden City only represented the best that could be done under Capitalism. But it was very nice to be going on with it, and it whetted our appetite and stimulated our imagination as to still better things. Certainly the children brought up in that atmosphere will not have the old servility in their bones that the workers have suffered from in the past. They will want more and get it.

The greatest number of houses allowed in an acre by Garden City rules was twelve, and of course in many cases it was very much fewer.

A Co-operative Building Society, the "Garden City Tenants," built some fine houses. On Eastholm Green and Westholm Green, to take

ample, the houses were grouped in a semi-circle round a common "green." Each house had its own garden strip back and front, but the green was for the use of all and was used for tennis, bowls, etc.; while the children had a sand heap at one end.

A hall that was used as a club and general social centre by its tenants was another of the co-operative schemes of this society.

It was one of the regulations of the city that no house should be built without a bath. Many a weary mother must have rejoiced over that! The baths were squeezed in in the most ingenious places in houses that could not spare a separate room for bathroom. A favorite place was the back kitchen. Here they were provided with a wooden lid which made an excellent table. Others were moved on a spring and tipped up against the wall out of the way when finished with. Others again were let into the ground in front of the fireplace in the living-room. They had one drawback in being no use for the children.

The houses, too, had plenty of clothes cupboards and kitchen cupboards (a real luxury).

Manufacturers were not slow to avail themselves of the inducements held out by Garden City. The promoters of the Garden City set aside a factory area, and a belt of trees was planted round it. This in some measure cut it off with its ugliness and smoke from the homes, and made Letchworth healthier than the most cities which have manufactures.

All this fresh air and light and wholesomehood had its effect. In one of the most congested districts in London the death rate of children is over 400 in the 1000. I believe it is even higher in Toronto. Garden City only lost two children during the two years I spent there.

It has been said that a community never rises above the level of its women. That also is true as regards its children. The Garden City children were certainly unique. They were not unlike the children who are springing up like flowers along the country side in Canada, a product of the free, happy life here; little creatures with the restlessness of the winds and sea in their dancing feet, and the swiftness of the wild things in every movement. They alone would have justified Garden City's existence.

They were full of devilment though, as the teachers at the public schools found out. In education, in spite of much talking, we don't see a rule eater for the needs of real children, but for little academic prigs who can pass examinations; that is why so many people are still uncultured and narrow-minded in spite of our public schools.

These teachers were representative of the growing mass of teachers who wish for better things. Unlike the mass, however, they were allowed scope for experiments, and they certainly lived in an atmosphere sympathetic to change. Everybody thought they knew something about education in Garden City at the first, whether they did or not!

Among the many things that amused me on looking back on the life there, are the adventures of those unfortunate teachers. They certainly weren't alone in their sorrows. All of us at the first thought we were "advanced" and proceeded to turn some department or other of life upside down! It was really a happy time. We were all so interested in each other's bubbling over of life and joy. Most of us were brought low in some fashion or another, but possibly it was worth it. Perhaps even the teachers would say so, though I guess some of them wish they had been content with things as their fathers had them.

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session of Parliament it was thought advisable to abolish the pillory.

In the year 1813 a Mr. Houston wrote and published a book on Jesus Christ called "Ecce Homo." In the eyes of the authorities it was a "blasphemous production"; he was, therefore, prosecuted and sentenced to two years' imprisonment in Newgate Prison and fined £300.

About this time a number of political tracts (Hone's Parodies) were made the objects of state hatred, and five men were prosecuted for issuing them, among whom were Hone himself and Richard Carlile.

During the administration of Wm. Pitt a bookseller called Easterfield printed a private edition of Hone's Parodies and other works, for an American store of which he was agent. Pitt, getting wind of it, seized the whole edition (and destroyed it) by an act tantamount to burglary.

Every book, pamphlet and poem which had been pronounced seditious, blasphemous, impure or immoral by the authorities of the "Vice Society," were

Collected by Richard Carlile. In the December of 1818 he began the task upon which his heart was set—the open defiance of tyranny and the determination to establish, in the face of all opposition from the forces of bigotry a free press. By the year following, he had printed and exposed for sale every "damned" book and tract it was possible to remember. In 1819 the "Vice Society" instituted an action against him for the publication of Palmer's "Principles of Nature," and the Attorney-General at the same time arrested him for publishing Paine's Theological Works. On the first charge he received a sentence of one year's imprisonment and was fined £500; on the second case he was sentenced to two years' imprisonment and was fined £1,000. Over and above this severe punishment, two raids were made upon his property, and over one hundred thousand books were seized, besides articles of furniture, statues, etc. No account was taken of this property, which prevented Carlile paying his fine. Application was made to every conceivable quarter for information as to where his property was, but all information and redress was denied. No settlement could be made in consequence, and Carlile added twenty-eight months to his sentence of three years through his inability to pay.

In the meantime John Cabauc was prosecuted by the "Vice Society" for issuing "Principles of Nature," but escaped incarceration by payment of money. Thomas Tyler was next imprisoned for three months, at the instigation of the "Vice Society" for selling a copy of the new edition of Paine's Works. This was in 1820. With Carlile undergoing an imprisonment equivalent to penal servitude, his effects confiscated by rascally attorneys, and victims being persecuted right and left, it must not be imagined that the myrmidons of the "Vice Society" and the law were to be congratulated on the result of their reprisals. They had virtually run up against a stone wall in their endeavors to suppress the claim for freedom of action in the matter of publication. The Carlile household were all tarred with the same heroic stick. Richard himself in prison could do little but write letters and conduct small business, but his wife, Mrs. Jane Carlile, continued his work outside. She published an account of his trial and issued No. 9, Vol. I, of the periodical "The Republican," together with Sherwin's "Life of Thomas Paine." Immediately the "Vice Society" took action, but through a technical flaw in the indictment she escaped penalty for the "offence." However the authorities were bent upon taking their "pound of

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COSMO.

THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

(Continued from Page One)

of Reason." He was sentenced to one year's imprisonment in the "Cold Bath Fields" Prison" by the Court of King's Bench.

For twenty years the Age of Reason was not offered for sale, but in 1818 and old man, seventy years of age, Daniel Isaac Eaton, published the third part of Paine's book—devoted to an examination of the New Testament prophecies. He was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment and to stand for so many hours each week in the public pillory. This outrageous and disgracefully brutal sentence aroused the indignation of Shelley, the poet, who forwarded to, and had published the famous "Open Letter to

Westholm Green, to take

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