

Western Clarion

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VANCOUVER, B. C., JULY 1, 1921

HERE AND NOW.

Our "Immediate Demands."

HERE AND NOW—this time-worn "Clarion" headline indicates our programme of immediate demands—Subscriptions—and they can't come too quickly. These figures below indicate the measure of response to our frantic gestures in last issue. From which it will be seen that we shall have to gesture more comprehensively or be counted in with yesterday's 7,000 years. Either that or put on the garment of hope and go out looking for "Clarion" credit—with double magnifying eye-glasses and little faith.

These are hard times and the work of working class education must not be halted. Next time you hear someone asking what's the best thing to read for a beginner, introduce him to the "Clarion," and to our programme of immediate demands—subscriptions. We need them.

Following One Dollar each—M. Goudie, J. Gandy, C. MacDonald, Geo. Silk, P. Wallgren, Walter Wilson, C. Fraser, Harry Grand, O. Erickson, A. Morton, C. Sievwright, Sam Bush, J. Brightwell, Sid Earp, E. Oliver C. Woolings, J. G. Smith, A. M. Davis, G. S. Morris, A. Cameron, J. Crockett, E. Gillett. "Geordie."

Following Two Dollars each—Harry Judd, C. W. Springford, Frank Cassidy, P. Floyd, G. E. Mills, A. E. Faulkner, Alex. Miller, W. Mill.

J. Moon, \$4; W. H. Harriman, \$5; W. F. Rampe, \$6; J. Dennis, \$4; Alex. Wood (New Zealand), \$2.75.

Above, subs. received from 14th to 27th June, inclusive—total, \$55.35.

CLARION MAINTENANCE FUND

O. Larson, \$3 Mrs. Griffiths, 50c; J. G. Smith, \$1; John MacIntosh, \$5; J. J. MacDonald, \$5; "B. L. J.," \$2.

Above, C. M. F. contributions from 14th to 27th June, inclusive—total, \$16.50.

SECRETARIAL NOTES.

"The farming situation is very uncertain, the drop in prices has given a severe jolt to most of the hayséeds. There is very little new land being brought into cultivation this year. Wages are about one half of what they were last year, retrenchment is the password among the hayséeds. You meet an optimist once in a while who looks to the future for the good times, or at least a change for the best. The general outlook is bad, the banks holding tight, changing managers with instructions to collect from headquarters."

Writing thus from Winborne, Alberta, Comrade D. MacPherson indicates the bleak outlook as being good. Now that they're changing bank managers—if they ever send the Vancouver manager down there—!

Writing from London, Eng., Comrade Lestor (May 30) says Gribble is in Croyden, running a class in economics. Charlie himself is giving what he calls "the straight dope" to the unemployed. Many arrests have been made among the Communists in England, and Lestor says "I considered it my duty to jump on the platform as soon as this happened."

He says he has met several ex-S. P. of C. men, all of whom are doing good work there — mostly organizational and educational—and the last named he says is badly needed. No word of his return.

Local (Vancouver) No 1 has transferred its Sunday evening meetings from the Empress to the Columbia Theatre. Last Sunday was the first at the Columbia, where Comrade Kavanagh addressed a crowded house. Vancouver readers please note. Every Sunday at 8 p.m., at the Columbia.

Bishop W. Montgomery Brown (who is an old time "Clarion" reader) writes in appreciative terms and offers 1,000 copies of his book "Christianism and Communism," to be sold for the Clarion Maintenance Fund. We have accepted the offer, and refer our readers to the advertisement of the book.

The job printers strike is still on, and the shop where the "Clarion" press work has been done is affected. Last issue was run in a small union press room which involved hand folding, and so was a day late. This issue goes to press a day or two ahead on that account.

C. M. O'BRIEN DEFENCE FUND

Previously acknowledged, \$105.85; J. W. (per C. W. S.), \$2.50; total to 27th June, \$108.35.

IMPERIALISM.

(Continued from page 1)

This is eclipsed when after "a war to end war" the United States spends one per cent. of its revenue on education, three per cent. on administration expenses, three per cent. on "reconstruction" and 93 per cent. on war. Perhaps the nine billions owing her has something to do with it. Of course, the state only use force to acquire property rights when they cannot do so more cheaply without force.

The United States.

The position of the U. S. is very significant. It illustrates how imperialism works out to a logical impossibility. First, like all other developing countries, she imported finished products in excess of her export of raw material; today she exports finished products in excess of her imports of raw material. "In 1920, U. S. exported about three billions more than she imported. Of exports 34 per cent. was crude material, and 66 per cent. manufactured products; of imports 66 per cent. crude material and 34 per cent. manufactured products." She has even evolved her school of imperialist idealists who prate of her "manifest destiny." Perhaps the expansion of the original states, her influence in Mexico, her interests in Cuba and the Phillipines, her Monroe doctrine are nothing more serious than a mantle of destiny that has fallen from Spain upon the shoulders of young America. Perhaps when her navy is finished and her nine billion still uncollected she will show an activity in Europe that will really be nothing more than fulfilling her manifest destiny in restoring once more in Europe the "glory that was Spain,"—she has already had considerable experience at the Inquisition. But then—there's another "perhaps" coming—perhaps the wage slaves may prevent this inconceivable horror. The economist would search for more material motives for her activities. Her desire for an influence in Mexico might be explained by the existence of much needed oil wells there, and by the fact that up to 1910 she had invested in Mexico \$650,000,000 and yet that in 1910 the value of these investments was \$2,000,000,000.

The history of American industrial development is illustrative of the nature of imperialism. First a recipient of foreign capital; then by the development of her own country, buying out these foreign securities. Thus the approximate foreign holdings in 1896 were 45 per cent., in 1905 10 per cent. Next, her period for the export of capital—between 1896 and 1900 it is estimated \$100,000,000 of U. S. capital was invested in Canadian mining, industrial, lumber and railroad stocks. By 1911 it is reckoned this amount had increased to \$226,800,000. And according to the "Mining and Engineering Record," today

"Americans control 95 per cent. of the mining interests of Canada, 100 per cent. of the pulp and paper investments of Western Canada, 75 per cent. of the lumber industry, and 75 per cent. of the fisheries." Her other investments are by no means trivial—she is the great creditor nation of the world today. She has shown foresight in her investments. Take her greatest previous attempt towards empire—the Panama Canal. By causing the secession of Panama from Columbia she secured the rights to build a canal that shortens the Asiatic trade routes in her benefit and in her benefit alone. "It makes Yokohama and Sydney nearer to New York than to Liverpool and Antwerp, and does not shorten the distance from any point in Australia, Japan or the Pacific Islands to any European port." U. S. built it to force her supremacy in the commerce of the world. The canal is well fortified and guarded by U. S. troops.

This course of backward countries towards empire is not being run by U. S. alone. Here are three such typical countries chosen at random: figures for 1918:

Argentina—	
Imports	£ 99,325,943
Exports	159,021,120
Borneo—	
Imports	£ 761,358
Exports	1,019,094
India—	
Imports	S. rupees 164,35,48,949
Exports	244,89,45,219

Similar figures apply to other "backward countries." Imperialism has been termed the "final stage of capitalism"; it works in a gradually narrowing circle where "the movement becomes more and more a spiral and must come to an end, like the movement of planets, by collision with the centre"

The Worker's View of History.

We study imperialism, not because we are interested in our master's welfare, but because we are interested in the historic mission of our class. It is apparent that there is but one "manifest destiny" for the imperialist states—and that is to go to the scrap heap. But there is a very manifest destiny for the international working class—and that is to kick those states there. Only by one world wide gigantic struggle of the proletariat to overthrow the states that rob and rule us, only by setting up in their stead our own proletarian dictatorship can we put an end to the hell that imperialism is raising in Ireland, India, Congo, Egypt, Mexico, the Phillipines; only thus can we safeguard our class from the horrors of a new war so terrible that the blood-fest of 1914-18 shall seem tame beside it. Even the bourgeois Robert Service knows that, when he makes a wounded soldier say to his mother: "It's coming soon and soon, mother, its nearer every day, When only men who work and sweat will have a word to say; When all who earn their honest bread in every land and soil Will claim the Brotherhood of Man, the Comradeship of Toil; When we, the Workers, all demand: 'What are WE fighting for?' Then, then will end that stupid crime, that devil's madness—war."

F. W. T.

MANIFESTO

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