

POINTERS FROM MEXICO

Current Events Providing Ample Evidence That the Power of State is the Prize of Class-Warfare.

As the first flurry of snow is to the barren, brainless cartoonists and joke-writers, so is the ballot box to similarly conditioned sentimental sociologists.

Ignoring the far-reaching and as yet unrefuted fundamental principles of Marxian philosophy, these latter gently seize upon political action, and using it as a fulcrum, attempt to wiggle over with a lever of lies and sneers as sound and firm a school of thought as has ever been committed to print.

Most of them are in accord with the object we are striving to attain, but the ballot box is such a ridiculous proposition that it is to laugh.

Unfortunately for the success of their endeavors, the ballot box, like the poor dear consumer's furnace, produces considerable exaggeration to quote the merry "ha ha."

This being, like burlesque, a form of humor not indulged in by the mentally deficient, we can afford to indulge in the story stars.

Among what our friends conceive as political action, let us proceed to examine the events of the past two years, which offer us examples which cannot be confuted.

There is some thousand miles or so to the south of us, a country which until two years ago, was distinctly non-political. The semi-barbaric, the crass had, for twenty years, under the czar's regime, been permitted to exist to give continuance to as brutal a military despotism as ever fastened itself upon suffering humanity. For that period Diaz and his gang had gathered wealth untold from the slaves of that country by direct and shameless looting.

Periodically the slaves were called upon to vote, and each time Diaz was elected victor. Some two years ago, however, a wealthy sentimentalist decided to contest at the polls this ever-during supremacy. It is sufficient that we scrutinize his motives, sufficient for us is the fact that he was really an opponent, not a dummy, and that he inaugurated a political campaign, not only with at least one reform principle, but with at least one revolutionary conception. The pawns were to be freed from their masters and to come into possession of the land.

The campaign went merrily on; at first tolerated as a joke, but soon it assumed proportions which rendered it rather in-the-basement-shovelling, local humor rather exciting. It is sufficient to the source of all political power and found to his consternation that two decades of plunder and security had produced in his subjects a crowd an appalling, and a revolution which was not able to satisfy their insatiable appetite for wealth from the handouts of the government, the smaller fry had been drawing money and equipment to maintain an army which existed on paper alone.

With the country elsewhere in arms Diaz accepted the situation with the least grace possible under the circumstances, and retired to Paris.

Notwithstanding the fact that guns were the principal arguments used in this controversy, all went purely along political lines.

The real political fight at all times is solely for control of the powers of state. This accomplished, whatever these powers possessing these powers, these may be instituted providing they have sufficient strength and ability.

Madero, upon assuming control, did not possess this strength, or had used the power as stepping-stones to his success. Whatever the interests behind that revolution may have been, Madero found himself in a highly uncomfortable predicament. In many of the provinces he possessed the arms his or some one else's millions had supplied them with. They had a taste of freedom. They were organized and to some extent equipped, and were furthermore infinitely better off than they had ever been in their lives. It was not to be supposed that they would lay down their arms until the promises made by Madero had been fulfilled.

The pawns possessed exactly what we are striving for, power approximately equal to our masters.

It is not to be supposed that the spectacle of thousands of armed slaves, with more or less revolutionary ideas, roving over a country actually suited to guerrilla warfare, would meet with the approval of those who owned the wealth producing property of that country, nor that they would be idle and patient when they perceived constant destruction of their property circled.

Whoever was behind the movement which overthrew Madero a few weeks ago realized that the only way to establish conditions which would again render the golden stream of wealth available was to return to the methods of Diaz. A counter-revolution was ordered and successfully carried out.

The betrayal of Madero by his army has been accounted for by bribery. Shorn of every vestige of power, the government fell. His conquerors at once proceeded to fortify their position first by removing all opponents within reach; second, by seeking to have their position secured by popular vote, obtaining "their just powers from the consent of governed."

The ruling class has rarely been so favored in this respect. Whenever the need for blood-letting appeared, blood has flowed. They have never stood upon ceremony when murder suited their purpose.

Huerta and Diaz must now appeal to the "humorous" ballot box, which,

NEW YORK STATE CANNERIES.

A word picture of children working in canneries for so many hours that they cried to be allowed to return to their homes, if only to be whipped by their parents, was one of the many revolting details of child labor in canneries presented to the State Factory Commission at its hearing at Albany, N. Y., by Miss Mary Elizabeth Chaborn, Nassau, 1909.

She told the commission of seeing children from the age of four years up working sixteen or more hours a day snipping beans, husking corn, or sorting vegetables, until their hands bled and had to be bandaged so they might continue their work.

It was admitted that in some cases before. It wouldn't need to, being the only floor seller in the market.

But what about the price? Don't let that worry you. Flour would be sold cheaper. That much less labor would be incorporated in it and that much less labor would be incorporated in it. Never forget that, on the average, you get what you pay for. If you could only pay for what you get. And under trust production it would be even more so.

The price would more steadily approximate the exchange value, as the price would be eliminated. The Trust does not exist just to overcharge you for the fun of overcharging you. The greatest possible volume of net profit is all it wants and, on the average, the only way to get that, is to sell things at their value. It is best to make a million sales at a profit of ten cents on a sale, where only nine hundred thousand will sell at a profit of eleven cents, or only seven hundred thousand at a profit of nine cents. All the traffic will bear is all that it will bear.

But we guess the professor will not see it that way. Also we hope not, because we would miss a lot of fun.

Anyway, we expect to see him leave the presidential chair, perhaps a more enlightened professor, but certainly a thoroughly discredited President, having signally failed to achieve the impossible. Provided he ever attempts it.

TAKE OFF THE BLINKERS.

Look around you and see if there is anything in sight, apart from natural objects, that is not the product of human labor. Then think of how those things were produced, what agony of mind and body, poverty and distress, enslavement, mental and physical, of man, woman and child is incorporated in them.

Turning from this, consider how these products of human labor are divided amongst the members of society. Those who form the producing class are not the best, but the worst, dressed and fed. They do not ride in comfortably cushioned automobile or palace cars, but hang on to straps in crowded street cars, or ride in those glorified cattle-trucks termed colonist cars. They are, in fact, the mudsills of society, in the view of those who enjoy the fruits of their labor.

Which class do you belong to?

Alberta University reports a goodly interest with lectures by A. Berkov, "Socialist Theory of Values" and K. Kingston, "The Working Class." They are endeavoring to obtain Prof. Mack Eastman of Calgary for a lecture. McGill University is also considering the formation of a Chapter. The college paper has been filled with arguments for and against such an organization. —"Intercollegiate Socialist."

This is going to be a busy year for the Socialists in the West. With an election due in the early summer in Alberta, a Dominion election looming nearer every week, and the cards being stacked for another crooked deal in B. C., we are going to have the time of our lives. Amid all the turmoil the S. P. of C. will be the only party with a platform that presents a clearly defined issue. Register!

women had worked 119 hours a week (19.5 hours a day) and that the weekly average during the busy season for women is seventy and eighty and sometimes ninety hours a week. —N. Y. Times.

THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT

Its Base, Scientific; Its True Function, Education; Its Tactic, Revolutionary and Uncompromising.

The modern Socialist movement is not the infant that some of our friends would have the world believe. From an Utopian scheme of one hundred years ago it has been formulated into an exact science, its roots have been planted in the fruitful soil of inductive research, and the results have surprised friends and enemies alike.

Today it is regarded by its friends as the only hope for social adjustment and by its enemies as the greatest curse humanity has had to combat. There is no thinking person today, be he capitalist or slave, priest or layman, atheist or religiousist, who will say "all is well." Everyone who takes the trouble to look around is speedily convinced that we are in a bad way socially, not to say in desperate straits.

The enormous accumulation of wealth on the one hand in the hands of the very few, and consequent impoverishment of the many who live but thirty days removed from starvation; the gigantic power of a Morgan or a Rothschild, the entire want of power by the workman as an individual in the modern social structure, the hideous condition of prostitution and its attendant train of sex evils; the destruction of the home and its strange influence upon races and nations; the growth of a wandering population who, like the son of man, "have not the place to lay their head," the development of hobnobism and vagabondage and the steady acceleration of the working class revolt manifested in strikes, lockouts and labor wars generally, coupled with the Socialist movement, give to both masters and slaves matter for earnest and immediate thought.

An answer to our present riddle of the world; a solution to the gigantic contradictions confronting us must be found. Past history shows us too plainly that these conditions which develop in society with the decay of any system of production, have been adjusted in rivers of blood; that the new class that evolution has called upon to take up the task of managing the world's affairs has stepped into the seat of government amid scenes of chaotic disorder.

This threat of violent revolution faces us today. We have reached a stage where the operation of industry is absolutely social. Social in work and thought, society cannot much longer tolerate the individual ownership of social machinery and its necessary consequent command over the products of social labor. The modern Socialist movement then, is the expression of working class desire to adjust society to its environment. Our effort is to educate the slave to his class position, knowing that with this accomplished the working class will speedily reach out and take from its present owners the machinery of life and remove once and for all the power of the capitalist to keep us so steadily at the industrial gridstone that life is becoming but one long vista of agonizing toil.

Knowing that the workers, once they realize the fact that they, and they alone, produce wealth, that they alone operate the social machinery, will speedily see to it that they alone own these things created of their hands.

The threat of strife is no blood-thirsty dream, it is the conclusion arrived at by a fascinating men everywhere and by them the most dreaded. We work all the time to push it from us by carrying on a protracted course of education, an education that no university man gets, an education on the economics of labor, searching studies into history, into biology, and kindred sciences, all from a working class viewpoint.

We work to give knowledge of untold value to the working class because as working men we have come to realize that knowledge is power, since it gives to its devotee a clear outlook upon social forces and activities, and saves him from following the red herrings so skillfully dangled by our friends the politicians. We know also that in such studies there are those a fabric of costly abstractions, just one act of sufficient brutality, just one more insult may unleash a torrent of revolution before which the present social system will disappear like chaff before the wind.

The class-conscious worker seeks to educate; what does the political and social stunk of the masters do? Just of course what the masters would have them do. Who will soon forget the treatment handed out to the San Diego workers, the almost unparalleled brutality of the so-called educated

class? All that happened has not been written in the master class press of Lawrence, Little Falls, Chicago, the slaughter of the commandants, and countless other atrocities.

The Socialist movement is growing, however, and bids fair in the near future to exert such pressure as to call these atrocities to a halt. A brutal master class must not be allowed to once more deluge the earth with blood, to unleash the red flood of revolution such as we have seen in the past. Whatever comes of their propaganda of violence, it must not be allowed to sidetrack the march of working-class education. The repressant slave measures have a very useful effect. They serve to distract the attention of the masses from the real issue. To investigate the proceedings we saw in Lawrence, then by skillful police and press work to divert the attention of the worker, and raise a howl of protest against "foreign" agitators is an old and familiar trick.

The Socialist movement has already shown its strength in Europe. Not many months ago the capitalists of the various countries involved in the struggle for the surplus values produced by the Turkish workers came very near the old trick of calling out the workers of Europe to fight over the plunder. The war dogs were about to be unleashed; the Socialists of all countries recognize that a world's war is in no way desirable. It sits for a time the old archaic ideas of patriotism which lie hidden in the minds of so many Socialist working men. It has a tendency to

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South Vancouver municipal employees have just passed over one of the worst winters experienced in that locality. Most of the men have been idle all winter. A couple of weeks ago a few were allowed to work, but owing to the number out of work they were only allowed to work two days a week. All other workers in the locality have been up against it in the same way. Some wise gink will probably say they did not want work.

Striking miners of West Virginia are still being stung and arched for nothing more serious than a fight within reach. The state militia are in control of the mines, and over 100 miners have been jailed. A state-wide strike is likely to be called any time now.

Four men were elected on the Socialist ticket for the legislature in the State of Illinois in the recent elections.

BOUND VOLUMES, 1912. Readers wishing to secure bound volumes of The Western Clarion for 1912 are requested to send in their names to this office as soon as possible. When sufficient orders are received, the work will be put in hand. Price, \$2.50 per volume.

We still have five volumes for 1911 in stock at same price.

CLARION FUND		
(Maintenance)		
Previously acknowledged		\$23.27
British Columbia		
2. Pilgrim, Victoria	\$2.00	
Victoria Comrades	.35	
White Brethren	.35	
N. Lambert, Vancouver	.25	
F. Fraser, Vancouver	2.50	
Vancouver Local No. 16	2.50	
Hattie Bone, Clayton	2.50	
Farmerman, New Westminster	5.00	
G. C. Johnson, Carmi	.50	
Local Vancouver No. 58	5.00	\$16.58
Manitoba		
Per Geo. Mead	.75	.75
Saskatchewan		
Local Moose Jaw No. 1	16.00	
D. Frame, Leduc	1.25	
Moose Jaw Comrades	2.75	
		\$21.00
Ontario		
Per A. G. McCallum, Ottawa	1.00	
Local St. Catharines No. 30	1.25	
		\$ 3.00
Quebec		
Local Montreal No. 1	8.50	
C. G. Wellermann, Lasard	.25	
		\$ 8.75
Total receipts to date		\$102.72
Clarion Maintenance Fund		\$102.72
Less grant to Clarion office		75.25
Balance in hand, Mar. 17, 1913		\$ 26.53

CLARION PUBLISHING ACCOUNT		
(Expenses)		
No. 711		\$35.85
Printing and mailing issue		20.00
Printing and mailing issue		20.00
Editing		20.00
Stationery		20.00
Sundries		\$207.10
Receipts		
Subs. from Mar. 3 to 17	\$118.11	
Subs. credit, H. G. Hills, Vic.	1.00	
Local Vancouver	1.00	
Cash sales	1.63	
		\$121.74
Deficit provided from Clarion Maintenance Fund		75.25
		\$107.10

J. H. McHUGH, Secy. Dom. Exec. Com.

IF ALBERTA LOCALS WANT TO HAVE THIS PAPER CIRCULATING IN THAT PROVINCE BEFORE THE ELECTION COMES OFF THEY ARE BETTER GET BUSY. THEY ARE MIGHTY SLOW IN STARTING.—ED.

B. C. WORKERS' ATTENTION!

The Provincial Voters' Lists have been cancelled, and you have only until April 7th next to register again.

GET BUSY!

and don't let the McBride-Bovver gang deprive you of your franchise. Go to the Registrar of Voters in your district, and fill out a new application form, and get as many workers as you know to do the same. A Dominion Election is on the cards for this year, and the Provincial Voters' Lists are used.

GET BUSY!

THE PANAMA CANAL PROSPERITY

There are some words in the English language that convey to the average reader a feeling of contentment that no other words can supply. One of these is "prosperity." We hear it reiterated so frequently that few other words are so well impressed on our memories and probably no other would be so greatly missed were it dropped from the language. From the occupants of editorial chairs, from the classic halls of universities, and from the offices of ministers of the crown, the word is daily distributed, and, in stead of familiarity breeding contempt, each repetition seems to more fully portray its beauty and renew its lustre. Little wonder, then, that so many members of the working class imagine that they are prosperous, and that the capitalist system of today is all that could be desired.

Every new undertaking of a public nature, the building of railways and canals, the opening up of new tracts of country for settlement, or the establishing of new trade agreements with other nations, is advanced by the ruling class as another attempt to increase the "prosperity" of all sections of the people. This does seem a paradox, to be sure, for it is hardly reasonable to suppose that they can institute anything that would be beneficial to the same time, to both the robbed and the robbers.

But "wonders never cease," or politicians, either. One of their latest schemes for nursing humanity on the lap of luxury is the construction of the Panama Canal. On the completion of this great work, which is one of the landmarks in social development, marvellous things, we are told, are going to happen. The trade route between the east and the west will be shortened by thousands of miles, the length and dangerous journey around the Horn will then be eliminated, the time required between the loading and unloading of cargoes will be cut in two, and, furthermore, many thousands of workers who are now engaged on construction and on the vessels

plying round the Horn will be thrown out of employment and allowed the glorious privilege of travelling the earth by a shorter circuit in search of jobs.

But, of course, there is no good reason why this "last item should greatly matter. The workers have been expending their mental and physical energy long enough in producing wealth for the use of others, so they need a rest, and this is one of the methods their masters are taking to secure their release from the burden of work. Should some then starve in the effort to obtain employment why, well and good, there are plenty of others to take their places. For every new machine that is introduced and every trade route that is shortened an ever-increasing number of wage slaves are thrown on the open market, and the demand for their special commodity, their very life force, is becoming each year less and less.

But still the workers don't seem to mind it. On every opportunity that presents itself they send to the legislative assemblies, the senate, and congress, representatives of the master class to do their thinking and frame up legal enactments to maintain their own supremacy and safeguard their own property rights.

The cities on the Pacific Coast from San Francisco in the south, to Prince Rupert in the north, are busily preparing for the great increase of trade which must necessarily come to their harbors when the Canal is completed. Each one of them is urging upon their elected members to the House of Commons at Ottawa, and the House of Representatives at Washington, to do their utmost, both in caucus and on the floor of the House, to secure large grants of money for the construction of wharves, docks and other terminal facilities. Progress clubs, 500,000 Clubs, Publicity Clubs and Boards of Trade are organized and assisted in every city to make known to the world the wonderful natural advantages they each possess and to attract the money-

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THE PROFESSOR PRESIDENT'S PICNIC.

The professor is now safely President of the United States. He used to be president of some university. Four years from now he will be wishing he had stayed on the university job. Probably sooner.

His friends have great hopes of him. Others express fears of him. The hopes will not be realized. Perhaps the fears neither.

We are told that he will have a number of stiff jobs ahead of him, some of which do not interest us, such as the Panama Canal question, the Mexican question and the burning question of fitting hungry Democrats into meaty jobs at the ratio of 16 Democrats to 1 job. But one thing he is set to do does interest us. He is to "reduce the cost of living."

It is generally agreed that the U. S. is in a deuce of a pickle. The trouble seems to be that it is becoming increasingly difficult for the "Common People" to make both ends meet within even speaking distance of one another. (Nothing like this in Canada, of course). The Democrats propose to remedy this by reducing the Tariff, among other things. Incidentally it might be remarked that there is no tariff to speak of in England. But the Common People there have also not been able to make both ends meet. The Tariff moves in a mysterious way its wonder-und understood how No-Tariff at 'ome has the same result as Tariff in the U. S., but Hegel has said that a thing may be the contrary to itself, so we suppose it's alright. Anyway, a President who has been a college professor is sure to understand the proposition and it's up to him.

And then there are the Trusts. We wonder what he will do with the Trusts. Dissolving them has been tried, and has been a great success, from a farce-comedy point of view. If we remember correctly the Oil Trust, among others, was palnastkingly dismembered—and the price of oil went up one.

We guess that, being an unimaginative professorial person President Wilson will continue these entertaining anatomical experiments. If our advice was asked we would suggest dissolving the Trusts instead of busting them. For, the highest professional, political-economy and legal authority, and public opinion—to the contrary notwithstanding—no production is cheaper than Trust production. Not only can it economize by producing on a large scale, by standardizing, etc., but, were production thoroughly trusted it would, in the necessities, anyway, cut down costs greatly by cutting out the drummer and the advertiser. You don't see coal oil advertised to any huge extent do you? Just so, if the flour milling industry were completely in the hands of one corporation it wouldn't buy expensive page ads, to tell you its flour would make two loaves grow where only one grew

THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

This page is devoted to reports of Executive Committee, Local, and Dominion Executive. All communications to L. Burrough, Secretary, 615 Main St., Vancouver, B. C.

B. C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Vancouver, March 16, 1913. Convened at 516 Main St. at 8 p.m. Present—Cassidy, Karnal, Cook, H. Smith, Connor, Pritchard, Rold and Secretary. Rold in the chair. Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

Correspondence dealt with from Comrades Paul Anderson, Local 58 (Lettish) on arrangements for Com. J. R. Knight, and call for mass meeting to give publicity to the outrage at So. Porcupine, Ont., recommended to Vancouver Local No. 1 for action in conjunction with other locals. From J. B. Osborne, Oakland, Cal.; S. Guthrie, Ladysmith, H. Dalgleish, Turner, local No. 2, Victoria; T. Hyde, Turner local No. 1, Hartlett, Whonnock, Chris. Pattison, Nanaimo; Thos. Conway, Cumberland; J. R. Knight, Pentlton; C. H. Lake, Stewart; Jas. Cuthbertson, Motherlode; and T. W. Helde, Vancouver.

Charter granted to ten Comrades at Pentlton. Local to be known as Local No. 77, B. C. P. C. Expressing sympathy to Local No. 1, Creston, Mar. 30. Literature from Dominion Executive, 70c. Warrants drawn.

Financial Report

Table with columns: Receipts, Expenses, As per warrant, Adjustment. Includes items like Literature sales, Local Pentlton, Charter, and As per warrant.

J. H. BURROUGH, Secretary.

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Convened as above, held in the chair. Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

Correspondence read from Local Calgary No. 4, to Clarion Prov. Exec. Committee, re same; Phil. Faughnan, Sec. for Ontario and Quebec; Alf. Budden, Calgary; A. Beneshon, Sec. Local Ontario No. 8, with request for statement of account, and notifying Executive of expulsion of S. Harwith, his secretary for misuse of funds and gross neglect of duty; L. D. Thomas, Sec. Local St. Catharines No. 30, re sub-wards and Clarion Fund; Wm. Harrison, Sec. Local Moose Jaw No. 1, re Clarion Fund; Thos. Gilmore, Sec. Local Winnipeg No. 2 (Sask.), re Clarion Fund; W. B. Bird, Sec. Local Regina No. 6, re same; Vincent Frosdham, Alta organizer, with Clarion subs and comments on movement in Alberta; Local Crawford Bay, B. C., re Clarion Fund; J. F. Johnston, Enderby, B. C.; H. Hoet, Carleton, Alta.; Clarion Fund; Thos. W. Green, Gooding, Sask.; Frank E. Gage, Redditt, Ont.; Sydney Filmore, Moose Jaw; S. D. P. Local No. 2, So. Porcupine, Ont.; Burt E. Anderson, Sec. Alta. Prov. Exec. Committee, with notification of expulsion of R. B. Murray from Local Inisfail (Alta.) No. 3, for violation of Sec. 9, Art. 2, of party constitution; Cotton's Weekly; Information Dept. of S. P. of A.; Le Courier Socialiste International, Brussels; Socialist Party, France (Section Francoise du Internationalisme Ouerriere), and A. Netkow, Toronto, with request for insertion of advertisement.

Bills—Sundries, \$2.10; printing and mailing, Clarion No. 711, \$85.85; ditto No. 712, \$90.00; editing, \$20.00; warrants ordered drawn.

Hahn-Connor—That action of Secretary in depositing \$25 with P. O. Dept. pending receipt of mailing privileges be endorsed. Carried. Secretary reported inexcusable delay on the part of the postal authorities at Ottawa in according newspaper mailing privileges to the Clarion. Report received and matter left in hands of Secretary.

Expulsions of R. B. Murray from Local Inisfail No. 3, and S. Harwith from Local Ontario No. 8, for cause, confirmed. Advertisement from A. Netkow, Toronto, refused. Communication from Calgary Local No. 4 discussed at length, and secretary instructed to reply.

Communication from S. D. P. Local No. 32, So. Porcupine, Ont., considered, and secretary instructed.

Action of Secretary on other communications endorsed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Table with columns: Receipts, Expenses, Balance. Includes items like Literature sales, Cash Exp., Stamps, and P. H. Filmore, member-at large.

GREAT TIMES IN LETHBRIDGE.

Editor of the Western Clarion:—Now that the Clarion is back on the job after a winter's rest, I would request a little space in your issue if you see fit to allow it, the comrades know that we are still alive at Lethbridge in spite of the high cost of living and the number of our Local (13), etc.

We have upon different occasions during the winter been addressed by Comrades Knight, O'Brien, Budden, Smith and others. These meetings have, as a rule, been quite interesting especially as this was the first time.

This particular meeting was held in the Labor Temple on March 4th, Comrade Budden delivering an address on "The Socialists and the Education of the Working Class." The education to be obtained in the Socialist movement with that dealt out by the master class through the schools, colleges, and universities into their ever willing servants, the press and the pulpit.

When at the close of Comrade Budden's address, the meeting was thrown open for questions, some one wanted to know if Socialism had ever been established in any country. Comrade Budden gave a recapitulation of the main facts concerning the Paris Commune, and took advantage of this opportunity to point out the basis of Socialism in both France and Germany co-operated to stifle this attempt towards freedom by a part of the working class.

At this stage things began to take on a livelier aspect—"something doing," as we are wont to express ourselves. One of the pair of sky-larks, who were present, stepped forward, took off his coat, and, like Casey Jones, "mounted to the platform with his orders in his hand." He presented a note book containing a list of implied vulnerable points in Comrade Budden's speech—implied, I say, for Comrade Budden had been careful and had been careful to leave no loopholes.

However, our friend, the enemy, got up on his hind legs and proceeded to annihilate the speaker with his words. He pointed out that the Socialists were not interested in the welfare of the workers in this instance. It was clearly pointed out, however, that the Socialist movement is world-wide and that the working class of all countries will be international, as capitalism is today—and that all such local and premature attempts as that of the Paris Commune however heroic they may be, must fail.

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HOW THE REBURSION OF THE CLARION AFFECTS CLIFFORD BUTLER.

There were ten of them originally, Jesus Christ asked "Where are the nine?" "Well," said the one, "they ain't 'ere. I'm here because I'm 'ere." You see, fellow workers, he couldn't help being there. The social organism can't help being ninety-nine, and if it comes to you at 100 and says "I've got the belly ache, my tabernacle is about to dissolve," "well," you should say, "Damn your eyes, your ears, and your whiskers, and your nose, I can't help it!"

What a funny world this is! How these Capitalists try to dazzle and stagger the working man. A Liberal Capitalist (who by the way was not very liberal) once said to me: "Young man, you will never be rich! Do you know how I made my money?" "I got it," I replied, modestly. "No," I got it by looking after the leaser!" he roared.

"Did yer?" I snivelled, "why," I said, "you must be a plumber." About half an hour afterwards one of his hired men came down the lane. I said to the industrious plumber, "Here's one of your leaks coming." "That hired cat-paw of Liberalism, known as Dixon the single-taxer, 'e-fined O'Shaughnessy, president of the C. P. R., as 'the uncrowned king of Canada.'"

Of course, I do not know what O'Shaughnessy thought about that. It may have elevated his eyebrows. He is an Irishman with a Yankee education, so he might have said: "What do you think of the Irish now?" However, there is no doubt Dixon thought when he came out with his definition, "That will stagger the natives! That is a mortal blow at the C. P. R.," but it takes more than 't to stagger a Manitoba, and I notice the C. P. R. are still running their trains on time, and Dixon is running after them trying to catch them.

We have heard Dixon, and we have heard the chimes at midnight, and, frankly, we would sooner hear the chimes at midnight—and never let us forget that Dixon "also ran."

Dixon represents a small group of Capitalists who have been exasperated by a process of evolution over which no one individual has any control, not even the President of the C. P. R. Did not President Hayes go down on the Titanic? And the place that knew him knows him no more. Do not all individuals loom and fade before the Eternal?

Hayes has gone, but another one took his place, and the workers are still in chains. The fallacy of Dixon's statement is this: "If you dethrone O'Shaughnessy you will be free." That is Dixon's seduction.

He deludes nobody else. In the new lineup of parties there will be only two: The Capitalist party and the Socialist party. The small expropriated Capitalists must come to us; we are not going to restore to them their lost supremacy.

The mountain won't come to Mahomet, Mahomet must come to the mountain. Fellow workers, the small expropriated Capitalists are Mahomet, false prophets, wolves in sheep's clothing. The pious sky-pilot says: "The material does not determine the ideal." They say that because they are blind, and consequently the blind lead the blind, and both fall into "the sweet bye and bye."

Their ideal heaven has no earthly basis. Their new Jerusalem is paved with gold but of course gold is not "an earthly substance." The angels have wings, but there are no wings here. Birds don't fly with wings, they fly with whiskers. The white wings of the angels which never grow weary, are not birds' wings. They are angels; and when you say "wings" you should say something else, because wings are not wings. Angels are not angels if they haven't got wings. What are angels? We don't know. Nobody ever saw a woman's body and a bird's wings. Nobody ever will—that's what the sky pilots tell us—till we get to the New Jerusalem.

What a gathering that will be! Men's bodies, women's bodies, birds' wings; to say nothing of harp arc blow ye the bleeding trumpet, blow! We shall all be called by our names. A friend of mine who blows the trombone says they will call him Leviticus—blow upon the ram's horn. OLDFORD BUTLER.

REBURSION OF THE CLARION AFFECTS CLIFFORD BUTLER.

There were ten of them originally, Jesus Christ asked "Where are the nine?" "Well," said the one, "they ain't 'ere. I'm here because I'm 'ere." You see, fellow workers, he couldn't help being there. The social organism can't help being ninety-nine, and if it comes to you at 100 and says "I've got the belly ache, my tabernacle is about to dissolve," "well," you should say, "Damn your eyes, your ears, and your whiskers, and your nose, I can't help it!"

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CLIFFORD BUTLER.

CLIFFORD BUTLER.

CLIFFORD BUTLER.

"SOCIALISM WOULD STRANGLE ART."

Continued from last week.

Seeing that the objections raised to Socialism include those already referred to, it is not to be wondered at that the most unesthetic of the bourgeois should take up the cudgels on behalf of the artists, scientists, etc., against the "ignorant masses," the "barbaric mob." Any one who has read to any extent at all, will find all kinds of philosophers manifesting decided apprehensions for the future reserved for poets, artists, etc., in a society of "materialistic communists."

We are told, in short, that a Socialist society, wholly occupied in planting cabbages and potatoes, would care little about cultivating lilies and roses. Material production, say they, would absorb all its energies. This is, perhaps, one of the best compliments that bourgeois apologists could pay to the Socialist, for well we know, however beautiful the lily may be, or however pleasant to the sense of smell the rose may be, it is as nothing compared to the pleasure given the sense of taste by a good, well cooked meal of roast beef, cabbage and potatoes.

I hardly think, however (I cannot prophesy) that the society of the future will organize mental labor on exactly the same lines as manual. At any rate, the Victor Hugos of the future need not be alarmed, they will not be subjected to factory regulations; the Shakespeares of the next era, if there are any, will at least have more than the opportunity to eke out a precarious existence by playing upon the stages of those small and almost unknown theatres, frequented mostly by sailors. The Beethovens under the Socialist regime will not be compelled to compose sonatas in order to obtain sufficient bread to keep the lamp of life aglow; nor will the Herbert Spencers under the Co-operative Common wealth be forced to give up the idea of migrating to another land, so that the folks at home should not be left destitute. Everything permits us to hope that the poets, astronomers, mathematicians and torturers like Galileo, called like Dante, massacred like Archbishops, or poisoned like Socrates. But really I do not think much explanation necessary to make us realize that the first need for the proper development of art, is liberty. Would they have less, or do you not think they would have more than at present? If there ever was an environment hostile to the development of Art and Science, it is the bourgeois society, where everything is governed by the lust for profit.

Sufficient has been said, though we might have touched upon that awful calamity predicted by the specially ordained ministers of the omnipotent—the destruction of religion. If that which is now used by the ruling class for the purpose of doping and duping the workers constitutes religion, then the sooner such an obnoxious thing is destroyed, the better for all concerned. If that moral institution, the Church, professes to be the guardian of our welfare, then the quicker it is swept into oblivion, the better it will be for all humanity.

Object, therefore, ye whose objections cause you to strain at a gnat and swallow a camel; moralists, ye philosophers, preach and pray and indulge in long-winded and awful sounding anathemas, ye self-constituted servants of the Most High. It will all be without purpose. That movement born of conditions imposed upon Society by the capitalist system, must grow until it reaches the great climax, when class domination shall cease, and with it the existence of classes. Men may attempt to retard its progress in one way or another, but as the river will flow, and a small beginning gathers volume and pressure as it winds its way toward the sea, so will this movement of discontented slaves increase, as sure as night follows day.

Build a dam here, cut a channel there, for the purposes of diverting the movement, and the only thing that will eventually happen will be the destruction of those who dare raise their puny hands and cudgel their narrow brains to find means of opposing it. In one of those beautiful poems for which he was famous, Victor Hugo shows us the satyr of Mount Olympus rising, black, hairy and covered with mire into the proud assembly of the gods. "They greet him with derision. His response is a strong note of defiance. He strikes the fate of Mercury. Apollo the strong hands him his lyre, and the revolutionary song rises like an increasing shout to the vaults of heaven; and the slogger in his turn expands, the immensity of space enters into this black and mud-besmeared form. It is the entire world arising and overthrowing the throne of Jupiter."

So will the over-awakening proletariat, gathering to itself all the powers and arms of science, rise before those who have long ruled and consider themselves eternal, and in the fulness of its power, with its foot upon their neck, overturning their throne, shall cry:

"All must give way, I am the last great slave class in history, through

my emancipation shall all the world be made free."

Awake, then, ye slaves from beneath the hypnotic influence of your masters' teaching, shake off your apathy, and realizing the director in which your interests lie, rise and take that which you and yours produce. W. A. P.

WHAT WAR IS REALLY LIKE

Brata and Braun publishes the following extracts from a Balkan correspondence and commends them to those who glibly talk of war as if it were a frolic:

"A gun collides with a cart (carrying wounded piled in heaps on filthy straw) and upsets it; with a crash, a shriek, a thud, the human cargo rolls into the slush, and the next gun goes right through the sprawling heap of maimed mankind. It does not much matter—one a few wounded men wounded a little more. Where they have fallen there is a purple pool; when we pass the spot a minute later the men's heavy tread splashes our faces with red specks."

"There were three surgeons in the redoubt (Baghrash); these did their best with almost every necessary deficient. I saw them at their work with their arms and bloodstained hands, soaked in the skin, faces streaming with the sweat of indescribably hard work; they looked with their saws and knives like the torturers of the Inquisition. Shirts served as bandages, volunteers assisted; but hardened men turned sick at some of the sights; halves of faces carried away, exposing to the core life's machinery; limbs torn off, bowels hanging out, pools of blood in which swam brain remnants and intestines like living worms; amputated legs and arms thrust into corners as offal for the dogs."

Water ran short, for the enemy held the springs in the vineyards. Many drank the muddy pool water mixed with blood which had collected in the trenches; this caused vomiting, followed by thirst even greater than before."

THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT

(Continued from Page One.)

loosen up the markets of the world and give things, already too hateful to be endured any longer, a new lease of life. Therefore the Socialists are opposed to war, and in the case we are quoting were able to put the quietus on our masters' bloodthirsty intentions. A special Congress gathered at Basle in Switzerland, representative of all the Socialist workers in Europe, and an ultimatum was issued to the capitalist class of the world, that if they wanted to see a fight they would have to do their own fighting; and this is perhaps the best thing about the Socialist viewpoint.

Being a working class movement, and the worker being in such close touch with the material forces of existence, he by mere force of habit, feels with a more direct and searching vision about modern problems than does the scientific lecturer of some university. Understanding by sheer physical contact the relation between cause and effect in the machine process of modern life, it is not a difficult matter for him to grasp the direct method of solving the problems which we have to face. Once he has been emancipated from the old method of thinking, so assiduously taught him when he is very young by the masters' school system, he goes to the root of things with a directness that is refreshing.

Thus, while wise-looking professors are dissecting upon the disarmament of nations, the Socialist calls an extraordinary conference, and the masters think again.

At this point it may be pointed out that Socialist tactics in various countries are, of course, directed by the particular conditions prevailing in that country. Thus in Germany, where the power of the Junkers is still a small item and calls for a great deal of combatting from other classes, this conflict will of necessity have some bearing upon the attitude of the Socialists in that country. England, or rather, Great Britain, also affords an interesting study of the effects of past surroundings and present conditions. We are often told that the British can never absorb the idea of internationalism which is the core of Socialism and it would seem that our critics have the best of the case. A closer look will, however, reveal the growth of the new thought of unity amongst all the workers. Great Britain has been slow to realize the idea of internationalism because of its isolated position. The notion does not come as something new to the European slave, because the various countries which own him, each at one time or another over-run each other with force of arms. The mixing which has gone on in the last few years in Europe has not occurred in Britain; and, furthermore, even a French slave can walk over the border of a neighboring country and trade or converse with a fellow slave of another country, but the British slave had to cross the water in order to do so and that costs money.

The insular nature of the British slave has first of all to overcome

before the Socialist ideal becomes a reality. This has been the main reason for the strange and contradictory actions of British Socialism. It is not only a matter of understanding Marxian economics, also there is involved the shedding of the old skin and some patches get left behind for a very long time. In the States we shall find the patriotic idea, though not so flourishing a condition. The internationalism of labor comes easier to the motley population. Even in this country, young as the movement is, the geographical and economic characteristics have played their part. Thus in the East the effect of old early production is still felt, calling into being the S. D. P. "Democracy," being the slogan of small business, whose influence is still felt in the cent belt. We must expect that a Party produced by purely Western conditions such as the S. P. C. could not for long satisfy the demands of the East. That the split which occurred is all part of the process of development, and that conditions will produce a larger and wiser party as soon as capitalism is sufficiently advanced to enforce its rule all over alike is the personal opinion of the writer.

To return to Socialism proper, however. The whole course of our teachings is directed to the study of the cause of things, and because of this method of investigation we have no time to waste patching the frayed garment of Capitalism. We are content to leave to the "archaic defence league" such scientific methods of dealing with the "sex evil" as sterilization and emasculation. We look deeper. We know that modern prostitution lives and has its being to the profit system, the drink evil which we hear so much also is located in the pocket books of the capitalist system. The Lord's Day Alliance; the single tax; the "back to the land" artist; and the currency fend only serve the scientific socialist with fond for laughter.

Knowing that the cause of the evils which confront is too deeply rooted to be reached by any other means than the removal of that cause, we have no time to waste on any other route. We will follow the simple method of removing the capitalist class from the ownership of the tools of wealth production and owning them ourselves. The Socialist movement is revolutionary and not reformist. Is scientific and not utopian; is sure of what it wants and is determined to get it.

A movement then, that promises so well, that has adherents numbering many millions, that raises its red flag in every country where capitalism makes its appearance, that carries on an active propaganda from London to Peking, from Calgary to Tokio; that enrolls within its ranks workers of all nationalities, that shows a voting strength in Germany of over 4,000,000 and in the United States of 1,000,000, must needs have some grounds for its existence, must be founded upon truth and knowledge. This is indeed the case.

The great strength of the Modern Socialist movement lies in the fact that it teaches science. It establishes everywhere classes in political economy, and kindred subjects; it strives to educate the workers to their true position in society, with the full faith that, once that aim is accomplished, its mission will be over. Irresistible, because in line with evolution, it goes its way and needs no restraint or reactionary efforts to kill it. Thanks to the labors of Marx, Engels, and many others, who first placed it upon a sound basis, it has grown in 60 years to its present proportions. Spread this knowledge! Scatter it far and wide! The spread of knowledge is our mission. The labor theory of value; the correct reading of the historic evidence, and the understanding of the Class War, these we must forever proclaim in spite of a hostile clergy, press, and parliament, in spite of law courts and "top methods." Our task is laid out, "to the work" is the order of the day.

And The Masters?

The Socialist Movement bids ye masters take heed. We, the rebellious workers, are reaching out for the machinery of production. Ye who rule and riot in luxury, who wantonly revel in works of our creation; ye who daily deplore the workers of all that makes life worth living, take to yourself as much comfort as the present affords, for your course as parasites is nearly run. Tomorrow is ours, ours to place our toll worn hands upon the cancer of poverty and wipe it away forever. Ours to establish the Co-operative Commonwealth, where name of slave and master shall be heard no more.

This is the task of the Socialist Movement. It is your task as well. If you are of the working class the time is ripe for the workers to become the masters of their own destiny. Make way, make way, our banner is unfurled. Let each man stand by his neighbor. The thunder of our footsteps shall roll round the world—The march of the men of labor. ALF BUDDEN.

SOCIALISM AND THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST

By J. CONNELL

(Continued)

TRANSMISSION OF PECULIARITIES

The organisms which survived the struggle for existence were the fittest because of certain peculiarities of structure which gave them an advantage over their competitors. They either possessed organs which the others did not possess, or else they possessed similar organs of superior development. There is in nature a law which may be called the law of the transmission of Peculiarities, which sends such endowments down to posterity. This law is well known to stock-breeders, and bird and dog-fanciers. If, for instance, a man wishes to breed a pigeon to win a prize in a show, he must first ascertain the "points" which are valued by those who act as judges in such matters. If he can find a male and a female bird possessing the coveted peculiarities he may find a winner; but if he cannot find such, he stands little of chance of accomplishing his purpose. The same statement holds good of dogs. The "points" or peculiarities which constitute a dog a winner are frequently transmitted to its offspring, and this causes such animals to be highly valued for stud purposes. One other illustration will suffice. The breed of cattle known as "short-horns" was developed by taking advantage of this law. Stockbreeders noticed that certain animals, presenting certain peculiarities, possessed certain advantages over their fellows which were valuable for market purposes. They selected male and female animals presenting the coveted peculiarities in the most marked degree procurable, and bred from them. From the progeny of those they again selected animals in which the prized peculiarities were most strongly marked, and bred from them. By repeating the operation sufficiently often a new breed of cattle was obtained, differing unmitigably from any previously known. Let us read the facts of nature in the light of this law.

For the sake of simplicity, let us imagine ourselves back at the first generation living animal organisms. If the individuals composing it were allowed to breed indiscriminately, the second generation would, in all probability, be an exact reproduction of the first. But they were not allowed to do so. The weakly, the malformed, the unfit, were killed off by the struggle for existence. The fit only were allowed to survive, and were thus, as it were, selected by nature for breeding purposes. It will now be seen that the second generation was not exactly a reproduction of the first, but, instead, was a reproduction of a selected portion of the first. The peculiarities which constituted fitness in the progenitors were reproduced in the offspring. The second generation was, therefore, an improvement on the first.

IMMENSE POWERS OF REPRODUCTION

Among the individuals of the second generation the struggle for existence was as keen as among those of the first. This was the result of the immense powers of reproduction possessed by those creatures. Few persons are aware of the extent of those powers even to-day. The common rabbit, if allowed to breed unchecked, would, in five years, eat up every blade of grass, and, in fact, every green thing in Britain, including the bark of trees. Without inflicting a scratch it would destroy all other land animals, man included, by starving them out. A single pair of rabbits will easily produce one hundred offspring within a year, and have been known to produce one hundred and sixty within that time. There is no more harmless animal than the sheep, but if allowed to breed unchecked, it would in a few years cover the whole land with its progeny. Among animals in a lower stage of evolution the reproductive power sometimes passes all understanding. The female cod will lay 9,000,000 eggs in a season, and experiments made in Trinity Bay, Newfoundland, prove that practically all those may be hatched out successfully. During five years the hatchery men placed in certain bays of that island the almost inconceivable number of 2,500,000,000 young lobsters, all the produce of a small quantity of spawn. The reproductive powers of the salmon are so great that it has been calculated that six couples would readily produce annually as many salmon as are consumed by the whole human race. Other creatures known to science are almost independent of reproductive powers for multiplication. They may be cut up into a great many separate parts, and each part will then become a complete fish. Enough has been said to enable the reader to understand how it happened that what we will call the second generation of animal organisms felt the struggle for existence as keenly as did the first. The result also was similar—the elimination of the weakly and malformed, and the subsequent generations during the millions of years over which geology shows the earth to have existed. It is a case of perpetual struggle, and perpetual improvement.

If the surface of the globe were all over similar, or if, in other words, it presented only one set of conditions, there would in all probability be only one species of animal. Some one type would prove fitter than its competitors, and destroy them. But the surface of the globe is not uniform. On the contrary, it presents an almost infinite variety of conditions, and sets of conditions. Each set of conditions makes for the evolution of a distinct type. Very frequently the endowments which constitute fitness under one set of conditions would mean unfitness under another. One illustration will prove the truth of this statement. The heron is a bird well known in Britain. It is what we call a wader. Its long legs enable it to walk about with ease in shallow rivers and lakes, and its long neck and beak enable it to catch fish under stones and banks without diving. In short, its structure is such that the bird is admirably adapted to the life it leads. It would live where even a good swimmer and diver like the duck would starve. In a country abounding in shallow ponds every generation would see the type accentuated. Its peculiarities of structure give it an advantage in the struggle for existence. But let us suppose the conditions changed. Let the heron be transported to a country containing little water, where it would be compelled to get its living on dry land. Then it would be found that its long legs and long neck, instead of being an advantage, were an incumbrance, and the previous tendency of natural selection to accentuate those peculiarities would disappear. A different structure would now be found useful in the struggle for existence, and the evolution of a fresh type would begin. Herbert Spencer puts the case very neatly when he says—

"Any species, when placed under new conditions, immediately begins to undergo changes of structure fitting it for the new conditions."

"The degrees of difference thus produced are often, as in dogs, greater than those on which distinctions of species are in other cases founded."

Further, he says—

"This influence would produce in the millions of years, and under the great varieties of conditions which geological records imply, any amount of change."

Material conditions are, however, not the only causes which operate to produce improvement. At an early stage the action of mind becomes a highly important factor in the process, as we will now proceed to show.

SEXUAL SELECTION

It is a fact known to all who have studied the habits of animals that, when they come to pair, the female of most species invariably selects for mate the strongest and most courageous male. This she does, doubtless, for purposes of self-protection; but, whatever the motive, the choice has an important effect on her progeny. Let the reader note that, by the process of natural selection already described, the unfit are eliminated and only the fit allowed to survive for breeding purposes. Now, however, a second weeding-out of the rubbishy element takes place by means of sexual selection. Ultimately, therefore, the progenitors of the species are the fittest of the fit. The selection is not always consciously made by the female. In some species, at certain seasons, the males fight one another. During those battles the females stand apart, timidly awaiting the result. When the fight is over they walk off contentedly with the victor or victors. In both cases the result is the same. The fittest only survive and breed, and in accordance with a law already explained transmit the qualities which constitute fitness to the next generation.

But sexual selection does not affect strength and courage only. At a certain stage the artistic faculty makes its appearance, and the female permits admiration of beauty to modify her choice. The female bird of paradise has such an extraordinary appreciation of beauty that the very slightest advantage in the matter of plumage causes a male to be selected in preference to his rivals. The influence of this habit on the artistic development of the species will be obvious. The plumage of the peacock, the antlers of the stag, and the mane of the lion are all largely attributable to this cause. (To be continued.)

"There's a pretty good chance of getting a year's sub out of that fellow working with you. Try it."

Every Socialist in B. C. should be giving special attention to getting his name on the voter's list from now until April 7. It looks as if there will be two elections here this year—provincial and Dominion.

The Conservative government in B. C. is being attacked in its vital organs by a horde of disappointed office-seekers. The Liberal party, through its press, is making a grand play for working-class support. Only suckers will be caught.

Mr. Curry of the S. D. P. states that the B. P. of C. is progressing "backwards." He no doubt gets this idea into his head because his bunch are getting a bigger audience at their weekly meetings, which is mostly composed of the business men of the city. The S. D. P. was built up out of disgruntled members of the S. P. of C. and even to this day have to obtain members of the S. P. of C. to speak for them. In order to draw a crowd, the S. P. of C. has a message only for the working class. We will never be emancipated by opportunist business men.

Is your name on the new voters list?

RUSH IN THE SUBS. ALL "REDS" SHOULD READ Robert Blatchford's GOD AND MY NEIGHBOUR A Critical Analysis of Christianity Mailed for 15c. HOT GUILTY! Famous Book of Communism Mailed for 25c. MORRIS ENGLAND Socialist Handbook Mailed for 15c. COMMON OBJECTIONS TO SOCIALISM ANSWERED Mailed for 15c. All four mailed for 60c. Get Acquainted With the Socialists! New Dealer BASKETON NEWS AGENCY 310 First Ave. - Sask. Saskatoon - Sask.

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PAMPHLETS FOR THE MILLION WHY I LEFT THE CHURCH. IS JESUS MESSIAH? WHY ARE I AN AGNOSTIC? CHRISTIANITY'S VISION TO BARRER. HOW TO REFORM MANKIND. MYTH OR HISTORY IN THE OLD TESTAMENT. BY SAMUEL JOHNSON. CHILD. BY COL. R. G. INGERSOLL. THE AGE OF REASON. BY THOMAS PAINE AGAIN.

THE DEGREES OF DIFFERENCE thus produced are often, as in dogs, greater than those on which distinctions of species are in other cases founded. Further, he says— "This influence would produce in the millions of years, and under the great varieties of conditions which geological records imply, any amount of change." MATERIAL CONDITIONS are, however, not the only causes which operate to produce improvement. At an early stage the action of mind becomes a highly important factor in the process, as we will now proceed to show.

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