

HON. MR. JUSTICE MACLAREN:—The plaintiff was one of the twenty-five original members of the society which was organised in February, 1903, and was an offshoot from the Finnish Christian Temperance and Fraternity Association of Copper Cliff, the members of the new society desiring to have more freedom than they had in the old society.

In their general rules they declare that while "adhering to the principle of absolute temperance, they will work for the advancement of education amongst their nationality," and that "the members of the society shall have complete freedom to express religious as well as other opinions." To realise its purpose the society was to "hold regular and special meetings, and prepare for lectures, discourses, educational courses, etc. Sub-societies for musical, singing, and sporting and other similar purposes were to be formed among the members, these to have their own rules, assented to by the society. They also provided for sick benefits for their members.

They erected a hall which was a source of revenue, and raised money by fees, bazaars, etc. The society prospered financially so that when the annual meeting for 1912, out of which the present difficulties arose, came to be held on the 7th of February, the society had their hall, worth about \$3,000, completely paid for, and \$1,240 in cash. The society was not incorporated but the property was held by trustees for them, the lease being to the "Trustees of Finland Temperance Hall."

The society appear to have been composed of about the same number of members until the annual meeting of February 7th, 1912, when over seventy new members were received. There was a good deal of contradictory evidence as to whether the reception of these new members was regular. The rule on the question is number 4: "Every person who is 10 years old and pledges himself to act in conformity with the rules of the society is entitled to become a member." Those under 16 are exempt from dues, and are not entitled to vote. The trial Judge held that these new members were regularly received, and I am of opinion that his decision on this point should be affirmed.

Later in the meeting, the object of the great influx of new members became apparent, when it was moved, "That the Young Peoples' Society join the Socialist Party of Canada."