

and pointing out the fact that the reds on the prairies are anxious for news of each other and information for them is often hard to obtain.

After Calgary I went to Medicine Hat and on the Tuesday night spoke at the City Hall. Considering that meetings were being held all over the city and the municipal elections were pending, we had a good audience. I spoke by request on Unemployment and the next day the local press gave us a column. The next stop was Seven Persons and here I made the acquaintance of Wiley Orr. This Comrade has a sound knowledge of the proposition and is a tower of strength to the movement in this part of the country. We had a fine little meeting at Seven Persons. I then went forward to Whitla and there met Polinkos. We held one meeting in the town and he took me out to the farm where his wife and two children live. Polinkos is an Hungarian and Mrs. Polinkos a Russian. They are proletarians of a fine type and did all they possibly could to make my visit a pleasant one. Comrade Polinkos could not understand, however, why I refused to speak at a dance. The Socialist propaganda is too serious to deliver as a side show at a dance. If they are not willing to put off their dance for a lecture they are not worth talking to. We held another at the town beyond Whitla and after that I went back again to Medicine Hat where I spoke once more in the City Hall; this time on "The International Situation." We had a fine little crowd and I believe we shall have good results from this quarter. We also got another column in the local paper. I found a good type of red around here and desire to thank Mr. and Mrs. Allen Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Vosen, Comrade Lewis and a host of others for their assistance and hospitality. They certainly did their bit. Comrade Ronald of Fiske had sent down \$20, the fare from Medicine Hat to where he lives and I had to take the train back to Calgary and from there to Fiske. It was a long journey and I was glad when it was over. I held two meetings in Fiske both sparsely attended but this was not the fault of Comrade Ronald. He is a young man with a future and his whole heart is in the cause. Although only 21 he is reading the right stuff and I expect to hear much of him later. His father is also under no illusions. He has a shrewd mind and is a deep student of social problems. I stayed at Ronald's home and here as everywhere the treatment was of the best. From Fiske I went to McGee and there met Pat Hunt. It is many years since Pat and I first met. He reminded me of the fact that when I toured this part of the country before twelve years ago my hair was jet black. He is now bald headed and is allowing his beard to grow for the winter. He looks like Gribble. He has been about 14 years farming and is worse than broke. When I was last in Zealandia Pat and I slept on the floor in Riley's house and sure enough after the meeting at McGee Pat and I found ourselves in a bed on the floor. It reminded us of the days of yore when we were young in the movement. Pat has now five children, the eldest being about eight. The revolution is wanted by this family right now. It can't come too soon for Pat or his wife either. We talked most of the night, our conversation being of old Comrades; Menzies who is now in New Zealand, O'Brien, Charlie Crook and many others, some of whom have crossed the great divide. Mrs. Hunt takes a keen interest in the movement and cheerfully plays her part. She desired news of the Old Country from which she originally came. We had a happy time together.

My next stopping place was East Anglia and although it is only about fifteen miles from Fiske it took me a whole day to get there as I had to wait in Rosetown. Comrade LaMarche who arranged this meeting is one of the best. Together with Comrade Douglas he upholds the cause of the proletariat against desperate odds. A man who has the courage to openly stand out as a red when it means ostracism is entitled to our respect. Comrade LaMarche works on the track six months in the year. He has a wife and family. His better half is a worthy helpmate to her husband. I was sorry I could not remain longer in their society. I sincerely hope that

my visit encouraged Comrade LaMarche and Douglas. I did my best and the meeting was a good one in every respect. This trip has made me feel very humble and insignificant. There are hundreds of men on these prairies who have dedicated their lives to the cause and faithfully keep the light of knowledge burning amidst the mental darkness that is everywhere around them. The Clarion is their guide, philosopher and friend, and the honor of the comrades who are to some extent before the public they are ready at any and all times to defend at any cost. To meet them is an inspiration and on this trip I have had that glorious privilege. May we all prove worthy of the respect and confidence that is reposed in us by these worthy comrades.

I now headed for Saskatoon and found that I had to wait 36 hours in Rosetown. There is no worse place on earth than a prairie town full of scissor-bills and Rosetown is in this category. When I arrived in Saskatoon the unemployed were having a meeting in the Trades Hall. I spoke to the out of works for about 20 minutes and then struck John Egge and we together went and hunted up J. P. Hansen late of Coleman and Prince George. After consulting with some supporters belonging to the O.B.U., we went and engaged the Bijou Theatre. The meeting was held on Xmas Eve and a blustering snowstorm undoubtedly kept many away who otherwise would have attended. In spite of this however we had a nice audience and everything passed off satisfactorily. The Saskatoon Phoenix put in about a column on the speech. John Egge, Hansen and some O.B.U. boys had to dig up in order to meet the expenses which the collection failed to cover. I spoke in the O.B.U. Headquarters on the Tuesday following and we had quite an interesting little meeting. I now found myself on the rocks financially but Cusack of Calgary, the most useful man in Alberta, responded immediately to my signal of distress and at the most critical moment sent the five dollars that saved the revolution. May this be recorded to his everlasting credit. On the day following I went on to Humbolt and made my headquarters at the home of John Egge. John was at work when I arrived but Mrs. Egge welcomed me most heartily and his little daughter straight away adopted me as her playmate. I remained at Humbolt almost a week and was treated as an honored guest. We held a meeting in Humbolt town hall on the Sunday, and took a collection of over eight dollars. John acted as chairman. He was disappointed at the size of the crowd but I considered the turnout was good considering there had never been a socialist meeting held there previously. The hall cost \$10 and Comrade Egge generously made good the deficiency and also helped me on my way. The next stop was at Kamsack where John made arrangements for another meeting. Comrade Gunderson lives here and Egge's brother Lem who is also a good red. The ground around Kamsack has been well prepared for our propaganda and we had a fair meeting. The audience was smaller than it otherwise would have been owing to the fact that the doors were not open in time and many went away being under the impression that the meeting was off. Everything passed off well however and after bidding Lem Egge good bye I headed for Winnipeg. I had tried to get in touch with the boys at Dauphin but for some reason or other I failed to do so.

I arrived in Winnipeg on the seventh of January, and write this in the Socialist Headquarters. The trip has been a hard one, the hardest in my experience, and that is saying much. I have toured the prairies on three previous occasions, also Alaska and the Yukon, but this trip has taken more out of me than any previous one. I have had to contend with bad weather and have been handicapped by sickness which almost prostrated me on several occasions. In spite of this, however, I am pleased I made the effort. I have convinced myself of the fact that the S. P. of C. has behind it some of the finest men and women that the country can at present show, and if credit is due to anyone it is due to them. I have no complaints to make. Remember me kindly to all comrades whose acquaintance I recently made and whose friendship I hope to permanently enjoy.

If I have delivered the goods to their satisfaction I am content. What greater pleasure can come to an honest red than the approbation of class conscious comrades?

And of such is the S. P. of C.

#### WHERE ARE WE AT?

(Continued from page 1)

have a horse that needs to be shod we seek the services of a blacksmith, who understands this trade,—not to a dentist or a grocer.

And so with our social problems. Only those who understand the causes underlying modern evils can find the way to combat those evils.

We must understand them in the same way that we understand the things we work at. There is one difference, however, which should be clearly understood, to wit:—

In social life it is to the interest of some—the rich—to keep working men (the poor) ignorant of social matters, because the rich benefit from the existing state of things, however much the workers suffer from them.

Many barriers are raised against working men learning to study their own social affairs, but there is one barrier that every worker has the power to surmount: the barrier of apathy.

Has the continued failure of unions and reform parties made you apathetic? If so, here is a movement worth your while—the Revolutionary movement. Yes:—The Revolutionary Socialist Movement.

Perhaps you smile, but: Do you know that:—

The Socialist Party of Canada told the workers of Canada long before 1914 that the war was inevitable?

Told the workers that the Peace would be of no benefit to them?

Explained the commercial system under which we live, therefore enabling workers to understand the causes of their troubles?

(1) The Socialist Party of Canada, therefore, enables you to understand Capitalism.

(2) It is consistent.

(3) Realizing that the emancipation of the workers must be brought about through the efforts of the workers themselves, it has never left the path of independence for the morass of alliances with reformist or pro-capitalist Labor Parties.

(4) Prior to the Great War 1914-1918, it refused to join the Second International on the ground that the Second International was dominated by anti-socialist organizations: The British Labor Party,—the German Social Patriots and others. The action of those organizations on the outbreak of the war, in rushing to the defense of their masters' countries completely justified our position in the matter.

(5) It is the only party in this country which has consistently tackled the herculean task of educating the workers to their position in capitalist society.

Learn more about the S. P. of C. It cannot lead you out of your misery; nobody can. But it will help you to understand the contradictions of modern capitalism and enable you, in co-operation with your fellow-workers, to help yourself.

Do not put your faith in so-called "great men" any longer. "The great are only great because we are on our knees."

Let us rise.

For information concerning the S. P. of C., apply to R. Burns, 134 A 9th Ave., W., Calgary, Alta.

Economic classes held every Thursday 8 p.m. above address.

#### ALBERTA NOTES.

Alberta and Saskatchewan P. E. C. of the S. P. of C. Secretary, R. Burns, 134 A 9th Avenue, West, Calgary, Alberta.

Local Calgary. Same address as above. Business meetings every alternate Tuesday, 8 p.m. Study class in Economics every Thursday at 8 p.m. Correspondence from all parts of Alberta and Saskatchewan is earnestly invited from all comrades interested in the organizational and educational work of the Party, and attendance at the classes and interest in their development and usefulness will be welcomed.