

Editor of The Western Clarion,
Nanaimo, Vancouver Island
February 24, 1923.

Dear Comrade:

It was with sorrow that the comrades residing in this section of Vancouver Island have learned of the painful death of the youngest son of our esteemed comrade Arthur Jordan.

As is customary with coal miners on their return from work, they bath. Comrade Jordan having returned was standing within a few feet of a tub containing boiling water; reading a letter which his wife had handed to him. The little boy of two years was playing in an adjoining room, when his mother turned to the cold water tap. Looking back towards the tub she saw the child backing towards it and called a warning to his father to catch him. The father almost succeeded, but before quite reaching him the child fell in the tub. Although the child was drawn out instantly, it was too late. The child died from the effects of its injuries five hours later.

Funeral services were held on Feby., 15th, at the McAdie Undertaking parlors when addresses were delivered by G. Moore, James Lister and T. A. Barnard. Owing to the depth of snow and conditions of the roads the burial did not take place until Feby. 23.

Comrade Jordan has been known for the past fifteen years for his zeal and activity in the labor and Socialist movement in Canada and New Zealand. Previous to this sad occurrence Com. Jordan had been chosen by the miners of the island to attend the enquiry at Cumberland into the recent mining disaster at that place.

We bespeak the sympathy of his comrades and fellow workers wherever Com. Jordan and his family are known.

New Zealand labor papers please copy.

A Nanaimo Comrade.

OIL AND TURKEY.

not recognise secret treaties or agreements." (Oil, Engineering and Finance, 2/12/22).

After the oil scandal at Genoa, the oil bugs became more cautious in their tactics.

Sir Henri Deterding of the R.D.S. and Sir Charles Greenway of the A.P.O. were known to be "lurking in the purlieus of Lausanne," but could not be observed at the conference, until the Turkish typists were examined "in several of whom striking resemblances to eminent oil magnates have been observed." (Daily News, 21222).

Yet a further complication has appeared, for "Mr. Untermeyer's mission is to urge upon the Lausanne Conference the claims of the twenty-two Turkish princes and princesses to oilfields estimated to be worth over £200,000,000 sterling. The presentation of these claims is said to be financed by American and British citizens." (Oil News, 9/12/22).

It is as well to watch the intrigues of the oil magnates closely, for to quote a French author, "To ensure success to their vast designs they are capable of fomenting revolutions in Mexico, or sowing civil war in Asia; to crush a competitor they are willing to set fire to Europe and the world." (Delaisi Oil, p. 81).

—The (Irish) Workers' Republic (London).

THE STANDARD OF LIVING.

(Continued from page 3)

been thoroughly exploited, we will not—we cannot follow the straight path of direct expropriation. Because, the straight road is the road to political supremacy, the road of revolution. And whatever its actual journey may prove to be, its entrance is threatening in the extreme. The process of evolution—of growth, maturity and change—is a passionless and deliberate movement. Like the "hound of heaven" it goes, unhurrying, and unperturbed. The elements of comfort and satisfaction are wound and woven into the very fabric of society. They are the beat of its heart, the throb of its life. They are derived from its time-needs. They are interlinked with the heritage of yesterday, and inter-fused with the woven hopes of tomorrow. And until those hopes have proven abortive, and that heritage

a vanity, till the customs and laws and institutions formulated, deviously yet untrustingly, from and in the darkness of development, which control the present with the prestige of the past have proven clearly their ineffectiveness and incapability for the continued furtherance of human welfare, society cannot but continue in allegiance to customs and institutions which have been the provident interpreters of its progress.

Consequently, the road of revolution is open only to society as a whole. no single section, or party, unsupported by the time spirit of development, may venture with impunity upon its unrelenting ways. And every such appeal, however lofty its motive, is not only a menace to the proletariat who alone possess the incentive to action, but is also a sacrifice to the right of might which is in supreme control of the machinery of suppression. Society as a whole will follow that path, not by force, nor by theory, nor by appeal, but only when, by force and by theory and by appeal, by every impulse and influence of experience and education, the prime cause of its continual trouble, its deepening sorrows and gathering miseries have been forced ineffaceably home on its consciousness. In working for that understanding we are working parallel with the forces which are hastening that consciousness. That is the short path to victory, and the crucial test of (present) activity.

When that consciousness has ripened we shall have a new ordering of social affairs; different concepts of life; and a social standard of living. With its coming, the unsociable society of class and its concomitant aggressions of profit shall vanish away. And the twin standard of life, like its twin associate in morality, shall perish in the natural probity of natural living, in the social equity of understanding. For, in the triumph of economic freedom lives the flower and fruit of the accumulated experience of the ages; the awakening and fertilisation of the accrued faculties of the mind; and the actualisation of the exponential potentialities of man. And although we shall never see it, we shall know that in the risen day of its wisdom that society shall be secure; and whatever its problems may be, it shall bow no more to the graven gods of night and the visionless idols of power.

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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.

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