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MILLIONAIRE SLUM WORKER NOW A SOCIALIST

Rev. J. G. Phelps Stokes Gives Reasons for His Conversion

Feels That Working People Are Not Getting a Fair Share of Their Product, and That They Are Oppressed by the Capitalists—Has Little Use for the Idle Rich—Will Band All His Efforts to Help His New Friends.

New York, July 12.—J. G. Phelps Stokes, the young millionaire who for several years has devoted himself to work in the slums of this city, has formally announced that he will cast his lot with the Socialist party. The announcement was made in a letter to the executive committee of the Independence League...

The letter withdrawing from membership in the league and announcing his intention to offer his services to the Socialist party, is dated from Mr. Stokes' home in the East Side tenement district. In the letter he declares that while he regards capital as necessary at present to the public welfare, he considers it so harmful when used selfishly that its complete control by the people, collectively, is essential. He says, also, that he is aware that the majority of those who uphold the present system do so on the assumption that it is a fair and just one. It is his belief, however, as expressed in the letter, that the so-called capitalist system, as such, is indefensible ethically and disastrous industrially through the inescapable wage-slavery which it leads, and that it must be supplanted by a more righteous system of cooperation and mutual aid.

Text of Letter. The letter in full follows: Means, the Executive Committee of the Independence League, New York: Gentlemen: It is with much appreciation of the value of the work that the Independence League is doing, and also of the privilege which has been mine of participating in that work, that I write at this early date to apprise you that I shall be unable to cooperate with you in next autumn's campaign. I believe that the movement which you have inaugurated throughout our country to secure independence of citizens from the rule of monopolies, bosses and political machines, is an important step toward true democracy, and that the Independence League is rendering public service of great importance in arousing widely a more potent spirit of intolerance of fraud, dishonesty, and subversion of the interests of the people. I feel, however, that the time has come when I, as an individual, can be of most service in the cause of democracy by cooperating, so far as I may, with those who are devoting themselves directly to the task of awakening wider recognition of what they and I believe to be a more basic evil than those which you and I have been attacking hitherto.

Long Believed in Socialism. I have long been a believer in the philosophy of socialism. Hitherto I have refrained from cooperating with the Socialist party, owing to the intense bitterness and ill-will manifested by many Socialists toward nearly all persons who approve and support the capitalist system, and owing to what seemed to me the gross materialism, economic and otherwise, of very many Socialists. I have long recognized that material welfare alone is insufficient, and that material things are valuable insofar as they are means to life, and to the attainment of happiness and righteousness. I failed to see that the bitterness and ill-will referred to was in no way chargeable to the Socialist philosophy, but was the result of monopoly, extortion and oppression, habitually practiced by prominent beneficiaries of the capitalist system. It has required a vast amount of accumulated evidence to convince me that it is, and for long has been, impossible for the average worker to secure such material things as are necessary for his welfare and advancement; and this in consequence of exploitation of his labor by privileged persons who take for their own enjoyment a large portion of the product of his toil.

Capitalists' Injustice. I have been long in perceiving clearly that there are two chief economic classes in America as elsewhere—those whose poverty compels them to produce more than they require for their own maintenance, and those whose wealth enables them to control and consume more than they produce and more than they render proportionate service in exchange for; that the reward of the former class is invariably less than the value of its product, whereas the reward or income of the latter class is greatly in excess of the value of its product and bears no proportionate relation to the value of the service it renders. I have learned but gradually the injustice of the situation which confronts the average worker. Honest and earnest men and women by hundreds of thousands suffer privation and want although surrounded by prosperity and plenty, and owe their sufferings chiefly to the monopolization of the land and of the machinery of production by the few exclusively for the purpose of private gain; access to the land and machinery being denied, unless the workers will produce enough not merely for their own support, but for the maintenance of the idle and luxurious as well. This is to my mind a great injustice and one that demands early remedy. Personally I can no longer refrain from making every endeavor to arouse recognition of it.

Incidentally I have observed that under our present industrial system pauperism prevails as widely among the rich as among the poor; a pauper being one who is unable to discharge his obligations for self-support by useful service, is supported at the expense of the people. I would not have it thought that I disregard the principle of individualism, or regard capital as necessary at present to the public welfare; but as so harmful when used selfishly, that its complete control by the people, collectively, is essential. I know how difficult it is to arouse recognition of the practicality of such collective ownership among persons who derive benefits from the present system, and especially among such as labor exclusively for personal profit, or who spend in excess the proceeds of others' toil. I am furthermore aware that the majority of those who uphold the present system, do so in the belief or in the assumption that it is a fair and just one. I believe that I can aid many to see that "capitalism" (as distinguished from the collective ownership of capital) is fundamentally unjust and harmful, and that its cost in needless human suffering is stupendous. I believe also that I can aid in pointing out a better and fairer way of supplying the needs of humanity, and in offering my services to the Socialist party, either with them or as a wholly independent citizen shall strive to promote recognition of the fact in which I believe, that the so-called capitalist system, as such, is indefensible ethically and disastrous industrially through the inescapable wage-slavery which it leads, and that it must be supplanted by a more righteous system of cooperation and mutual aid.

I am not unmindful of the responsibility which I assumed toward the Independence League when I cooperated with you in its organization. For a time I believed that in the Independence League lay my opportunities for largest service. I believe that I now see opportunities for still larger service through co-operation with the Socialist party.

SIX CHILDREN DROWN TRYING TO SAVE ONE

Were Wading When One Slipped Into Deep Hole and They All Perished There—One Escaped to Tell the Tale—Four of the Victims Were Sisters—Only Three Blocks from Home Where Accident Occurred.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., July 12.—Seven girls were drowned today in Cedar River, only three blocks from home, while wading. The smallest child slipped into a deep hole and in trying to rescue her six others were drowned. Ruth Klesney was the only one of the party to escape. The dead: Lucille, Hazel, Gladys H., Jessie Sweeting, Ruth and Cora Coyle, Clara Usher.

The girls ranged in age from seven to sixteen years. The sweeting children lived with their father near Ellis Park on the outskirts of Cedar Rapids. Clara Usher was the daughter of Sweeting's housekeeper and the Coyle children were those who were on a visit from Sioux City. Ruth Klesney, the only survivor, said they were wading when little Lucille Sweeting slipped off a shelf in the river bottom into deep water. Hazel Sweeting rushed after her, slipped into the hole and five other girls rushed one after the other into the hole, trying vainly to save each other. Ruth Klesney then ran home and gave the alarm. Four of the bodies were quickly removed from the water but it was too late to resuscitate them. The other bodies were recovered later while hundreds of people gathered on the river bank to watch the sad task. The children had gone to the river with Mrs. Usher, who took her baby. The baby floated and Mrs. Usher had started home with it. Ruth Klesney, when she saw the fate of her companions, ran down the road crying to Mrs. Usher, overlooking her when almost home. Mrs. Usher left her baby in the road and ran back to aid the children. She managed to get hold of the hair of two of them and pulled them out of the water, but it was too late to save their lives.

SYNOD DEADLOCK OVER COADJUTOR'S ELECTION

Narrowed Down to Two Men

Archdeacon Neales and Canon Richardson Practically the Only Candidates in the Race—Eight Ballots Taken—St. John Rector Had the Necessary Majority of Laity—Will Try Again in October.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Fredericton, N. B., July 12.—The appointment of coadjutor bishop for the diocese of Fredericton is still a question for the future, the synod this evening having adopted a resolution postponing action until the first Tuesday in October. Although eight ballots were taken during the day, the deadlock which resulted over the names of Ven. Archdeacon Neales and Canon Richardson could not be broken. The rector of Trinity had two-thirds of the laity with him, and the younger cleric of the clergy, but the veterans stood solidly behind Canon Neales and refused to budge an inch.

Up to 6 o'clock seven ballots had been taken and hope was entertained that during the day, the deadlock would be broken. Mrs. Alice Kinnaird was murdered on June 8, and the principal witness at the coroner's inquest, being today into the mysterious death of Mrs. Kinnaird. Mrs. Shippo testified that Thursday night preceding the Friday night on which the crime was committed, there was quarrelling for several hours in the apartment above her; that the voices sounded like those of a man and two women. Mrs. Shippo, continuing, said that on Friday morning Mrs. Kinnaird came downstairs looking very much worried. She asked Mrs. Kinnaird what the trouble was about the night before and Mrs. Kinnaird replied that it was "that devil of a lawyer" that "put me to a lot of trouble."

"What did he do to make trouble?" I asked. "Oh, he made a lot of trouble for me," replied Mrs. Kinnaird. "Just then Mrs. Stenton called downstairs and said to Mrs. Kinnaird: 'What are you talking to Mrs. Shippo for? You have no business talking to her about our affairs.'" Mrs. Shippo said Mrs. Kinnaird also spoke of a bill which she thought would be \$100 for a lawyer and which she carried out to \$40,000, Mrs. Kinnaird informed her. "It was the lawyer."

The witness said she heard voices and went up to the front piazza about 9 o'clock Friday night and found Mrs. Kinnaird lying on the veranda, and Mrs. Stenton leaning over her with a lamp. Mrs. Shippo testified that she asked Mrs. Kinnaird what she was doing, and that Mrs. Kinnaird replied "It was the lawyer."

Canon Richardson. The results of the first and last ballots were as follows: Neales, first, 19-7; second, 27-12. Tucker, first, 2-2; second, 0-0. Coyne, first, 1-1. Newnam, first, 1-0; second, 0-0. Pentreath, first, 4-1; second, 1-0. Williams, first, 6-0; second, 1-0. Montgomery, first, 1-0; second, 1-1. Newnam, first, 1-0; second, 0-0. Bryan, first, 1-0; second, 0-0. Armitage, first, 2-3; second, 0-0. Richardson, first, 29; second, 25-31. Davenport, first, 0-0; second, 0-0.

On the third ballot twenty-eight clergy voted for Neales and thirteen laymen, while twenty-two clergymen and thirty-five laymen supported Richardson. Ten votes were divided among the other candidates. On the fourth ballot Richardson twenty-five clergy and thirty-one laymen, and Neales twenty-five and thirteen. On the fifth ballot Richardson's figures were unchanged, while Neales' increased to twenty-eight and fourteen. On the sixth ballot Richardson's vote was twenty-four and thirty-three, and Neales' twenty-seven and twelve, and on the final ballot Richardson twenty-five clergy and thirty-one laymen, and Neales twenty-seven and twelve. A few of the delegates had left the hall before the last three ballots were taken. On the eighth ballot Canon Montgomery received one lay and one clerical vote. Dean Williams received the same, and Pentreath one cleric.

Those who failed to receive any votes on the last six ballots were Bryan, Armitage, Tucker, Davenport, and Newnam. Richardson was able to hold a two-thirds vote of the laity from the third ballot. After each ballot Commissary Neales declared that there had been no election. The scrutineers were Revs. H. E. Dibble, G. P. Sevel and H. M. Campbell and John Burdell. The sixth ballot Judge Hanington remarked that he did not see any likelihood of the synod reaching an agreement, and suggested that further consideration be deferred until October. He thought in the meantime the standing committee might ascertain if the bishop was willing to divide his salary.

G. O. D. City thought the voting should continue, and his view prevailed. He pointed out that Canon Richardson had two-thirds of the laity with him, and one-sixth with the clergy. Harvesting will begin with the wheat. Harvesting will begin with the wheat. Harvesting will begin with the wheat.

DREYFUS GETS HIS VINDICATION

Court Restores Him to Former Rank in Army and Other Rights

A SENSATIONAL CASE Noted Prisoner Was Twice Convicted on Forged Documents of Selling War Office Secrets—Sent to a Living Death at Devil's Island—Struggle to Free Him a Memorable One.

Paris, July 12.—The supreme court today announced its decision annulling the condemnation of Dreyfus without a retrial. The effect of the decision is a complete vindication of Dreyfus, restoring him to his rank in the army as though he had never been accused. Maitre Morand, counsel for Dreyfus, arguing before the supreme court against a further trial, said many of the witnesses were dead or had disappeared. Dreyfus, he added, did not ask for damages. He desired only the vindication of his honor and the restoration of his name to the list of officers of the French army. The official prosecutor, General Beaudouin, concluded his argument by asking that the verdict of the Rennes court might be quashed without a retrial. The judgment of the supreme court today was a complete vindication for Dreyfus.

McCall's Estate Small. New York, July 12.—The net value of the estate left by the late John A. McCall, former president of the New York Life Insurance Company, was only \$40,835, according to the report of the appraisers of the estate, which was filed in the surrogate's office today.

STRUGGLE TO HOLD UP PENSION BILL USELESS

Conservative Senator's Obstructive Tactics Squelched by Speaker

Hon. R. W. Scott, in Moving Concurrence in Repeal, Declared That Canada Had Sanctioned the Principle of Retiring Allowances to Public Officials—Cites the Cases of Sir John Macdonald and Other Ministers Dying Poor—Senator Ellis Favors Paying Till Act Comes in Force.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Ottawa, July 12.—At the afternoon sitting of the senate, Sir Richard Cartwright moved for the suspension of rules so that the pension bill might be proceeded with on second reading. In moving the second reading of the pension bill, Senator Landry objected that such a motion required twenty-four hours' notice in writing. The government had only in the morning given notice of the suspension of the rules, and then not in writing. The notice was insufficient, and could not be entertained until tomorrow.

Senator Power, who was acting speaker in the absence of Speaker Dandurand, ruled that the notice was sufficient. The senate had passed a resolution for two sessions a day. Therefore the interval between the morning and the afternoon sitting was equivalent to a day. In moving the second reading of the pension bill, Senator Landry objected that such a motion required twenty-four hours' notice in writing. The government had only in the morning given notice of the suspension of the rules, and then not in writing. The notice was insufficient, and could not be entertained until tomorrow.

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Many Ministers Died Poor. Most of the men who had served Canada as ministers had retired from office poor. Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir George Carter and Hon. William McDougall owed the comfort of their last days to the bounty of their friends. That these and many similar cases had occurred was not to the credit of Canada. It would not be creditable if such cases were allowed to occur in the future.

In granting pensions to retired ministers of the crown there should be special consideration in each case. No doubt the act last year had been prepared and put through with too little consideration. The bill was right in principle, and no doubt at a later session another bill would be introduced making provision for the pensioning of ministers who needed assistance.

Senator Loughheed congratulated Hon. Mr. Scott on his candor. He was not and never had been in favor of a pension for ministers. He did not believe it consistent with the principles of democratic administration. However, the bill having been passed, it was not to the credit of the government that they should, a year later, repeal the obligation they had entered into with the beneficiaries under the pension act.

Senator Loughheed criticized the government for having offered the senate a most important legislation late in the session. That was sufficient defence for Senator Landry's objection to the suspension of the rules. There was no act which the senate would be more justified in rejecting than this one, which had been offered to them in the dying hours of the session. Senator Gibson said Senator Loughheed should not complain because legislation had reached the session late. The former government had begun this session. Senator Landry had attempted to force the government to compromise with him and to accept an amendment for the sake of obtaining prorogation. He had discovered that the government supporters in the senate were willing to put the legislation through, no matter how long they had to remain to do it. He thought Senator Landry was working in the interest of the beneficiaries of the pension act.

Senator Landry denied this charge. He wanted the bill amended so the beneficiaries would get the pension they were entitled to from July 1 until the act came into force. Senator Gibson said there had been no money voted for such a purpose. Senator Ellis expressed the opinion that the government had contracted an obligation and should respect it by paying the beneficiaries the pension they were entitled to the date of the cancellation of the act. He was opposed to the pension, but thought this was only an honorable matter. The bill was read the second and third time and passed without amendment. The senate adjourned until tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock.

IMPORTANT INSURANCE MATTER DECIDED

Wife Beneficiary of Husband Named in Policy Taken Out Before Marriage and Not Changed.

New York, July 12.—That a widow is entitled to be the beneficiary of her husband, although her husband's father may be named as beneficiary prior to the son's marriage, was today decided by the appellate division of the supreme court. The case was that of Catherine Davin, the widow, vs. Patrick Davin, the father, and the Knights of Columbus. The deceased, James Davin, was insured for \$1,000 by the Knights of Columbus. He named his father as the beneficiary while single, and when he married he did not change the name of the beneficiary. The widow claimed the money, and the knights paid the money into court for settlement. The court cited two cases, one in Connecticut and one in Massachusetts, of similar conditions wherein each it was decided that the lawful beneficiary was the widow and not the father. The court ruled that the widow is entitled to the money.

CLOUDBURST DESTROYS MEXICAN TOWN AND MANY ARE KILLED

El Paso, Tex., July 12.—A cloudburst and landslide on July 10 at Ocampo (Jesus Maria), Chihuahua, Mexico, almost completely destroyed the city and killed seven or more persons. Many others were injured and it is expected some of them will die. All the killed and injured are Mexicans. The American residents are alleviating the suffering of the wounded and are covering the bodies of the dead as rapidly as possible. The office and coral of the W. C. Greene Gold and Silver Company at Ocampo were swept away but all its American employes escaped. The company's loss is estimated at \$5,000 Mexican money.

EVERYTHING POINTS TO A GREAT WHEAT CROP

Bull Clique Busy Sending Out False Reports of Rust in Northwest in Order to Market Their Large Holdings.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Winnipeg, July 12.—It has been known in grain circles here for some time past that powerful interests in wheat have formed a bull ring anxious to see the price of wheat in order that they may unload their heavy holdings of wheat at a long profit. Every scrap of information of an unfavorable nature has been magnified and used to induce a fall in the price of wheat. Yesterday the climax was reached when an alarming report of the prevalence of rust in almost a ruinous stage was sent out. Vigorous measures were taken to at once properly inform the public on this matter and reports received last night from thirty-eight representative points throughout Manitoba and Saskatchewan indicate that the rumors are absurd and devoid of foundation, in fact. The truth is the rust is on the verge of harvesting the greatest and best wheat crop in its history. Harvesting will begin with the wheat. Harvesting will begin with the wheat.

TO STUDY TRADE CONDITIONS OF CANADA

British Commissioner Will Spend a Year in This Country

Mr. Grigg Non-committal About His Mission, But Intimates His Visit Is to See How Business Can Be Increased Between Britain and the Dominion.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Ottawa, July 12.—Richard Grigg, who has been commissioned by the British government to study trade conditions in Canada, reached Ottawa today. Mr. Grigg will spend from eight months to a year in this country. The chief purpose of his visit is to ascertain the best means of establishing British commercial agencies in Canada. Mr. Grigg himself throws no light on his mission; he is extremely courteous, but a reserved man. "I have just arrived enigma," he said, to a reporter, "and I cannot tell yet what course my work will take."

Mr. Grigg says the British government is always on the alert with regard to building up trade with Canada. Administration lies with the board of trade, the department over which David Lloyd George presides. Asked if it was the policy of the new government to pay more attention to Canadian trade Mr. Grigg smiled and declined to give an opinion. "Ah, that's thin ice," he said. Mr. Grigg will be in Ottawa four or five days conferring with the officials of the trade and commerce department and will also see the minister. His future course will depend upon the advice they give him. An idea of the extent of his work may be judged from his itinerary, which includes a visit to all parts of Canada.

THEATRE A PRIVATE PLACE SAYS NEW YORK COURT

Metcalfe, the Dramatic Critic, Loses His Suit for Being Denied Admission.

New York, July 12.—That the manager and proprietor of a theatre has a right to say who shall enter his place of amusement and who shall not, his playhouse being a private and not a public place, is the gist of a decision handed down today in the appellate division of the supreme court. The decision dismisses the complaint of James S. Metcalfe, the dramatic critic, against Charles Burnham, a member of the Theatre Managers' Association, for excluding Metcalfe from Burnham's theatre. Metcalfe charged that Burnham and other theatrical managers had entered into a conspiracy to prevent him from exercising his lawful claim.