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THE CURSE OF MILITARISM

Greed for Markets and Hunger for Profits the Fertile Soil for Patriotism and Blood Lust.

One can rarely pick up a paper nor... always without reading of war or rumors of war.

of production, but of anything else worth while. Why, the majority of slaves don't own even a blade of grass...

In this day and age after hundreds of years of religion, with the slogan of Christ drilled into us...

It only proves the Socialist contention that the institutions of today teach us to reason from a master class viewpoint...

Truly the Church is an institution of the rule of capital, as a speech of Cardinal Bourne in the Catholic Record...

Does a Canadian, British, German or any other capitalist when employing labor, employ his own nationality?

When we see Dreadnaughts being built; aeroplanes made so as to hurt their means of destruction to the earth...

The first time the writer saw an Indian with feathers in his hair, he thought it amusing...

Many workers realize that in war they do the fighting and get maimed or killed; many as yet do not understand...

But yet look at the applause of the "cheering mob," the unswerving dupes of Capital...

Have our "patriotic leading citizens" seen fit to support them, or have they not substituted them in the workshops for men because they are "cheaper"?

They, by their ownership of the earth and means of production, have sentenced we of the working class to a lifetime of weary, heart-breaking, disgusting drudgery...

The worker from childhood has been taught to sing, "God save the King," and so long as Kings and Emperors exist, so does wage slavery and war.

It is time you workers were wise to the bluff game of your masters and realize that they are a useless class, and that the mission of armies and navies is to protect them in the plunder they have wrung out of your nerve-racked bodies.

"Each Marx's slogan to the workers was: "Workers of the World, unite; you have nothing to lose but your chains, and a world to gain," is very true.

By the workers' ownership we shall enjoy what we produce—enjoy pure food, good houses, good clothes, travel, time to study and to live.

WHY REFORMS WON'T DO

We are not opposed to the worker bettering his condition whenever he can, but this we know, that as long as the wages system lasts...

We want to see, and live in a world wherein all the workers shall have the cleanest of surroundings, the safest of tools, the BEST of everything to work with.

We are not getting excited about the high cost of living for we believe that in accordance with the fundamental laws of value, goods today sell for just about what it costs in labor energy...

Does a Canadian, British, German or any other capitalist when employing labor, employ his own nationality?

THE RED FLAG

The People's flag is deepest red, It shrouded off, our martyred dead; And ere their limbs grew stiff and cold Their life-blood dyed its every fold.

Chorus:

Then raise the scarlet standard high Beneath its folds, we'll live and die, Though cowardly flinch and traitors sneer, We'll keep the red flag flying here.

The sturdy German chants its praise; In Moscow's vaults, its hymns are sung; Chicago swells its surging song.

It waved above our infant might When all ahead seemed dark as night; It witnessed many a deed and vow, We will not change its color now.

It suits today, the meek and base Whose minds are fixed on profit and place; To cringe beneath the rich man's frown, And haul that sacred emblem down.

With beads uncovered, swear we all, To bear it onward till we fall; Come dungeons dark, or gallows grim, This song shall be our parting hymn!

MUNICIPAL POLITICS

In any city where Socialists' organizations are sure of their grounds and where a majority of the members understand clearly the philosophy of Socialism...

In every campaign the workers eyes must ever be directed towards the one goal—Socialism.

NO COMPENSATION TO CAPITALISTS

By T. Edwin Smith Formerly Traveling Investigator, U. S. Bureau of Labor.

A short time ago in answer to the query "How will we get possession of the agencies of production in the event of the Socialists getting into power?" the answer was given in the columns of another Socialist paper...

There is a large number of Socialists in this world, of whom I am one, who do not approve of this method and I crave space to set forth the reasons why we are not in agreement with the plan to buy out the present bond and share holders.

First, to raise the sum of money required by issuing government bonds say at four per cent would not solve the problem. It would simply change the form of bondage but not the substance.

By such a change all that a worker is able to produce above his bare subsistence would go to the capitalists precisely as it does today. We should merely change the name of the workers collar but he would not be any more free than he is today.

The surplus would come out of the products of the labor just as it does now, would go to the same useless hand of idlers just as it does today and the State would act as the collector in the same old way.

If the Dominion Government were to issue bonds bearing four per cent interest to cover the amount the interest each year would amount to \$23,312,296 per year.

APHORISMS OF SOCIALISM

Being an Explanation of the Declaration of Principles of the S. P. G. B.

APHORISM VI.

"As the machinery of government, including the armed forces of the nation, exists only to conserve the monopoly by the capitalist class of the wealth taken from the workers, the working class must organize consciously and politically for the conquest of the powers of government, national and local, in order that this machinery, including these forces, may be converted from an instrument of oppression into the agent of emancipation and the overthrow of privilege, aristocratic and plutocratic.

The machinery of government is composed of the governing bodies, from Parliament down to the Parish Council or the Board of Guardians, the Instruments of the Law from the Lord Chief Justice down to the "Labour" J.P., and the armed forces, from the army and navy, professional and amateur, down to the policeman, the jailor, and the common hangman.

To say that all these exist merely to conserve to the master class the plunder they wrest from the workers looks, to the man who views things through the glasses the masters provide for him, very much like "drawing the long bow," but it is nothing of the kind.

It is often argued that the hangman is necessary to square accounts with the murderer of the workingman's daughter, that the policeman is the sweet little cherub who sits up aloft and keeps yatch and ward over the teapot the prosperous proletarian banks his surplus money in.

Well, what if he does? What if the hangman is the only protection of sweet and innocent seventeen? It does not follow by any means, that this is anything more than incidental. What, then, is why these agencies of the present social system exist?

As a matter of fact, the nature of the present social system is to assume the preservation of the present order, and in reality to maintain a mental hypocrisy of its existence.

The "order" which the State is to maintain must be in harmony with that property condition. Anything which is out of harmony with that basis is disorder, and must be suppressed. Therefore, of course, it must include the robbery of the working class.

But first of all, it postulates a social condition which is entirely in favour of the class whose interest it is, and the basis of that social condition in the present day is the private ownership of wealth.

The "order" which the State is to maintain must be in harmony with that property condition. Anything which is out of harmony with that basis is disorder, and must be suppressed. Therefore, of course, it must include the robbery of the working class.

Under that condition the State and its machinery pretends to be the servant of the whole of the people, but it is ridiculous, on the face of it. The fact that some workmen have a little money in the teapot, or that the system breeds a certain number of maniacs or desperate beings against whom society at large needs protection, only serves to obscure the real reason for the maintenance of armed forces.

It is not the private property of the workers that the armed forces of the nation exist to protect. It is not even the private property of the master class that it is primarily maintained to conserve. It is the central point, the pivot, of the present social system—the private property institution which is to be protected.

It is this private property institution that is the vital spark of the capitalist organism, hence its preservation unimpaired is of incomparably greater importance than the protection of present property from petty pilferers.

In a very different stage of development to that which it has attained today. The steam engine was not invented, and machinery was practically unknown.

The vast strides made by the development of the means and instruments of production have brought about an industrial revolution, but the basis of the social system was not shifted one jot. It was ownership by a section of society of the land, material, factories, and implements of production in the beginning of the system—it is the same today.

How could it be otherwise? The very working of the system itself precludes the broadening of the private ownership so as to include all the people, for the steady tendency of competition has been and is to narrow that base by crushing successive circles out.

The only way in which the base can alter is in the direction of common ownership, and in this direction there is no halfway house. Bits of common ownership cannot exist in a world of private ownership by a class. The case is not the same where, even though private ownership is the rule, it takes the form of ownership of the means of production by those who use them instead of by those who do not. In such a system certain portions of the woods and pastures, for instance, might be commonly owned, as indeed they were, and people owning their own produce would derive benefit therefrom.

But where the workers have to sell their labor-power in a competitive market in order to live, the basis of property, whatever the legal form, ownership may be well accorded to the master class. However, if they called, they have control of it through their system, which determines that the working class shall surrender whole of its labor-power to them at the cost of its production.

If there were any possible way in which the social base could be gradually changed from private ownership to common, it is doubtful if all the armed force could prevent that gradual change taking place—but we should have seen a commencement made long ere this. As a matter of fact, not one shred of commonly owned wealth can be pointed to. Our Post Office is under the control of the master class, who use it to sweat profit out of the workers for the relief of the taxpayer, and to provide fat sinecures for their own sons. Even the "nation's pictures," and the public parks, are under the control of the capitalist class, who decide how they shall be conducted, and when they shall be opened or closed. The people have nothing at all to say on these matters.

It is quite impossible, therefore, for the base of present-day society to undergo any process of evolution. Society itself does evolve, but the present base of society cannot. It started in the same form that now possesses, and it must retain that form until it finishes its career. It came in as private ownership by a class, and as private ownership by a class it must go out.

While it is true that in the long run the social system is determined by the stage of development of the means of producing wealth, the social system and this stage of development may, nevertheless, be totally out of harmony. Indeed, at recurring periods it must be, at least so long as society is divided into classes. The reason is that while the development of a means of production is not under man's control, the social system, within certain limits, is. The industrial development, which men cannot arrest, is over shifting the social centre of gravity, changing dominating values. Thus, at one time, whoever controlled the land controlled society. As industry developed, however, the implements and machinery became of greater importance. This change of values brought another class to the surface—the owners of the factories, machinery and raw materials. But the industrial development which brought to light this new class, did not arrange a social system under which they could reach their highest pinnacle of power. It gave them strength by altering the values of the sources of wealth; it gave them education by

(Continued on Page 4.)

THE WESTERN CLARION

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ATRUE, NOVEMBER 9, 1912.

A NEW DEAL

Beginning with No. 305, under date of Jan. 28, 1908, I took up the publication of the Western Clarion and have stood sponsor for the same, as far as finance is concerned, down to the present time.

The deficit has averaged considerably over one hundred dollars per month during the nearly eight years that have elapsed. I have patiently and hopefully looked forward to the time when through the zeal and earnest effort of the comrades throughout the Dominion its sub. list might reach such proportions as would not only pay the cost of publication but bring a revenue to the Party treasury.

At the end of 1911 I was still not only face to face with this deficit but was again forced to assume the editorial management as well.

Eight years of this sort of thing is quite enough. No individual could be expected to carry this sort of thing forever. The patience of even Job himself would eventually wear out.

Beginning with next week's issue of the B. C. Federationist, every subscriber at present on the Western Clarion list will receive a copy of the Federationist until his sub. has been filled.

The Federationist will continue as a six page, seven column paper. I have agreed to contribute two columns of editorial matter weekly to the Federationist.

and materially assist in making it a potent and powerful factor in the struggle of Labor for freedom from the bonds of capitalist domination.

Personally I am sorry that the Western Clarion is forced to go out of existence as the organ of the Socialist Party of Canada.

As far back in human history as any authentic record reaches we find the working people engaged in a continual struggle against their masters and employers.

Over two thousand years ago organized workmen took active part in the political life of many Roman cities.

From Ward's "Ancient Lowly" and other sources we learn that the early Christian faith was not a matter of spiritual salvation beyond the grave, but of material salvation from the ills of Roman slavery here upon earth.

From the dawn of time the oppressed have rebelled against the oppressor. The struggle of the oppressed is not a new thing, but it is a struggle between buyers and sellers of a particular commodity, labor power.

The struggle between the mine owners and the mine workers here, has evolved from a case of discrimination, to one of higher wages.

The story of the downfall of the old labor organizations, that had existed for hundreds of years before the coming of the converting of the mechanized property and faith of these organizations to the use of the master class to prolong its reign of brutality and rapine is the most blood-curdling page in human history.

are clearing, the workers as a class are once more awakening to the necessity of intelligent and concerted action along class lines.

These special meetings are the order of the day in Cumberland at present. The first was the business men, in the name of the Board of Trade.

It is the rainbow of promise in the sky of capitalist civilization that is otherwise dark and drear with the clouds of ignorance, superstition and reaction.

Capitalist rule is no longer tolerable. Under it humankind is no longer able to provide for its material existence.

Under such circumstances, it is ridiculous folly to even suggest a resort to any subterfuge for the purpose of disguising the revolutionary purpose of the movement of Labor against Capital.

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returns to Vancouver the next morning, which they did. This action of the engineers was taken after being told by the high priests of their organization that they should strike to take their places.

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Socialist Party of Canada Directory. Lists local branches across Canada including Vancouver, Edmonton, Regina, Winnipeg, and others, with their respective addresses and meeting times.

PLATFORM Socialist Party of Canada

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

Labor produces all wealth, and to the producers it should belong. The present economic system is based upon capitalist ownership of the means of production, consequently all the products of labor belong to the capitalist class.

So long as the capitalist class remains in possession of the reins of government, all the powers of the state will be used to protect and defend their property rights in the means of wealth production and their control of the product of labor.

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

The interest of the working class lies in the direction of setting itself free from capitalist exploitation by the abolition of the wage system, under which is cloaked the robbery of the working class at the point of production.

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

Therefore, we call upon all workers to organize under the banner of the Socialist Party of Canada, with the object of conquering the public powers for the purpose of setting up and enforcing the economic programme of the working class, as follows:

- 1. The transformation, as rapidly as possible, of capitalist property in the means of wealth production (natural resources, factories, mills, railroads, etc.) into the collective property of the working class.
2. The democratic organization and management of industry by the workers.
3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use instead of production for profit.

Subscription Cards. 5 Yearlies - \$3.75, 10 1-2 Yearlies - 4.00, 20 Quarterlies - 4.00. Includes logo for 'SMOKE KURTZ'S OWN CIGARETTES'.

WINNIPEGERS, ATTENTION. All who are interested please attend a meeting to be held in the News Hall, at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon, Nov. 10, 1912, for the purpose of forming a Socialist organization.

VISION OF THE MODERN WORLD

"It's a Mad World," (Fay, "The Bounder").

Had a vision of the modern world, Not with the narrow hampered view of eyes; ... I do believe that to be happy here, And to make others happy, is the best.

NO COMPENSATION TO CAPITALISTS.

(Continued From Page One.) make scientific management possible. You see that government bonds at 4 per cent. will be gladly taken in exchange by the shareholders of many of the smaller lines. The burden upon the backs of the working class in that particular year would have been increased if such a scheme had been in vogue.

APHORISMS OF SOCIALISM

(Continued From Page 1.) making the stage of development of industry incongruous with the social base. It prepared the way for a social change, but the actual work of bringing the social base into line with the method of production it left to the initiative of the class whose interests demanded it.

BREAK YOUR CHAINS- AND GO BACK TO THE LAND

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WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Perhaps no body of men worked harder to get "votes for women" than the Socialists of Los Angeles, Cal.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

The revolutionary party is a fit instrument for the Revolution. It would be placing the Socialist Party in a false position to have them occupying seats to which they had been elected by the voters of those who were not revolutionists.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

The organization must be consciously for this purpose. That is to say, the organized workers must understand thoroughly the object for which they are organizing.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

What is the position of the man who has been voting with the Socialist party because he thought they stood for, say, nationalization of the land, which he believes in when he finds that they do not stand for that by itself but for the abolition of private property in every social necessary?

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

It is the duty, then, of Socialists to see that the workers organize consciously for the revolution. To this end they must keep the issue clear. They must do all they can to discourage those who do not understand the meaning of revolutionary politics from attaching themselves to them, either through the political party or through the ballot.

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