

SOME PHASES

Of Capitalistic Production and Transportation

By W. E. Hardenburg.

One of the most striking features of the present system of production is its enormous wastefulness, not only of wealth, but more especially of human life.

This loss of life, which is greatly increasing year by year, is not the only alarming phase of the situation. For people are becoming so callous and inured to this industrial slaughter that they are accepting it as a matter of course. Some even seem to regard it as a necessary adjunct of production.

Of course it is practically impossible to estimate the total number of workers killed through preventable accidents each year, but the little information that we can obtain sheds a lurid light upon this subject.

Thus we find that it cost the lives of 1,125 workers to mine 231,966,070 tons of coal in Pennsylvania last year, according to the annual report of the state department of miners, just issued.

And the Pennsylvania coal fields produce only a small proportion of the world's coal supply!

Does it not seem that, under a sensible system of production, most of these accidents could have been prevented?

Consider the matter. These Pennsylvania coal mines are being operated by private individuals, not for the public welfare, but for their own private profits. Thus it is to the interests of the mine owners to get the coal extracted at the least possible cost, and it is against their interests to introduce up-to-date safety devices and systems, for these cost money. It is also to their interests to "rush" or "speed up" the miners, and it stands to reason that a man hurrying over his work is not so careful as he would be, were he at liberty to take his time at it.

Now, on the other hand, workers are cheap, and there is an inexhaustible supply of them. The majority of the Pennsylvania miners are slaves, Hungarians and other foreigners, most of whom are practically unorganized and extremely ignorant. They have no money to sue the mine owners for damages in case of injury; very few have relatives to do so in case of death, so that whenever these misfortunes occur, that is the end of the matter. The owners resume the even tenor of their ways and get new workers.

Again, take the American railways for example. The statistics are appalling. Thus in 1907, we find that 4,534 railway employees were killed, an increase of 168 per cent over the number killed in 1897. The proportion of those killed to the total number employed was 1 out of 369. The number of employees injured in 1907 was 87,644, an increase of 217 per cent over the figures of 1897. The proportion of those injured to the number employed was 1 out of 19.

Now, upon analysis, we find the same conditions here as in the coal mines. A certain class runs these railways for their own profit. Safety devices cost money and, to a certain extent, interfere with transportation. Workers, however, are cheap, so it is apparent at once that the interests of the owning class lay in the direction of dispensing with the safety appliances at the expense of the workers.

Another fruitful source of death and desolation to the "lower classes"—that is, the workers—is the production of cheap and non-nutritious foods, and, above all, the adulteration of food and drugs. Indeed, this evil has already caused such injury that most governments have finally enacted various clumsy laws against it. It needed, however, the deaths of hundreds of soldiers during the Spanish war, a few years ago, to induce the American Government to do anything to stop this evil.

It is needless to ask why this sort of misdirected and murderous production is carried on. Every one with any brains at all, realizes that it is done by the small group of men who control these industries, to increase their profits at the expense of the workers.

Suppose, now, the workers themselves owned and operated the mines, railways, factories and other machinery of production and transportation. In the first place, they would not have to pile up enormous fortunes for their masters. The money that now flows each year to a small group of avaricious millionaires would be more equally distributed among the class that produces this wealth. In the second place it hardly seems conceivable that the workers would fail to adopt any device that would tend to minimize the risks they run in their work, or would produce anything that they knew to be unfit for their own consumption.

The more one studies the prevailing mode of production, the more one realizes that **WHATEVER THE PEOPLE MUST USE, THE PEOPLE MUST CONTROL**, and the only way

in which this can be accomplished is by **THE COLLECTIVE OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION OF THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.**

—Red Deer, Alta.

At Kalimati, India, great iron and steel works are being erected which will be producing iron and steel by the end of next year. At Lonavla works are being built to utilize the rainfall of the Western Ghats in order to provide electric power for the industries of Bombay. An Indian Institute of Science is going up at Bangalore while the Cawnpore Technological Institute and the Bombay Central Science Institute are also under way. India is being industrialized. Capitalism knows no boundaries, nor race nor creed in the hunt for profits. It is calling the teeming millions of the east to the production of commodities. Where will the markets come from? What will happen when the capitalists of the east look to the west for markets? Will there be a world war such as the world has never seen even in the days of the warrior nations of old? Or will the Socialists triumph and allow the producers of each country to enjoy the wealth their labor has created?

The farmers around Montreal are declaring that the retailers of milk are robbers. Milk sells in Montreal at eight cents a quart, and the farmers get four cents. So the farmers are planning to retail the milk themselves. They intimate that no reduction will be made in the retail price of milk. The farmers are owners. They want to wipe out the middlemen and add to their own incomes the incomes going to other people. This is but in line with the reduction of waste of effort. The middlemen disperse their incomes and some of them will become unemployed. At present they may not want Socialism, but when the concentration of industry hits them they will want something that will give them back a chance to live decently and Socialism is the only thing that will do this.

Technical training is coming to the front. Machinery is becoming more complex. Man has investigated the secrets of nature and is performing artificially many of her processes. As machines come to do the heavy work and man controls with his reason, there is a greater necessity for brains and less for muscle. So technical institutes are being erected in every province. These technical institutes are helping undermine the power and influence of the possessing capitalists. For men who are taught to think will use their brains. Those who have investigated nature's workings will also investigate their own position. The workers are being educated to be more profitable slaves for the masters and that very education is giving them the mental power to throw off the master class altogether.

The United States government has been putting the bucket shops out of business. The bucket shops take the small savings of the people and waste them in gambling. This was all right for a while. But efficiency has become the watchword of the big American capitalists. The bucket shop is inefficient and wasteful. The big capitalists can skin the public more efficiently. They have savings banks and railroad shares to sell and watered stock. If the bucket shop operators get the dimes of the people the big capitalists cannot get them. So the bucket shops are being put out of business, by order of the big labor skinner. It remains now for the skinned workers to give the order to put the labor skinner out of business.

The Socialists are but a handful, people think. There are more Socialists than the average person imagines. But even if we admit they are but a handful, they are the brains of Canada and of the civilized nations. They are the keenest thinkers. Even were they but a handful they would conquer, for the sweep of cosmic evolution is with them. Their philosophy fulfils the aspirations and echoes to the hope of millions of toiling men and women.

The Nova Scotia elections will be held in May. There ought to be several Socialist and labor candidates in the field. Nova Scotia has been industrialized in spots and the revolt of the wage slaves has naturally followed.

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HAMILTON ACTIVITY

(The Hamilton Socialists are active. They are not only agitating but organizing. Under the name of the "Karl Marx Club" they are drawing together the Socialists into one organization. To show their methods of getting the awakened together they have sent the following letter to every reader of a Socialist paper in Hamilton. The activity of the Karl Marx Club means a fine Socialist movement in a short while. The following is the letter.)

OPEN LETTER

To the Readers of Socialist Papers in Hamilton.

Comrades and Fellow Workers:—In view of the fact that you are—or until recently, have been—a more or less regular subscriber to at least one Socialist paper, viz., "Cotton's Weekly," we trust that we are justified in addressing you as above.

Such being the case, we beg to lay before you a few facts, observations and proposals, relative to the local movement, which, we feel confident, should bring home to every Socialist and Socialist sympathizer **THE URGENT NECESSITY OF MORE ORGANIZED EFFORT AND GREATER CO-OPERATIVE ACTIVITY AMONG LOCAL SOCIALISTS** than has hitherto obtained in this city.

To commence with, let us ask you a blunt question: Are you satisfied with the progress Socialist Propaganda is making in Hamilton? Answering for ourselves, we can frankly say: **NO, WE ARE NOT!**—and we believe your answer will be substantially the same.

Very well then, since our local movement can be only what we the Socialists of this city, choose to make it, don't you think it about time for us to "take a tumble to ourselves" by putting forth a little co-operative effort in order to pull it out of the rut? For until steps looking toward such an end are first initiated among those who already declare themselves Socialists, it is simply useless to bewail "lack of interest" on behalf of the average workman and sheer folly to attempt "wishing" into existence any such local activity as we all undoubtedly desire to see.

THE FACTS.

(1) As a conservative estimate it is safe to say that there now resides in this city anywhere between three to four hundred persons who, could they be interrogated, would avow themselves Socialists, and probably twice that number imbued with more or less pronounced socialistic leanings and sympathies. Thus, assuming that the smaller number is the more nearly correct, we have, roughly speaking, about 1000 persons, of whom fully one-third should be available for some form of Socialist ORGANIZATION; and the remainder at least sufficiently indoctrinated to periodically help our Propaganda FINANCIALLY, were we able to locate and reach them.

(2) Another aspect of the question is this: Scarcely a day passes that we do not pick up some of our daily capitalist papers and read therein dispatches telling of the spread of Socialist ideas and the outcroppings of revolutionary activity in quarters where formerly hard-spelled Conservatism only held sway. At one time it may be from Central Europe, at another from South America, or again from such far off countries as China or Japan—yet whenever such facts are read or recounted, we will venture to say that there is not one among us but who experiences a keen sense of satisfaction—perhaps we should say a thrill of pleasure. Is it not so, Comrade Reader?

Now of course long-range "social faction" and likewise an occasional "thrill" re the good work being accomplished by Comrades in foreign lands may be all right in their way—but something more than this will be required of Hamilton Socialists (and sympathizers) ere we shall have "proved" ourselves even by the standard set by other Canadian Cities such as Toronto, Brantford, London, Winnipeg, and Vancouver. **LOCAL SOCIALISTS MUST JAR LOOSE AND AROUSE FROM THEIR APATHY!**

(3) One of the most striking facts, and one which clearly denotes the almost comatose condition of our local movement, is the circumstances that throughout all of Hamilton (an industrial City of 75,000 inhabitants) there is to be found not quite 125 persons who take enough interest to subscribe for even ONE of the various Canadian and American Socialist papers—and.

(4) Furthermore, among the above mentioned 125 subscribers we have BUT A MERE HANDFUL (less than one-fifth) WHO TAKE ACTIVE PART AND INTEREST IN SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION. (There must be some reason for this, for many cities, not half Hamilton's size, have us beaten to a Rooseveltian frazzle!)

A FEW OBSERVATIONS.

Early last Spring a Manifesto and Call for a Conference was issued and sent to all those in this city believed to be in sympathy with the spread of Socialist principles (Initiative being taken by several of our more active local workers) with the result that some 25 Comrades and sympathizers met in a series of conferences and organized the present "Karl Marx Club," with the object of overcoming just such apathy and lack of local propaganda as we have, above, endeavored to outline to you.

The measure of success with which the efforts of the "Marx Club" have already met (notwithstanding its organization at a season rather unfavorable to indoor agitation and the recruiting of membership) has, however, proved quite gratifying, all things considered. Yet our aim must be to do still better.

The season for propaganda is once more upon us and every man with an ounce of Socialism in his eranium should feel it a duty to do everything possible to facilitate the delivery of the glorious Gospel of Economic and Political DISCONTENT.

The "Marx Club" in the short time since its inception has shown that it is both willing and fitted to perform this work—but what is now most needed to enable it to "make good" in the fullest sense is **SUPPORT—THE AUGMENTATION OF ITS MEMBERSHIP.**

Two of the principle matters towards which the Club has recently been directing its best efforts are the following:

Firstly, the making of arrangements re date and speakers incident to a series of regular and Special Propaganda Meetings to be held between now and the 1st of May.

Secondly, the location and procurement of suitable premises—to serve for permanent headquarters and club room—i. e., something in the line of premises of moderate rent, centrally and conveniently located, such as would answer not only for the present and prospective requirements of club members, but which would likewise function as, **GENERAL SOCIALIST HEADQUARTERS AND READING ROOM.**

Something of the above nature has been a long felt want in Hamilton (said fact receiving special emphasis during local activity in the "Fedorenko Case") and for the future the matter presents itself as a virtual necessity, not simply in point of present requirements, but even more so as regards the prospective development of a thoroughly **LIVE** local movement, such as obtains in other localities.

Such headquarters have now been established, and from now on it is up to the Socialists of this city to support and maintain it. That the membership of the "Marx Club" and our Jewish Comrades of the "Workers' Circle" have done, and will continue to do their share, is attested by the fact of their having raised (jointly) a fund of some \$25.00 to be applied as circumstances dictate while in addition to this many of our own members have voluntarily assessed themselves to the tune of "a day's pay" for similar purposes.

Now, Comrades, in view of the efforts being made by others towards this end, do you, as a Socialist, (or as even a sympathizer with the movement) feel that you are doing your duty if you remain longer aloof from membership in the "Marx Club" and confine your ACTIVITY (?) to the mere reading of an occasional Socialist paper?

Do you, to say the least, consider it **FAIR** that a few enthusiastic comrades—a mere handful—should have to perform ALL the work and contribute ALL the finances while YOU simply expend a little complacent "satisfaction" in aid of the cause?

Now, had the "Marx Club" an additional membership, paying dues as under:

Twenty-five at 25 cents per month.
Fifty at 15 cents per month.
Seventy-five at 10 cents per month.
(Or even the latter number at the nominal fee of \$1.00 per annum) it would be more than sufficient to cover all fixed expenses relative to the maintenance of our new headquarters.

Moreover, with the club on such a basis we could not only assure the permanency of the headquarters, but we should, likewise, be able to pull off not merely an **OCCASIONAL** propaganda lecture but one every week—something never before accomplished in Hamilton.

Would not the realization of such a program suit you tip top? And don't you think there are enough Socialists in Hamilton to accomplish this result?

We, the members of the "Marx Club" are satisfied that **THERE ARE**. Were it not so, we should never have gone to the trouble of addressing to you this open letter.

There remains but to lay before you **OUR PROPOSITION**, which is, briefly, as follows:

To enroll from among the available

material, which we feel confident exists in this city, sufficient new members to bring the roster of the "Karl Marx Club" up to approximately 100—and to accomplish the trick between Jan. 1st and May Day 1911.

With the above end in view, we have chosen from the mailing lists of the several socialist papers having subscribers in this city, the names and addresses of exactly 100 non-members of the "Marx Club" and these we are "going after" first.

To such as believe that the "Marx Club" has undertaken a good work in the interest of the local movement and who wish to help along the same by enrolling as club members—either full or associate—or, who desire further information, we would request that they make it a point to call in person at the club headquarters (Room 1, 34 James St. North, opposite City Hall) any evening between the hours of 8 and 9.30—or better still, some Sunday afternoon or Friday evening, the time of our regular weekly meetings.

Yours in the interests of greater activity and a local movement worth while.

Executive Committee.

Karl Marx Club
Per K. Knudsen, Secy.

The churches follow. They do not lead. They get so backward in their creeds and ideas that their supporters leave them. Then they make a great spurge and try to catch up. Now that the Socialists have been hammering for forty years against rent, interest and profit, the Presbyterian Church in Canada is finding it must wake up. At the next General Assembly of the church there will be submitted a program of social principles for adoption, containing planks as follows: (1) Acknowledgement of the obligations of wealth. (2) Christian principles to be applied to the operations of capital and labor. (3) More equitable distribution of wealth. (4) Abolition of poverty. (5) Protection of childhood. (6) Regulation of the conditions and industrial occupations of women as shall safeguard the physical and moral health of themselves, the community and future generations. (7) Protection of workers against dangerous machinery, objectionable conditions of labor, occupational diseases, and giving healthful hours of labor. (8) Compensation for industrial accidents and injuries. (9) One rest day in seven for workers. (10) Conciliation and arbitration in industrial disputes. (11) Proper housing. (12) Christian methods of caring for defective and dependent persons. (13) Christian spirit to be developed in the attitude of society towards offenders against the law. (14) Opposition to vice. (15) Pure foods and drugs. (16) Wholesale recreation. These demands show how the church is becoming alarmed at its loss of prestige. I would be more satisfied with this program were the class war recognized, opposition to the private ownership of the means of production and distribution declared, and the working class summoned to free itself. Still, the social creed is not so bad for a church to put forth. The bait offered, however, will not sidetrack the wide wake workers. The revolutionary workers will carry on their agitation and organization for their own freedom on the material plane and for their own political and industrial institutions—run democratically under their own management and control.

Victor Berger has been elected to the U. S. Congress on the Socialist ticket. He goes into the den of thieves as the lone representative of millions of the oppressed and robbed. He goes with a heavy heart but with firm courage. His heart is heavy and he is weighed down with responsibility; for no man who feels the work to be done, and be alone to do it in the legislative body, could be otherwise than heavy hearted. But his courage is firm for he has strengthened his spirit with long years of heavy fighting with capitalist beasts that tear and slay and oppress the exploiters. And he is cheered by the thought that, although alone in the U. S. Congress, there are millions outside who are with him in the fight he must make on entrenched and arrogant wrong.

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CALMNESS

Be calm. There are constitutional ways of righting wrongs. You must wait for education to do its work. The workers are not fit to rule industry. You are too rabid. Decent men will not listen to you.

How often do you hear these expressions fall glibly from contented people. How often do self-satisfied smirkings, Christian lawyers, rent receivers, hangers-on of capitalists, utter these phrases. They think they have wisdom with them and that their words will be hearkened to.

But this is not an age for calmness. This is not a time for tameness. This is a time for social revolt, for the gathering of the massed workers, for the lowering storms of the class war.

Be calm, says the capitalist supporters when the Socialists and workers are gathering strength. But they tell a different tale when their own glass is affected.

The Times building in Los Angeles blew up from defective gas mains killing twenty workers, many of them unionists. At once a howl went up throughout capitalism. It was shrieked from a thousand papers that unionists had blown up the building and fierce cries were raised for vengeance.

In New York a hundred and fifty workers were slaughtered in a fire trap loft of a garment factory. The fire escapes were barred and barricaded and the dead were piled in heaps at the barricades. Others jumped to their certain death from a height of seven stories and struck the sidewalk with such force that the sidewalk was shattered and the bodies fell into the underground cellars. At once labor becomes indignant and the capitalist organs tell them to be calm. Their class has been robbed and their comrades murdered for profit. Be calm, say the masters.

A money trust reaches its tentacles across Canada. The bankers association pours out vast sums to the big labor skimmers and forecloses accounts on the farmers and the farmers are forced into the ranks of the unemployed propertyless people. Be calm, say the bankers.

Wages in departmental stores, in cotton factories almost wherever women work, are below the subsistence level. Unemployment strikes the women workers and the ranks of the prostitutes are swelled with unwilling victims. Be calm, say the exploiters. The grazing lands of the west, vast stretches of timber limits are grabbed by the close relatives of a Sifton. The wealth of Canada is snatched by plundering politicians who drop from office gorged with unearned wealth. Be calm say the exploiters.

Seasonal unemployment makes men workless and thousands of immigrants are poured into Canada through the government officials and the direct bonuses of the politicians. Be calm, do not cry out, it is unseemly so to do, say the rent receivers and the purchasers of labor power.

Be calm, said the Romans to Spartacus when he fretted against the cruelties practised upon the gladiators. Be calm, said the Romans and pagans to the Christians. Be calm, said the slave beaters to the abolitionists. Be calm, say the labor skimmers to the Socialists.

Throughout the ages, the exploiters, the plunderers of the unfortunate, the enslavers of men and women, have endeavored to stifle criticism with quietness. They have endeavored to suppress complaint by words. They have struggled to lead the oppressed into metaphysical disputations about an unseen world.

But when the oppressed have clung to the issue and would not be silenced then the rulers have snarled. They have exercised the legionaries, the mailed knights, the Martinied soldiery upon the bodies of the complainers.

No. You criers after calmness. You cannot quiet the Socialists. There are too many ugly facts for you to face. The poverty, the misery of Canadians cry out against you. The houses of prostitution that fester throughout our cities cry out against you. Your plundering churches that live on the revenues from sweated industries cry out against you.

Your cry to be calm will not save you. Laurier of the silver tongue will not save you. Borden and his trained brutes will not save you. Nothing can save you.

The Socialists of Canada are gathering. The revolution is preparing. The oppressed are uniting against their oppressors.

See. At Glace Bay the slaves revolt. At Springhill the slaves revolt. On the Grand Trunk the slaves revolt. In Crows Nest Pass they revolt. You capitalist exploiters of Canada, your days are drawing to a close. It matters not whether you are a Van Horne or a Sir Frederick Borden or a Lord Strathcona. You will be driven from your position of economic dominance.

The Socialist revolution is upon you. Begone!

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Last Week

W. U. COTT

This is

THE SOCI

It is said that if you give them ten they are ten thereafter. The child during the war and thereafter true to the faith.

As we grow older our memory grows good days. We are our manhood and to our earliest day dying "a" according to a perfect accord evolution, for latest acquire away and the reappearance. This bed returns to men and women in their prime. The Wreck, bring Hide me, Mother, ed to the death to the more, to the My brain is wrecks, and.

The children der forty years old the old brought up, had perished, who had been freedom of des manhood and burdens of com. Blatford's days he was taught to be a and say, yes the Paris Jas reverence through children. The British army was taught to tear anything, came a Social are returning means very much to fear territory. H early teaching youth.

What are we counteract the young child. Jules Lavigne agitating for Guard compo has translate the Italian. Socialist Youn shows how th education of the verted by the for and cont class.

ETHICS OF YOU

1. Love you will be your

2. Love learn of the brain; teacher as

3. Honour to all men;

4. Always rights and re

5. Do not friend to wea

6. Remember things of the bor. Whoever working for bread of the

7. Observe discover the what is co never deceive

8. Do not t his country other nations is a remnant

9. Look for all men will be verland.

10. Peace and rig

11. Consider working peo which you m

In the second tant public of Quebec is boy who ha

They were ver good boy ver ton mill, a brought his to his granny them. The r ed in Edin used in Scot

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