

The Clarion Mail Bag

BY SID EARP.

ALTHOUGH the volume of correspondence received since our last issue is less than usual, it contains much of interest and shows a fine spirit of enquiry towards the work we are carrying forward. It may be considered as painfully slow by some, whose desire for a drastic change in society is far ahead of their revolutionary understanding. The formative process of a deep seated and far reaching movement aiming at the conquest of Capitalist control demands careful and lasting work if success is to be attained. Irresponsible radicalism, in itself a menace to the advancement of the working class. A clear understanding of their real needs is the power by which they will conquer and win freedom.

Writing from Kentville, N. S. Com. C. McDonald sends a sub to the Clarion and an order for "Evolution of Man." From St. Catharines, Ont., Com. O. Motter sends a sub and a donation to the Maintenance Fund. From North Battleford, Sask., Com. H. Taylor sends in an order for literature to the amount of \$3.65. This is the useful propaganda.

A brief letter is received from Com. Cantrell, Shillingworth, Sask., enclosing a sub and commenting in a rather vague manner upon the Labor Party success in the British elections. He says: "It is to laugh!" What about?

Com. Wm. Morrison writes from Rabbit Lake, Sask., enclosing a sub to the Clarion and expressing his disappointment towards the pamphlet "Christianism and Communism" as an educator. He endorses an opinion recently advanced in the Clarion to the effect that "scientific habits of thought are, after all, of much more practical value than scientific information." He compares "Christianism and Communism" with "The Origin of the World" lately appearing in the Clarion, with all the honors going to the latter work as an educator in correct thought.

Writing from Beverly, Alberta, Com. J. McKenzie encloses a sub renewal and expressing a criticism of "Soviet Russia from the S. P. of C. standpoint," which undoubtedly would be interesting if it were more incisive and less sarcastic.

Com. Chas. Lestor sends a short letter from Calgary enclosing a sub. and commenting upon his visit to Medicine Hat and district. He is experiencing hard weather and long enthusiastic meetings; expresses much satisfaction with his trip so far and will have a full report for the Clarion later on.

Com. A. Lien, Edburg, Alta., sends in an order for literature and a dollar for the Clarion Maintenance Fund. He comments favorably on the articles "Origin of the World," R. M. McMillan, and wishes all success to the Clarion and its readers.

From Hardy Bay, B. C. Com. J. Woods sends a sub and a literature order. Two subs also come from Com. Inglis, Gibson's Landing, B. C. T. A. Barnard, Nanaimo, sends an order for the "Paris Commune" and says that after reading carefully both articles on the S. P. of C. attitude to Soviet Russia, he is not much wiser. Writing from Lookout Mountain, Saturnia Island, B. C., Com. John Staples sends a renewal of his sub and an order for "Communism and Christianity." He appreciates the Clarion and hopes the subscriptions will keep growing. A cheery letter and a dollar for the Maintenance Fund is received from Com. Moore, Lund, B. C. A nice letter also comes from Com. J. Carson, Smithers, B. C., containing a sub and donation to the Maintenance Fund.

Com. Oscar Erickson announces his return to the town of his adoption, Fernie, B. C., in a brief letter, also enclosing seven subs and an order for literature. Here's an old war horse getting back into the fight after a few month's absence. We're all for you Erickson, don't weaken.

Com. Fred Harman sends the good word from Victoria, the city of gloom. Encloses two dollars for the Maintenance Fund and mentions that Com. Housley of the Socialist Party of Great Britain has

recently visited the Victoria branch. Two short letters were received from Bishop Brown of Galion, Ohio, in which he expresses much satisfaction with the manifesto on our attitude towards Soviet Russia, recently published in the Clarion. He considers it to be a great and timely piece of work. Wishes the Clarion and those connected with it all success.

A long letter of criticism is received from R. B. Zones, Des Moines, Iowa in which he charges Com. McNey, the writer of the recent articles on the I. W. W. pamphlets, with not only being ignorant along Industrial Union lines, but as also having a prejudice against the J. W. W. After reading the last issue of the Clarion in which Com. McNey also receives some castigation, our friend will no doubt feel a little relief.

A kindly letter arrived from Hugh P. Graham, Illiopolis, Illinois, enclosing a literature order and sub renewal; also a sub from Morris Mindlin, Duluth, Minnesota. Writing from Emmett, Idaho, Com. J. Bone sends greetings to "every Canuck" and two dollars for the Clarion. Com. J. Yates, of Manchester, England, sends kind words also a sub and literature order. He considers the Western Clarion, with its fine variety of articles, as being an "intellectual treat." He also refers to the recent British election and the deluge of poison gas attendant upon it. We heard there was a dense fog! (Period ending 23rd December).

OBITUARY.

COMRADE J. H. Timmer, formerly of Holland and who left that country some twenty years ago died at Edam, Sask., on 3rd December, and was buried on the 6th. Shortly before his death he requested that he be given a Red funeral and that no sky-pilot be allowed to take part in the interment of his body. The comrades turned out in good numbers and the coffin was shrouded in the Red Flag. A number of other friends and sympathisers were present, some, perhaps, who for the first time witnessed a Red funeral. No clergyman was present.

Comrade Munts, of Holland, who came to this country with the late Comrade Timmer, spoke of his life's work in the Socialist movement. He spoke of Comrade Timmer's hard work in the ironworks of Holland and of how, after his day's toil was over he would go out advertising Socialist meetings, at times incurring police enmity.

Comrade J. H. Greaves of North Battleford said Comrade Timmer's insistence that no clergyman attend his burial arrangements was a protest against the shams and falsity of religion. The comrade held strongly to his sound socialist principles to the last, and he now lay wrapped in the Red banner emblematic of the blood of all mankind. His life example would serve as encouragement to all workers in the forces of emancipation. Comrade Graves said that as Socialists they held their dead in honor and he expressed to Comrade Timmer's widow and sons a feeling of sympathy and a sense of the loss now occasioned the Socialist movement.

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