

B. C. Profit-Sharing Scheme

Mackenzie King is Minister of Labor. He is in the Laurier cabinet. Consequently he is not dangerous to the bosses.

Under his direction a Labor Gazette is published. In this Gazette there is published, month by month, a report of the slave market of Canada. The conditions from Atlantic to Pacific are published stating whether the workers have a chance to earn their fodder or whether they are hunting jobs. These reports are sent in by such men as Moffat of the Provincial Workmen's Association. The Winnipeg men are enquiring why the Winnipeg reports are sent in by a man hostile to labor. The workers know that the Labor Gazette is published for the benefit of the workers.

The October issue is an article entitled "Profit sharing and land investment for employers." This describes the plan put forth by the Wattsburg Lumber Company, of Wattsburg, B. C., whereby the workers will be skinned with a few added mills.

Says the Labor Gazette, "As a means of establishing a feeling of mutual interest and co-operation between itself and employees, AS WELL AS SECURING A PERMANENT SUPPLY OF WHITE LABOR and in this way offering a solution of the yellow labor problem, the Wattsburg Lumber Company, which has its head office at Wattsburg, B. C., has recently announced a noteworthy arrangement with its employees."

The following is the scheme as reported in the plute press, and as outlined in the Labor Gazette.

PROFIT SHARING.

"Mr. Watts proposes to set aside each year a percentage of the net earnings of the company, which percentage will be determined upon a sliding scale in ratio to the amount of such earnings, the ratios being as follows:

Up to \$10,000, 10 per cent., over \$10,000 and under \$20,000, 15 per cent.; over \$20,000 and under \$30,000, 20 per cent.; over \$30,000 and under \$40,000, 25 per cent.; over \$40,000 and under \$50,000, 30 per cent.

The amount thus set aside will be divided among the men in proportion to the scale of wages earned by them.

"It will of course be necessary," Mr. Watts explained, "for each man to wish to share in this profit distribution to signify in writing his desire to the company, a stipulation being made that no employee who has not been in the employ of the company for six months prior to the time of dividend can share therein. Later on when the business has been established a sufficient length of time, the ratio of distributing the dividend may be altered so as to afford special inducements to men who remain in the employ of the company permanently."

"If any of the men desire to acquire a direct interest in the business, they will be given an opportunity to purchase the ordinary stock of the company and thus share in its total earnings."

LAND ALLOTMENTS.

"A further inducement is offered by men and their families to make a permanent home at or near Proctor, which place is well known as the centre of the finest fruit growing district in British Columbia, possessing also magnificent scenery and an equable climate."

"Employees are offered land in small or large lots on the easiest terms of purchase, with lumber and all necessary supplies to build houses for themselves, the time for payment for which can be arranged to suit the purchaser, or if they choose they can hold the land under perpetual lease at a small rental."

PRACTICALLY INDEPENDENT

This idea is an improvement on Joseph Chamberlain's celebrated proposal of three acres and a cow, because one acre of land properly cared for in British Columbia will yield produce valued from \$1000 to \$2000 per annum. Any man around Kootenay lake owning his own house and land, a cow, a few pigs and chickens can raise in his spare time enough produce to keep his family, until such time as a small orchard of fruit trees come into bearing, when he would have a permanent income and be practically independent; not only that, but an industrious workman can earn enough at the Proctor mills in six months to keep his family the year."

"Mr. Watts' ambition to build a permanent industry and to attract a superior class of employees will take a real interest in the business and help to make a success of the same, and thus form a happy and contented community in the beautiful valleys of the highlands of British Columbia."

Comrade I. A. Austin, of Nelson, B. C., gives the reason for this sudden generosity on the part of a labor

skinner. We Socialists are always doubtful when the plutes come bringing gifts to labor. We know that the capitalist is a parasite getting his living out of the unpaid labor of others. When such an individual suddenly splurges into print about how good he will be to wageslaves, we like to enquire.

Comrade Austin reports as follows on this scheme, "This man Watts is a lumber manufacturer at Wattsburg in East Kootenay. This profit sharing scheme is an attempt to Pullmanize British Columbia. Watts owns the mill, hotel, gin mill, store, post office and all the shacks that men with families live in there. Slaves dance to his music. He is Justice of the peace and his son is constable. B. C. is the dearest place to live in in all Canada. Wages in saw mills are two dollars a day. (It is a lie to say that a man can earn enough in six months to keep his family a whole year.)"

"The country will not yield from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per acre. Not one man living in this whole section makes that much on his ranch and many of them have twenty and thirty acres. The workers must work six months before they get a look in on the scheme says Watts. Straight is the gate and narrow the way and few will enter. Mr. Watts wants to get men with families who cannot get out, just as it happens in Pullman. Then the liver will be ground out of them in profits."

"The purchase scheme of land is on a basis of five per cent cash down and eight per cent interest on the balance. Good way to boom real estate. Suck the wages back from the workers in payment for a shack at high price."

Thus when conditions are investigated it is found that the workers are right in fighting shy when the labor thieves come with a gift in their hands. If you ever lived on the farm in your youth you will remember going out to catch the old farm horse with a wisp of hay or a carrot or a speck of oats in the bottom of a dish. The labor thieves are working the same gag in their efforts to more easily catch wage slaves. And when their schemes do not work they get mad and say that the laboring man is an ungrateful cuss.

In this they are wrong. The wage mule has had the old gags worked on him so long that he is learning wisdom.

And it is to work the same old gags on labor that Laurier has appointed Mackenzie King to hold out the carrot to labor and make the wage mule think it is a square meal just because it has the government stamp on.

Labor will not get a square deal until it adopts the Socialist attitude of wanting all it earns, and if the labor thief wants anything he can go and earn it.

Are you not anxious to give your children the very best education possible? Are you not anxious to give a good home to your wife and family and to let them have the pleasant things of life? If your income were double or treble what it now is, would you consider it to be immoral? Socialism aims at so arranging the work of the world as to produce the greatest quantity of the necessities of life with the least possible expenditure of human effort. Socialism aims at giving each the full value of his social labor product. Socialism will eliminate waste and will give you a far better income than you have at present, unless you are one of the wealthy ones of the world. Is not Socialism worth striving for, if not for your own sake, then for the sake of your wife and children?

How would it do to have free dental parlors where all can have their teeth attended to properly? How many persons there are who cannot afford to have their teeth attended to? They keep putting off the day to go to the dentist in order to save the expense as long as possible. And in the meantime their whole body suffers from malnutrition. This is the result of capitalism. Under Socialism the necessities of life will be the heritage of every man, woman and child. It will extend to free dentistry as well as to the food supplies.

Says the Toronto World, "Every one is after Sir Wilfrid's scalp, now that Bourassa has got him on the run." The Socialists of Canada are not after Sir Wilfrid's scalp so much as they are after the scalps of the labor thieves who used him as a tool and who will use Borden as a tool for the plundering of labor.

It looks as though Laurier was going to get the G. B. at the next elections. But it matters little to the slave what hand holds the whip that cracks over his back to drive him to work. Tory labor skinner is just as exacting as Grit labor skinner. The problem of the wage slaves of Canada is not the changing of political masters, but the abolition of masters.

Industrial Unionism

At Toronto, November 17th., the industrial unionizing, the amalgamation into one powerful union of all the brotherhoods and orders independently controlling the labor destinies of thousands of steam railway employees, was discussed at a well attended meeting of Queen City Lodge, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen. Before the meeting dismissed a committee was appointed to go into all the details for the formation of the giant brotherhood.

Industrial unionism is proceeding apace. The craft unions are learning by experience that the interest of one worker is the interest of all. At the giant rally of the labor and Socialist organizations held at Riverview Park, Chicago, to listen to Eugene V. Debs, industrial unionism was preached without any equivocation. Debs pounded industrial unionism at his hearers.

Industrial unionism is in the interest of the workers. The more powerful their organizations the greater influence the workers have and the more powerful will be their strikes.

But there is also the capitalist state. The capitalist state makes the laws, directs the action of the police, calls out the military to enforce its decrees, and uses force, even to the shedding of blood, to carry out its will.

In France industrial unionism has a great hold. It is known under the name of syndicalism. The postmen were united in an industrial union. They struck. The capitalist courts of France has declared the union to be illegal.

The railway men of France struck. The political state, the French parliament, is about to pass a law denying to the railway workers the right to strike. Compulsory arbitration will probably be the means taken to keep the workers in subjection. The workers get but the cost of living. That is the standard under capitalist domination. All the rest of the wealth produced by labor goes to the capitalist exploiters. Compulsory arbitration will be compulsory wage slavery and the denial of the

right of the wage slave to starve his belly in order to escape paying tribute to the master class.

The representatives of the Trades and Labor congress of Canada recently waited on Laurier and King to ask for better uniforms for letter carriers, for the passing of Alphonse Verville's bill for eight hours on government works, and for other like measures. They were told that their propositions would be taken into serious consideration. That is all the satisfaction they got.

When labor becomes unionized industrially in Canada, then the henchmen politicians of the capitalist class will hasten to pass laws to use the armed force of the political state to crush the organizations of the industrial workers.

Labor can prevent their industrial organizations from being smashed by the capitalist state by capturing the power of that state through the ballot, and using it to peacefully abolish all capitalist exploitation.

EUROPEAN NEWS

The news that comes from Europe comes through the channels of the united press service. This news is colored by the interests that control this service. Russia is in anarchy. We hear little of it. Spain is on the verge of casting off the King. We hear little of it. The Socialists of Germany may capture the German Reichstag next year. There is little intimation of this state of affairs. But if the Kaiser sneezes, we hear of it.

If the German gun works persuade the government to give them more orders so that the owners thereof can make dividends, it is blazoned abroad that Germany and England are on the verge of war. Why is this? Because the news service is controlled by the exploiters of rent, interest and profit. If it were known that the European peoples were struggling against their plunderers the American and Canadian people would become more restive under robbery. So the exploiters paint vivid word pictures of the activity of the labor skinner in order that the activity of the American labor skinner may not be

endangered by the infection of European discontent. And this is dished out as real news.

Says the European dispatch speaking of Briand of France, "After his masterful handling of the recent strike crisis and the reconstruction of his ministry, he has established a new record in French ministerial crisis by forming a new cabinet in thirty-six hours. He is big enough to throw consistency to the winds, and will propose legislation depriving employees of the public service of the right to form unions. His reasons are almost imperative on the continent. Now that Europe is an armed camp it is worse than folly, etc."

Thus war is raised as a terror to pass laws shackling the workers. Nothing is said of the Independent Labor Party's great campaign in Britain against militarism. Nothing is said of the close alliance of the German and French workers against war. Nothing is said of the prevention of war between Germany and France over the Algerias question a few years ago by the international solidarity of the unions. Nothing is said of the resolve of the workers to strike in case war is declared. But the threat of war is used as a sufficient argument why railway workers should be driven to their tasks in order to carry their brother wage plugs who carry arms to the German boundary there to be murdered by German wage plugs carrying arms at the command of the international capitalists.

The capitalist news service from Europe is tainted with capitalist lies and capitalist hypocrisy.

The Hamilton Herald takes Cotton's to task for referring to Pellatt and his troops as bayonet stickers. The Herald says this kind of talk resembles the snarl of a bad tempered cur. The Hamilton Herald does not stand for the workers. It wants troops and bayonet stickers to stick the workers in case of labor troubles. The Herald would no doubt say to the soldier as he fleshed his bayonet in the bodies of the workers, "Go it, you noble fellow. You are a patriotic citizen of Canada."

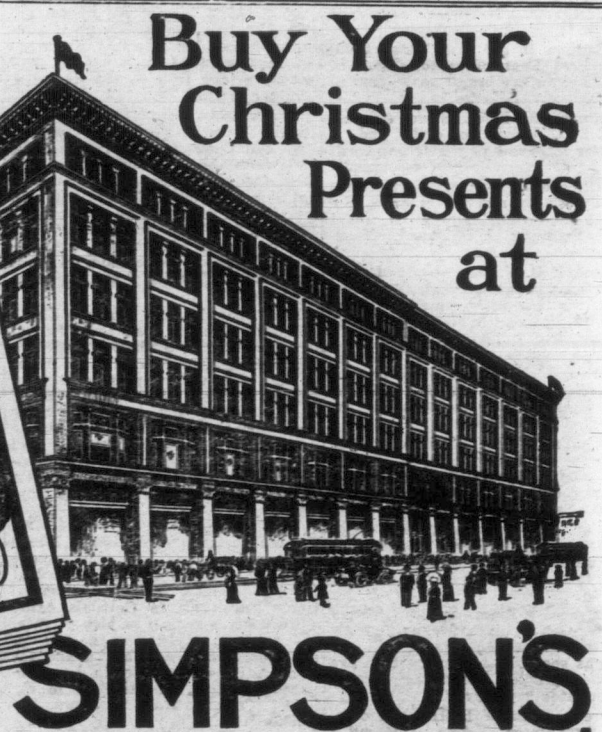
High Ideals

Mr. Asquith, the British prime minister, speaking at Aberdeen University, Scotland, recently said, "Keep always with you wherever your course may be the best and most enduring gift that a university can bestow, the company of great thoughts, the inspiration of great ideals, the example of great achievements, the consolation of great failures. So equipped you can face without perturbation the buffets of circumstances, the caprice of fortune, the inscrutable vicissitudes of life." Asquith is prime Minister, yet life to him is inscrutably vicissitudinous. He fights Socialism. He sides with the parasites. The parasites must live off the labor of the workers. When a man climbs high on the backs of many, then he is successful. If the parasite happens to come a cropper and is forced to take his place as a speeded-up wage slave, he has suffered an inscrutable vicissitude. These are the utterances of the brains that are serving the British plutes. Not possessing a knowledge of economic determinism Asquith is all at sea with regard to the actions that govern humanity.

Asquith tells the students to have high ideals. He tells the wage plugs, through his temperance laws not to swill beer. High ideals are good. But how can the workers keep their minds fixed on high ideals. Kept on the jump to serve the masters till they are tired out, spending their lives in coal mines or amid the whirl of wheels in manufacturing establishments, sold daily into bondage to serve the capitalist task masters, where do workers get a chance to cultivate great ideals? Culture comes with leisure and the plutes take care that the workers do not have this leisure. The bosses keep the workers humping or a job, or humping to find one.

Culture and high ideals are for the parasites. The workers, oh, they're only fit to be the slaves of the cultured.

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