

700 miles from the American Continent. The presence of rats and mice is easily explained by their being carried thither by man, and the solitary land vertebrate indigenous to the islands is a lizard related to an American species, but which has developed into a peculiar form. The bats and birds are little changed from their ancestors on the neighbouring Continent, but the land shells, like those of the Azores, present a large number of special forms. The Azores, then, were mainly colonised from the European continent, while the Bermudas were supplied with their floral and faunal organisms from America.

(To be continued in our next issue.)

BY THE WAY.

(Continued from page 4)

of government and the country's control in general is not conducive to aid productivity of industry, starvation is not the result of civil war. Rather are both starvation and civil war due to a climax in the historical development of certain economic and political conditions. "... the inner political forces of a country come in conflict with its economic development, which at the present day is practically true of all political force, the battle always ended with the destruction of the political force. Without exception and inexorably, economic development has attained its goal." No, the proletariat does not want civil war, As a matter of fact, neither is the bourgeoisie anxious for it. But, in the effort to maintain power, the ruling class leaves nothing untried. And it certainly would be rather foolish for the proletariat to say: Masters, we know that we are the great majority, we suffer as we have suffered never before, but we see that you are determined to fight if we insist on taking things into our own hands; please, don't bother yourselves, we quit.

As regards universal suffrage, in order that this reply may not be unduly elongated, I shall just quote from Engels' "The Origin of the Family," pages

210-11: "The possessing class rules directly through universal suffrage. For as long as the oppressed class, in this case the proletariat, is not ripe for its economic emancipation, just so long will its majority regard the existing order of society as the only one possible, and form the tail, the extreme left wing, of the capitalist class. But the more the proletariat matures toward its self-emancipation, the more does it constitute itself as a separate class and elect its own representatives in place of the capitalists. Universal suffrage is the gauge of the maturity of the working class. It can and will never be anything else but that in the modern state. But that is sufficient. On the day when the thermometer of universal suffrage reaches its boiling point among the laborers, they as well as the capitalists will know what to do."

Finland, about the time of the Proletarian Revolution in Russia, is an example of the proletariat testing its suffrage and gaining through that suffrage a majority in the national legislative body. Their victory proved the limited nature of the suffrage within the capitalist state.

Before ending my part in this discussion, I wish to emphasize certain points, which, I think, will help us to understand this question of force.

Man makes his own history, but he does so only with the material at hand. The clamping of society's economic forces within the private property relationship sends one country after the other past the zenith of its economic life. The forces of production strain the political forms. The minds of the mass are more or less rapidly alienated from the support of things as they are and they are compelled to take control of affairs into their own hands, thus freeing the further evolution of economic and social forces.

Differentiate between social and political revolution. "... force plays... a revolutionary role, ... it is in the words of Marx, the midwife of the old society which is pregnant with the new, ... it is the tool by the means of which social progress is forwarded, and foolish, dead political forms destroyed." (Engels in Landmarks of Scientific Socialism.)

Some may think that if what has gone before is true, it precludes the necessity of further educational activities in attempting to get more workers to adhere to Communism. Not at all, the more the merrier. Only, let us not be mistaken to think that a proletarian revolution is impossible unless the mass consciously supports the Communist program altogether. All that is necessary, given the favorable socio-economic and political conditions, is a working class ready to institute itself as ruling class.

While we must carry on the work of drawing as many as possible to study and adhere to the principles of communism, a task which will continue after the proletarian revolution, yet we have another function, that of getting the mass to realize especially one point in the communist program: "that the first step in the revolution by the working class is to raise the proletariat to the position of ruling class."

* * * * *

P.S.—Clev. News. 8/16/23.

"Communist Strikes Spread in Germany. Situation Outside Berlin Viewed as Precarious. Berlin, Aug., 16.—(By A. P.)—Although the Communist strikes in Berlin have ended the situation elsewhere is precarious, according to reports reaching the capital.

The Communists are said to control the town of Helmstedt, having disarmed the police. Many persons are reported to have been injured in a clash between Nationalists and Communists at Arnstadt.

Leipzig is without gas or electricity in consequence of a strike of the municipal workers.

Eighty arrests were made at Halle following a fight between Nationalists and Communist factions, and on Tuesday the police at Herne were obliged to withdraw before a riotous mob. The forces of occupation restored order.

The situation in the province of Saxony is reported as threatening."

HERE AND NOW.

We seem to be crying in the wilderness, Here and Now. At any rate, our total cash receipts since last issue are almost negligible in Clarion subs.

We know the Clarion is not alone in having to worry over finance these days. The condition of near bankruptcy seems to be general and apathy seems to rule all around. A campaign for Clarion subs. would help considerably in breaking the apathy and in dusting out the cobwebs from the working class mind. There is no better time to begin than now. Certainly there is no time more urgent than now.

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PLATFORM

Socialist Party of Canada

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

Labor, applied to natural resources, produces all wealth. The present economic system is based upon capitalist ownership of the means of production, consequently, all the products of labor belong to the capitalist class. The capitalist is, therefore, master; the worker a slave.

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

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

The interest of the working class lies in setting itself free from capitalist exploitation by the abolition of the wage system, under which this exploitation, at the point of production, is cloaked. To accomplish this necessitates the transformation of capitalist property in the means of wealth production into socially controlled economic forces.

The irrepressible conflict of interest between the capitalist and the worker necessarily expresses itself as a struggle for political supremacy. This is the Class Struggle.

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

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