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Law and Order

By John L. Martin, Victoria, B.C.

The working class of British Columbia are learning lessons fast. At least, the authorities are teaching them something, whether they are willing to assimilate what they are taught or not.

The lesson might be called "The significance of law and order." Hitherto it has not occurred to them what it is, but lately the B. C. government have been giving them demonstrations. The brain of the wage slave is so constituted that it takes a considerable length of time for the lessons given from time to time to take effect. This is largely due to the superstition and falsehood that have been concealed throughout the machinery of their mental make-up. The economic conditions of the past have left ideas that, to a very large extent, impede the progress of their thought, and prevent them comprehending the meaning of modern events.

Not by any means the least among these past ideas, are those regarding what is known as "law and order." Having formed a superficial conception of what government really means, these misconceptions follow as a matter of course. They have failed to realize that in the final analysis government really means the power of the ruling class in society; that what the ruling class want they will have—their will is law; and order is the submission of the enslaved there to.

History is pregnant with examples of this; and it would seem that history is repeating these examples. It is for the working class to decide whether these examples are to their benefit.

In the first place, it must be remembered that before government can be possible there must be those who govern and those who are governed. One is necessary to the existence of the other. Government would be an impossibility if there were no one to be governed. If there were no master, there would be no slave. If it were possible for the ruling class to acquire wealth without the aid of the working class, then it would be illogical to speak of government.

Likewise, if the working class had no ruling class to dominate them, it would be ridiculous to speak of them as a slave class. But what are the facts? In human society we have these two elements. One section owning the machinery and natural resources necessary for the production of wealth, constituting the ruling class; the other, owning nothing but their own energy, which they are forced to sell to the former section in order to live. This is in essence the government of society. All other mastery and slavery branch from this centre.

Whatever the ruling class says, therefore, is law. They themselves recognize no law, moral or national; none but the power they possess to confiscate the product of their slave class. In fact, there is not a moral law or national code but that they will break, if by so doing they will enhance their power to acquire more wealth.

The truth of the matter is that the employing class from day to day break more laws than all the anarchists of history. There is not one of the ten commandments that the employers won't break; nor is there a section in the criminal code that they won't violate in order to amass to themselves piles of wealth. They worship no god, nor do they love virtue. If it will add to their storehouse by doing so, they will worship these things, and not before. They aspire to no lofty ideal, none but the apex of their pyramids of ill-gotten wealth. Morality or immorality, makes no difference to them; it is what produces the results that counts. Utility is the standard of their ethics. The cultivation of art finds no favor in their eyes unless it provides remuneration for their pains. They would even prefer wastefulness to usefulness, in order to create a demand for business. They have no objection to the arson squads that fire buildings, when the building industry is quiet. Anything to create a demand necessary for the enhancement of business.

When the price of coal shows any tendency to drop through an overworking of the market, they have no conscientious scruples against setting fire to a mine. For as every capitalist knows, it is a very judicious piece of business to let the working class have cheap coal. This was done only recently on Vancouver Island.

If Providence is so kind as to give a bountiful harvest of wheat, they show their disapproval of the same by burning it, thereby keeping down the supply on the market, thus bringing them a higher price. The fact that thousands of men and women and children are starving, fails to cause them any sleepless nights. It furthermore is a matter of common knowledge, that the wastefulness of the capitalist class in the United States is destroying the wool, sooner than see it go on the backs of naked children.

They are themselves loath to commit murder; they much prefer to pay the members of the working class to do that. They have no objections to the workers participating in the riot of the battlefield, and lest the armament factories and foundries should close through lack of business, they prefer that their literary and political prostitutes try to delude the workers into fighting their fellow workers of other countries, and thereby create a demand for armament.

Whether or not the nations of the world are deluged in blood and tears awakens no sympathetic feeling in the sterile breasts of the masters. Compassion to them is an unknown quantity. Judging from results, the slums, the death-trap mines, the unsanitary factories, the stores void of fine protection, the battlefield, the graveyards, the devastated homes left by the martyrs of industry—the capitalist class is condemned over and over again in the eyes of all thinking men. They have been tried and found guilty. The evidence is convincing that they have violated every dictum of law and order. It is they and not the working class that are lawless and disorderly. The mission of the working class is to reveal to the future society, the depth to which the employing class is prepared to go. To the workers belongs the responsibility of establishing a new order of government. Capitalism is government by the laws of brute force, ours is government by the invincible power of reason. The master class hold their power by enslaving the minds of the workers. The power of the workers is their power to reason and think for themselves. When they have realized this power then in the words of Robert Ingersoll:

"Liberty, law and love, like the rings of Saturn, will surround the world."

You can Help

In this issue Comrade W. H. Moore, on behalf of Local Nanaimo, B.C., S.D.P. of C., sends an account of the strike of miners on Vancouver Island.

A plain, unvarnished statement of fact shows that the trouble originated in the mineowners' breaking the law.

The law declares that miners to inspect for gas and mineowners must allow the gas inspectors access. The mineowners sack the gas inspectors and refuse to allow them on the premises.

The men strike and the Japs and Chinese strike too. The special police sent in by the Attorney General compel the Chinese to scab by threatening to deport them.

A fake examination board gives fake certificates to incompetents to hold responsible positions in mines the whole against the law.

The courts are the agents of the capitalist mineowners. The strike breakers have free license to insult the wives and daughters of the strikers. The judges condemn with the utmost severity the strikers on the least pretexts.

Col. Hall, as low and vicious a coward as ever disgraced the human form, orders his soldiers surrounding a meeting of miners to "fire low and charge with the bayonet" if the miners dare come out. He then enters the hall and orders the miners to be outside in two minutes or he will order the soldiery to open fire on the hall.

The capitalist papers reported that the strikers had blown off the arm of a company agent by hurling dynamite into his home. This agent was trying to hurl dynamite into the crowd of strikers and got his arm blown off for his pains.

The unvarnished statement of Comrade Moore shows where the capitalist government stands. It stands upon the side of the non-producing owners against the producing working class.

The account makes the heart of the warm-blooded man swell with indignation.

Who is responsible for these outrages?

You, reader, who voted for any of the old party candidates in whatever province you may be.

I know it is customary for many of you to say that you do not want to lose your vote, and while having little or no confidence in either capitalist candidate in your district, you vote for what you consider the least of two evils.

But whether you voted Liberal or Conservative, you voted for the continuance of capitalist rule and capitalist outrage.

Your vote, in Digby, N.S., or Sherbrooke, P.Q., or Glengarry, Ont., or Dauphin, Man., or Battleford, Sask., or Prince, P.E.I., or Strathcona, Alta., or Charlotte, N.B., or Vale, B.C., or any other electoral district in Canada, Dominion, provincial or municipal, which was not given for a Socialist candidate, was a vote given for your masters.

Your masters watch the election returns closely. When they see you still fooled by the unmeaning distinction between Liberal and Conservative, they rejoice. They know you are asleep. A strong capitalist vote in New Brunswick encourages them to put the screws on Ontario labor. A rousing hot election in Quebec upon false issues makes them feel safe in compelling their slaves of Cape Breton to live on dog and refuse.

If you wish to help the miners of Vancouver, if those innocent men in jail make you righteously indignant and you wish to help them, you can do so.

Begin the agitation right in your own constituency. Make your masters realize that you are awake to the political interests of your class. Aim to make your own district revolutionary.

The masters go far afield for their tools. Sam Hughes is already planning the quartering of troops from other provinces upon your province. He aims at taking Roman Catholic troops from Quebec and placing them in the disturbed areas of industrial unrest.

As the industrial unrest becomes acute, the troops of the disturbed region cannot be relied upon. So troops from places where Socialism is little known will be requisitioned. You by spreading Socialism in your neighborhood will be the means of awakening the people around you, and preventing them from murdering your fellow workers in other Canadian regions under a mistaken idea of patriotism.

Creel in West Virginia

During July and August, H. G. Creel spent 24 days in West Virginia, under the direction of the state organization.

The trip was a revelation from start to finish. Creel made the first Socialist speech ever delivered at Richwood, W. Va. This town is controlled by lumber mill interests. The meeting was staged by paid agents of the combine. None of the eggs hit Creel, but each of them struck members of the crowd which, thoroughly angered, gave chase in the dark and would have handled the thugs roughly had they been caught. When order was restored Creel proposed the formation of a Socialist local, and 15 men, some of them egg-besmeared, affixed their signatures to an application for a charter.

Coal thugs followed him all over the district, but so constant and so vigilant was the protection afforded him by local comrades that the thugs feared an attack. The meeting at Mr. Clare was enlivened by the presence of a company male stenographer, who took Creel's speech in shorthand.

Six days were spent in Kanawha county prior to the final settlements of the strike on Paint and Cabin Creeks. These meetings were well attended, and the enthusiasm was at top notch.

A favorite method of attempting to break up meetings was for coal guards to start a sham fight a short distance from the speaker. Out of 11 meetings where this dodge was tried it was effective at but one, and then only partially so. The people of West Virginia are hungry for the gospel of economic freedom and refuse to be led away or threatened away from Socialist meetings.

Every speech resulted in an increase of party membership and a lively dose of ginger for local comrades.—National Rip Saw.

The union jack is run to the staff head of every school in Canada which gets the government grant. Pupils are taught to revere the flag and all that it stands for. Let us see. Were not natives of India tied to the mouths of cannon and blown to atoms under this same flag when they protested against oppression and tyranny? Did not Kitchener superintend the slaughter of 12,000 Derwisches in one day under this same flag? The union jack has stood for tyranny, oppression and bloodshed wherever it has been flown, and one does not need to go back in history to recognize the fact.

Socialism will cure many a bad case of gout among the masters. Nothing like exertion to cure the gout.

Socialism in St John, N.B.

Socialism is spreading in St. John, N.B. For the first time in the history of labor day in that city, Socialist speeches were made. On the picnic grounds a soapbox was set up and Comrade Miss Kashkat and other comrades held forth. Some of the crowd thought the speakers had gone crazy. However, a good crowd listened attentively.

Members of the Socialist party have held open air meetings every week all summer long. Meetings are held every Sunday at 8 p.m. above the Unique Theatre.

So great has been the success of the Socialists of St. John that the New Freeman, a Catholic publication of that city, is rushing to the defence of the capitalist masters. It sees the profits of the parasites attacked. So it rushes in to warn its readers to beware of the wicked Socialists. It says, "The attempts of Socialists to separate labor unionism from the Catholic religion will have no final success in Canada, and it would be indeed malediction to the Dominion if the Socialists were to de-Catholicize labor unions."

This is an arrogant claim the New Freeman puts forth. It claims that the trades unions of Canada, that the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada is nothing but a subordinate part of the Catholic church. It warns its readers to have nothing to do with unions that class not under the thumb of the priests.

The capitalist class do not care whether a worker is a Chinaman, Jap, Frenchman, Italian, Slovak, Russian, white, brown, yellow, protestant, catholic, mahomedan, atheist, shinto, hindoo, mystic, materialist. The capitalist wants a worker so he can rob him of the greater part of the wealth he creates.

The capitalists make the workers compete for a job so that wages may be the barest necessary for the worker to live on and produce profits for the parasites. Labor, to protect itself, must unite. It must unite to capture the supreme political power.

The Socialist party of St. John proposes that the workers unite, capture the political power and let the workers enjoy the full social value of what their labor does. The St. John unions call upon the workers to unite in order that the collective working class may demand better working conditions, shorter hours and more pay.

The New Freeman, a crawling organ of the capitalist class, shouts to the Catholic workers to hibe by themselves. Let them not have anything to do with their fellow slaves who are Socialists. Let them have nothing to do with their fellow workers who are trying to raise the status of the workers by collective action. Just let the Catholic workers be under the thumb of the priests, so when a strike is on, the Catholic workers can be used as strikebreakers, break the strike, and keep the enormous profits rolling into the capitalist class. Be sure that when you Catholic workers act as the New Freeman wants you to, you will be playing into the hands of those who rob you.

Catholic workers of Canada, you have nothing to fear from your fellow-slave Socialists nor from your fellow-slave unionists. You have only to fear the tactics of those who advise you to keep labor divided against itself.

Militant Suffragettes in England

By Wm. J. Robinson, M.D., in the New York Call.

I have just returned from a meeting of the Women's Political and Social Union. The delegates to the International Congress of Medicine were sent special invitations, and we were given seats on and near the stage. Every seat in the large hall (Kingsway Hall) was occupied and hundreds of people had to be turned away. The enthusiasm that broke loose when Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Kenney made their appearance was something remarkable. I do not recollect ever having attended a meeting in which the enthusiasm of an audience seemed so genuine and so spontaneous. I had a chance to watch closely both the speakers and the audience.

We are very ready to use the term "hysteria" with any strong movement emanating from women. I observed closely and I must say I noticed no symptoms of hysteria. In either the speakers or the audience. Deep intensity there was, grim determination to fight to the bitter end, to die for the cause, die, in the literal sense of the word, even by the horrible painful method of slow starvation, could be perceived, but neither the speakers nor the audience were hysterical. You saw before you sane, calm and perfectly rational women, who, smarting under the humiliating discrimination between the two halves of humanity, were on account of the difference in sex, and suffering from unjust and brutally unfair laws, have determined to put an end to the injustice and discrimination by the only method left to them, by the only means which seems to them likely to lead to results.

Those of our brothers and sisters in the United States who feel inclined to condemn the English suffragettes for their militant methods, should remember, first, that the disabilities which the English women live as such as to make the English woman an American (an Englishwoman can still not be a parent, she may become a mother of a dozen children, but she is not their parent, and has no parental rights in them; all the rights belong to the father); and, second, that the suffragettes have adopted their militant tactics only after the legislators have broken faith with them a number of times, and only after they had been convinced that the perfectly ladylike, constitutional rose water methods would never lead anywhere.

In any case, whether we approve or disapprove of their tactics, of one thing I have become convinced: Physically frail and weak as many of the English suffragettes are (Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Kenney were hardly able to stand up from the effects of the repeated hunger strikes), they will break the government before the government breaks them. That was their boast at the meeting, and I believe they will make good. For they are thoroughly imbued with the belief in the sacredness of their cause; they are ready to sacrifice their lives for their cause, and just causes that have such champions are not crushed by ridicule of the press, by social ostracism or by imprisonment.

London, England, Aug. 11, 1913.

Most of the furs worn by the "upper class" ladies of today are musk rat and skunk skins. The trapper brings these skins to town, and the skinner for buyer skins the trapper and sends the skins to a labor skinning factory in Germany, where the workers are skinned in skunk skins into persian lamb and sable skins. The capitalist skinner of the large fur stores buys them from the factory skinner and sells them to the capitalist skinner who has skinned the workers to the extent that he can afford to buy the skins. Skin game all round.

There is no royal road to freedom.

Incentive and Capitalism

The capitalist system is a great incentive provider. There is no use denying the fact. It provides the incentive to get as much as you can and give as little as you can.

Cowansville is in the centre of a farming region and we can see the capitalist incentive working overtime round here.

Hogs sell for ten cents live weight. The more a hog weighs, the more the farmer gets. This provides a great incentive to the farmer to make his hogs weigh as much as possible.

The night before the sale is pulled off, the farmer will feed a handful of salt in a quart of warm milk to each hog. That is all they will get. In the morning the hogs will get all the water they can drink. The farmer takes his hogs to market and sells two pairs of water at ten cents a pound. Thus you see the beautiful incentive of capitalism at work.

Some farmers develop greater acumen than this. They will endeavor to load stones into the wagon on which the hogs are placed. The whole is weighed together. The hogs are then taken to the pen of the shipper and dumped off. The wagon returns to the weigh scales to be weighed and the weight deducted from the total, thus getting the net weight of the hogs. On the return journey the farmer will endeavor to leave over the stones so they will be counted as live hogs. This is the development of capitalist incentive.

However, some persons do not like such actions, and capitalist incentive makes them hire workers to watch the farmer so he does not dump stones with the hogs. This gives employment and shows what a beautiful system capitalism is.

Another case of capitalist incentive at work can be seen in the watch repairing business. You pay a lot for a watch. The jewels in the watch are what adds to its value. The watch goes wrong and you take it to a jeweler. He will look you over, see you do not know much about watches, and he will work the capitalist incentive business. He will dig the real jewels out of your watch and put colored glass in their place. Jewelers have been caught at this work.

This is but another example of capitalist incentive at work.

The system is so beautiful that even little children catch the bright and breezy spirit. They will gather up old bones to sell to the boneman. When they find a large, hollow bone, they will fill the hollow with clay and sell clay as bone. This little children have incentive under capitalism.

These are not exaggerated cases. These cases go on all the time. Only the higher you get in the incentive business, the more respectable you are.

The banks will take your money, loan it to other people and charge high interest rates. You get little or nothing, the bank gets the rakeoff.

Just as the boneman pays good money for clay, so the people pay the capitalists good money and get nothing in return.

The public money and the value of the land grants which our railways got, could build every mile of railway in Canada and equip the railways. The capitalists own the railways.

Just as the jeweler digs the jewels out of the watch and puts in colored glass, so the capitalists dig rich franchises out of the city or province and give a dole by way of a small tax fee.

The capitalist system provides incentive to thieves and crooks at the expense of the useful workers. The thieves and crooks get millions upon millions of unearned wealth annually, while the workers produce and are deprived of.

If you are a thief and a crook and can get your stealings legalized, you have an incentive in supporting Laurier or Borden and the old parties. If you are one of the useful producers from whom the crooks are stealing, you have every incentive to line up with the Social-Democratic party.

Political Action

Is it well to have your friends or your enemies making the laws of Canada?

Is it well to have your friends or your enemies having the power to order troops and controlling the courts when you go on strike or want to have decisions given?

This is the question every workman and every producing farmer must ask himself. If you want your friends in power, then the proper way to get them there is to work for their election and to vote for them.

The Socialists are always on the side of the workman. They are pledged to vote first, last and all the time for measures that will benefit the workers.

They work to give the workers far more than the majority of the workers now hope for. They work to give the working class the ownership and control of all the means of wealth production and distribution.

They can only do this when they get the majority so they can make laws to that effect.

In the meantime, the Socialists take your side when there is a strike on.

In West Virginia, the miners were shamefully treated and in desperation they joined the United Mineworkers.

The mineowners blacklisted the miners, evicted their families from the company shacks, and employed thugs called private guards to beat up the miners.

The miners retaliated by getting guns and shooting the private guards. Civil war raged.

Under Hatfield, governor of the state, civil law was suspended in the strike region and miners were tried by military tribunal, contrary to the constitution of the United States.

The government of the state used its political power against the striking workers. The Socialist party of the United States at once got busy. It turned its political power against Hatfield. It demanded of the U. S. Senate that an investigation be held. It sent its speakers into West Virginia. It sent its keen political agitators into the big cities to rouse public sentiment against Hatfield.

The result was that Hatfield backed down, the military tribunals were put out of business and the private guards, being without the protection of the political state, had to go. This is one thing political action did for the working class of Virginia.

You should join the Social-Democratic party of Canada. It is your party. It is composed of working men and working women. Its aim is to send from among its working class members, workers to the legislative and executive bodies of the land in order to fight for your interests.

Every Socialist who runs for member of Parliament has to put up \$200 before the master class will recognize his candidature. This deposit is exacted for the sole purpose of keeping the robbed workers from placing candidates in the field. It is a crime against democracy.

An Alleged Catechism

From Bowden, Alta., comes a clipping of an alleged Socialist catechism. It is published in the Gospel Banner, a religious publication given to the insertion of lying and venomous articles against Socialism.

The article states that much of the catechism used in the Socialist Sunday schools is too vile to print. It then goes on to give the supposed questions and answers in which it is declared there is no God, no saints, no holy spirit, no soul.

This catechism is not used in Socialist Sunday schools. It was not originated by Socialists. It has nothing to do with Socialism. This catechism, so far as Socialism is concerned, is a lie wholly and absolutely.

Being a complete and absolute lie, the Gospel Banner and the other agents of capitalism think it a fine weapon to use against Socialists.

Not being able to fight us with truth, they sink to filth and mudslinging and lies.

Vicious Capitalists Attack Labor

At the request of the Metal Polishers', Buffers' and Platers' Union, Local 21, Toronto, Cotton's publishes the following letter of warning re unfair goods.

To All Organized Labor, Greeting — For eight months past the organized metal workers of Erie and vicinity have been engaged in a desperate conflict with the Erie Manufacturers' Association. At first the members of Molders' Union, No. 38, were involved; then came the lockout of the members of the Patternmakers' Association, and finally the lockout of the members of the Machinists' Union and Metal Polishers' Union, the latter action being the result of the machinists' and metal polishers participating in the Fourth of July parade of the Erie trade unionists.

In the latter case a monster demonstration was made to rebuke the assertion that union men were traitors because they refused to take part in the Perry celebration by the Manufacturers' Association representatives et al. and because organized labor had been intentionally ignored.

Every power that possibly could be brought to bear has been used against the union men in Erie—injunctions, vicious without parallel; the blacklist and intimidation, beyond that which could have been expected in the Black Ages; the mayor of the city has used his high office and the power of the police to persecute the striking molders, and last, but not least, the public press has been suppressed and prostituted into an abject silence, except to magnify a supposed violation of an injunction or where men have been arrested for "unlawful assemblage." The latter offense being because they made use of the public highways. Men and boys have been thrown into prison, and demands have been hurled at those who have suggested that the members of the Manufacturers' Association should be willing to meet their employees.

Notwithstanding martyrdom looking them in the face, the trade unionists of Erie, on the Fourth of July, made the biggest demonstration ever known in Erie, and this has been followed with the lockout and blacklist.

Despite the fact that taxpayers and citizens are walking the streets looking for work, agents of the Manufacturers' Association are scouring the country, advertising for molders, patternmakers, polishers, machinists and other mechanics, ostensibly for the Erie plant of the General Electric Company, but when they get here they are told that the shop is full of men and they are then sent to take places in the struck shops. We appeal to you to assist us in keeping mechanics of all kinds away from Erie. Advertise in your local newspapers that there is a big strike on in Erie and that all mechanics coming here will be expected to act as strikebreakers. If you have a labor paper in your city, have that paper give this letter prominent mention. Give the matter all the publicity you can and we feel that we will be successful in showing the Erie Manufacturers' Association that they cannot successfully carry out their present methods.

We would like to call attention to the firms in Erie where union men have been locked out or are on strike. We would suggest that special attention be given to the goods manufactured. In many instances union mechanics are called upon to use tools, materials, etc., produced under non-union conditions in Erie and we feel that you do not desire to assist them in crushing the trade union movement in this city.

The following is the list:

REDD MANUFACTURING CO.—Pipe cutters, pliers, vises, dies, laundry machines, pipe vises, plumbing supplies, wrenches, etc.

BALL ENGINE CO.—High and low speed engines.

BURKE ELECTRIC CO.—Electric motors, and electric supplies.

PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ELECTRIC CO.—General electric goods.

JARECKI MANUFACTURING CO.—Malleable and brass foundries, making plumbing supplies of all kinds.

ERIE ENGINE CO.—Portable and oil well and threshing machines.

ERIE FOUNDRY CO.—General jobbing.

ERIE CITY IRON WORKS.—All kinds of engines and boilers.

NAGLE BOILER AND ENGINE FOUNDRY.—Making boilers of all kinds and corliss engines.

SKINNER ENGINE WORKS.—All kinds of engines.

WALKER FOUNDRY.—General jobbing.

CASCADE FOUNDRY CO.—General jobbing.

GERMER STOVE FOUNDRY.—All kinds of stoves, ranges and furnaces.

URICK FOUNDRY.—General jobbing.

MORSE IRON WORKS.—Plumbing supplies.