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Vol. IV. No. 30

TORONTO, JULY 1, 1904

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## INDUSTRIAL EUROPE SEEN THROUGH AMERICAN EYES

### Bournville the Realization of the Ideal English Workingman's Home.

By JAMES GREENELL.  
(Copyrighted, 1904, by James Greenell.)

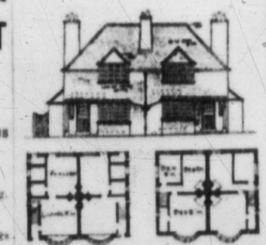
Bournville, England, June 22.—No doubt the workmen of every nation in the world have their ideal of what a home should be, and doubtless, too, these ideals vary with the environments. I have no doubt, even if I had the knowledge to visit the habitations of the workers of all nations, but I am sure there is profit in considering an English experiment in furnishing ideal English homes for English working people, as carried out in the village of Bournville.

This village, this workshop and artistic environment, made a deep impression on me, but it was an appeal to the sight, which I find impossible to reflect in mere words. Especially has it strongly impressed me after visiting slum districts. The contrast is most vivid, opening up to the mind, like a revelation, a brilliant array of possibilities for the man who toils. Oh, the fresh-born Briton (like the free-born American citizen) is a fool in some respects, or he would not live as he does.

The ideal English home is not like the ideal American home. In the English one, there is more breadth than depth, more expanse in building front, back and division walls and fences than seems necessary, and more of a shut-in look, in fact, than is pleasing to those accustomed to expanding horizons, plenty of sunshine and a dry atmosphere. But the English have not been building stone and brick houses for a thousand years or more without learning some things that Americans can profit by. There is a substantial look about the houses I am about to describe that is refreshing after seeing the flimsy structures owned or occupied by the wage-earners of the United States.

A Factory in a Garden.  
Bournville is "a factory in a garden," nesting in a valley on the edge of the "Black country," as the region around Birmingham is sometimes called, and it is something over a hundred miles north-west of London. It is the creation of George Cadbury, a great chocolate and cocoa manufacturer, who has made a "trust" of his 500-acre estate, the profits from which are expended in building more model cottages and still further "improving the environments of working men and women. There are some 3,500 of these working for Mr. Cadbury, two-thirds of them women; and one of the rules of the factories is that shop a girl marries she can no longer be employed, her proper place then being the home.

In building these homes for working people the high brick walls so common elsewhere in England have been dispensed with, greatly improving the looks of the streets; but the "exclusive possession" idea is catered to by fences on all sides, or by hedges that adorn as well as hide. A four-roomed brick double house, each side renting for \$12.50 a week, is planned thus:



It will be noticed that the house is very shallow—only two ordinary rooms deep—but it can be readily understood that this makes room on the lot for a flower garden in front and a vegetable garden in the rear, a condition of affairs that the tenants are quick to take advantage of. The more pretentious houses contain five rooms, the result of which are 43 a week and taxes.

Home Comforts Abound.  
As to the interior, every cottage has a built-in coal range, and the ground floor front room at least contains a fireplace. Generally in the "cellar" is a bath-tub, let in the floor, or arranged to swing out from a closet. The latter is the plan in the newest houses. The walls are plastered and colored in attractive tints, to suit the tenants, who sell their labor, and who take pride in making everything as neat as possible. Indeed, were a tenant to neglect these

slumps in the midst of elegance of almost unbounded riches; hence the 6,000 crowded courts (back yards) of Birmingham, only four miles away, where thousands of "freedom fighters" have the "privilege" of living amidst the most degrading conditions. The point to be remembered is that all Britons could enjoy the same healthful and artistic surroundings for their home life as are seen at Bournville, if they had the sense to demand what is theirs by right—the unearned increment attaching to the soil. They have reached the point where they are absorbing, through their municipalities, the profits heretofore attached to the ownership of public franchises for public utilities, but they do not yet seem to recognize the claim on equity that comes from the private ownership of ground rents. I trust I have not dwelt too long upon this ideal cottage. And, after all, it must be seen to be appreciated.

Notes and Notelettes  
Dominion Day is at hand. Now is the time for resolution. The "News" has a jubilee picture representing the great progress of this country from 1867 to the present time. In order to make the world believe that we have been a marvel of success all that is necessary is to quote suitable statistics and leave the rest to the imagination. The population of Canada in 1867, forty-five years before the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers, was 3,251, equal to that of a good village of today. To-day it is nearly 6,000,000. This is the fourth-fifths the population of New York state, a little less than about one-quarter more than that of the State of Illinois. The wheat crop is 100,000,000 bushels. The mineral production amounts to 400,000,000, the fishing industry to 420,000,000, and the total trade 440,000,000. All this sounds big, and if anyone wants to make a swelling speech of self-inflation, he has simply to compile a list of similar statistics and hold them before the admiring multitude. That is the usual style of national holiday oratory.

Nothing is said of the fact that every ten years we have had our financial cataclysm, that for years the mortgages were sold by the thousand, that during the years 1893-4-5 and 6 nearly one-half of the houses in the city passed into the hands of the mortgagee, that the building trade was paralyzed, and the dirt and distress of slum life yet is provided with gas, water and sewers. At the rear of the 600 square yards each tenant has for a garden to be seen fruit and shade trees and even when the tenant goes into a new house he finds his garden plot awaiting him, and already under cultivation. The work of raising the products of these gardens not only furnishes beautiful outdoor exercise, but their quantity contributes considerably to the support of the family.

Provision has been made to prevent objectionable crowding, and there is even a limit to the number of stores that may be started. This, it is said, is to prevent wasteful competition. Those open spaces in the matter of small parks are numerous, and the stores take on a character in harmony with their surroundings.

The Plan in Every Way a Success.  
Bournville is a success. It pays its way and does not impose undue restrictions on its inhabitants. Neither does the owner attempt to cut wages because offering exceptional advantages in the way of surroundings to his employees. The rents charged are no higher than for the same number of rooms in less favored localities, and the wages paid by Mr. Cadbury are equal to, if not above, the average earned by the workers in competing and neighboring factories.

There are many other commendable features connected with the great factory at Bournville, but they are outside the range of this article. What I started out to do was to show that even in crowded England there is room for ideal conditions of living, if only the will is back of the desire to supply them. The fact is, however, that where there is one Cadbury there are a thousand imitators of the sort that care for nothing but squeezing the greatest amount of profit from the wealth producers. Hence

When the Republican convention proclaims its continued belief in "Protection" it means protection for the employer only. The employers who frame the tariff to suit themselves, both in the States and in Canada, want the cheapest possible labor, and not the slightest protection is proposed to keep out the pauper labor that comes from the poorest countries in the world. The freest possible welcome is given to the laborers from Italy or Hungary, the men who are accustomed to eat black eye bread, to wear the cheapest clothing and to swarm into hotels. The most rabid protectionist is an absolute free trader when it comes to the importation of labor.

Secretary Shaw of Roosevelt's Cabinet has been telling the workmen of Waltham, Ind., of the blessings of high prices. He has been preaching the gospel of dearness. The doughy secretary says that the doctrine that as prices rise wages rise also, is a fallacy. He has been preaching the doctrine that as prices rise wages rise also, is a fallacy. He has been preaching the doctrine that as prices rise wages rise also, is a fallacy.

Then we would like to call the attention of the Secretary to the thirty-fourth annual report of the National Commission of Labor for 1903. This report says: Ten plants which cost when made by hand, \$34.46, can now be made by machinery for \$7.90. A hand-made black book made by hand cost \$10.70, by machinery \$7.00. The price of railing of paper has been reduced from 44 to 30 cents, one five-hundredth the cost. The cost of making a hundred books has been reduced from \$326.24 to \$74.20. This list could be extended to the large majority of things produced by industry. Industry and ingenuity are striving all the time to make goods more abundant and cheap. As they become more abundant, if labor does not receive the abundance, it is not the fault of the mechanical improvement, but of bad laws which allow the abundance to be appropriated by those who make nothing.

I would like to see Secretary Shaw give his statistics to prove that it is all wrong for inventors to try to make goods plentiful and cheap. Is it a rule of the protectionist to prevent the abundance of things produced by industry? The locomotive has done the same for the farmer. If the Secretary wishes to make things dear, making a case for any kind of labor saving machinery and at once he can have done so to his heart's content and starvation to boot.

The cheapness is all right. We can have a progressive civilization only as improvements make goods abundant and cheap. The trouble is that as goods become cheap, the land has grown dearer. The value of the land has increased so that the toilers have had to surrender the abundance as fast as they could produce it.

Mr. W. Houston delivered an interesting address to the Methodist Young Men's Club on the subject, "Reading for the Worker." This is important enough to be repeated, and again, reading properly prepared enriches the mind, cultivates the taste, stores the memory, elevates the thought, dignifies the existence and converts the heart into the philosopher. In our schools we teach the children to read as a mechanical operation without developing in them the love for the best reading for the purpose of reading, developing and elevating the man.

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Copy for the coming volume of the paper will be addressed to the Editor.

NOTICE: To ensure publication copy for the paper should be sent to the Editor by the 15th of the month.

TORONTO JULY 15, 1914

ARE WE WISER?

We very much doubt whether, in spite of our boasted progress, our remote and distant colonies were not much wiser in some ways than we are in this enlightened twentieth century.

Take the question of monopoly, for instance. During the reign of Queen Elizabeth the English Government beheld every individual who attempted to raise the price of any article of public necessity. Hence we grope in wisdom in the intervening 300 years? What are the conditions that confront us to-day? One per cent. of the population own and control more property than the remaining ninety-nine per cent., and arbitrarily decide the price of every commodity of public consumption.

In the face of these facts and of our utter ignorance in seeking out and applying an effective remedy, do we not stand convicted, in the light of history, as degenerate descendants of stalwart sires who did not tolerate a fraction of the monopolistic and parasitic extortion to which we meekly submit?

NOT A QUESTION OF THE ALMIGHTY DOLLAR.

The labor movement is more a question of humanity than a question of the mighty dollar. It has accomplished more in that direction practically than any other society, not excepting the church. It is the greatest movement in the championship for human rights and human liberty.

The Parry movement is the reverse. It is an amalgamation of business organizations, organized for business with all its accompanying accoutrements for profit—for the mighty dollar.

To that movement organized labor owes no apology for its existence.

Yet this very difference in the aims and objects of the two movements compels us to be careful and beware of mistakes.

To err is human and no one is exempt, but when committed by organized labor, the mistakes are magnified hundred fold and used as weapons against it by those who would grow rich on sweatshops, child slavery and all its hideous forms.

Organized labor can not afford to condone, hide or shield any crime committed by any of its members. It must stand for what it claims to represent at all times.

Too often it occurs that errors are made and discovered and the lack of moral courage to acknowledge the mistake and correct it, throws thousands of men out of work, cripples industry, works an injustice on the public and retards the labor movement.

It is better to go down in defeat in a righteous cause than to succeed in a wrong one, and must prevail, and will eventually triumph, while the latter will tend to repetition of wrong, eventual ruin, and demoralization.

A member of a trades union, as a matter of course, should be prompt to be in attendance and payment of dues, his name of wrong doings of his union or its officers and fail to give timely warning and aim to arrest it, is not a good trades unionist, but a moral coward, and as an officer of the union, his conduct becomes a crime to society.—E.S.

COAL PRICES.

Mr. E. Wheeler, of the Council Anstruthie Mining Company, Limited, has just returned from the mining regions. He says that the new breaker erected by his company, at a cost of \$300,000, is completed and in full operation. This breaker is equipped with the most modern machinery known to coal operators, and is looked upon as the most up-to-date breaker in the anthracite regions. Since taking possession of this property they have been sinking a new shaft, and are now operating from a new vein which is almost three times as thick as the old vein. This means purer and better coal, as in mining a thick vein waste matter is eliminated to a great extent. They are now getting shipments of this fresh new coal, and will have large stocks of it on hand by the fall for their winter's trade.

Mr. Wheeler was asked about the article which appeared in Monday evening's papers regarding the probable advance in the price of coal, and he stated that the labor conditions were such that an advance might be probable later on, but for the present his company would look orders for next winter's supply at their present summer rates.

Contributed

A WOMAN'S DARING.

This heading is one of the evening papers that attracted my attention, and I read the article through and found that some poor woman who has a family to support, stood on a footpath of eight inches nearly five feet above the pavement and washed windows. Think of it! How day near, food and clothing for her family, and a woman working hard and receiving such small wages that when a chance comes to make more money she will do it even at the risk of her own life. It seems as if things are very unevenly divided. Some have everything they want, while others work and grind and even have to risk their lives to make ends meet. We certainly need a different system to what we now have. And if all women were as brave as this woman, we wonder if they could do a good deal towards bringing about the change.

THEIR OWN FAULT.

An employer is reported to have said in the workmen's own fault they have to pay big tests. They should own their own houses, and if they were more like the workmen, they would do so, but they seem to be much and spend right along. I wonder if it was the striking brewery employees who were so extravagant and didn't buy houses on \$9 per week.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING LOANS.

We are glad to hear that labor has appointed a committee to devise a plan for municipal building loans for workingmen. The following is an extract from "The Co-operative Union," published in 1906 in England: It appears that 224 societies have built 24,038 houses for their members at a cost of \$5,147,526. Of these houses 19,791 have been purchased and are now owned by the members, and 4,247 remain the property of the societies, and are rented to the members who occupy them. There are thousands of such home-owners who, in their wildest dreams, could never have hoped to own their own homes, are now dwelling in their own property through the help given to them by co-operation. Why not try it here? — A Woman.

INDUSTRIAL REFORM

(By a Workingman)

The Sons of Canada.

Ye youths of the land of the maple, Listen to your nation's call, To a greater and a better life, To be lived by one and all.

It is yours to make a history, More glorious than the world has seen, Not of fields that are covered with blood, But of a land where no wage slaves are seen.

Now rise, ye sons of toilers, And break the wage slave's chains, Until every man's a free man, In Canada's wide domain.

Let all the sons of toil, From whatever land they be, Unite as one at the ballot box, To make Canada the Land of the Free.

A Hundred Years Ago.

According to one of our daily papers, Canada had about the same population when we entered into the 20th century had when she entered into the 19th century.

A Wise Man.

We would have considered him a very wise man, whoever he might be, if he had been, that could have told the Americans about how large a nation they would develop into in the short-time of 100 years.

The Secret.

It would be wise for us as Canadians on this Dominion Day to put on our thinking caps and try to discover the secret of this wonderful growth of the republic both in prosperity and numbers.

Why Not Before?

The country offered the same facilities for development when it was a colony as it did before the declaration of independence, but did it develop as rapidly before as after, and if not.

Why Not?

Because humanity all over Europe was yearning for civil liberty, and as soon as they heard that it could be had and enjoyed in the United States, men, women and children flocked in thousands to its shores, and the result of the declaration of independence is now a matter of history, not prophecy, by which we, as Canadians, can steer in the future development of Canada.

Humanity To-Day.

The old world as well as the new is yearning for industrial freedom, and the first country that applies the principles of democracy to its industrial affairs will be the country that substantially dissatisfied humanity will flock to.

Canada Can Do It.

Now the toilers in Canada have the glorious opportunity before them to apply the principles of democracy (which is the rule of the people) to their industrial affairs.

Three Paths.

There are three paths before us as toilers in Canada to-day. Up to the present time we have travelled along the old road of competition, upon which our forefathers have tried for centuries, and the industrial unrest to-day is telling us as plainly as possible that we have reached a point where there must be a change made in the principles that govern our industrial affairs, and to-day men that are studying the question point out three paths to the toilers by which they may obtain industrial freedom.

Trade Unionism.

The leaders of trade unionists are advising men to join the union, and it will be wise for the toilers to examine this path and see what advantages it offers them. The first great difficulty in obtaining industrial freedom by this path will be found in getting the owners of our privately owned industrial institutions to recognize organized labor. For these men have established their business on purpose to avoid the profit of the toilers for themselves.

Co-Operation.

By the path of co-operation the toilers can establish industries owned and controlled by themselves, and they can be aided by the Government through the ballot box; but if the toilers do not get this path, they will be left with no other choice but to follow the path of competition, which is the path of the toilers.

Religion.

This is the path our forefathers trod when they cooperated and established the churches of the people, by the people, for the people; they commenced in a very humble way, but there is a statement in Canada's case come before the people to-day with a bill to abolish the Protestant churches in Canada because the people would not tolerate any interference with their religious freedom.

Government by the People.

It was a hard struggle for our forefathers to secure manhood suffrage at the right of a man to vote because he was a citizen, but they did it, and so a statesman in Canada would dare to bring in a bill to abolish manhood suffrage, because the people believe in civil freedom.

Education.

It was a great struggle that our forefathers went through in order to win for us public schools, so that every boy and girl should receive an education, but they got it at last, and again more we know that a statesman in Canada would dare to introduce a bill to abolish our public schools, because they know that the people in Canada believe in educational freedom.

Associates.

The toilers were first men, then slaves, serfs, hirelings, servants, employees, and now we read that they are looked upon as associates, but the day is not far distant when the toilers will establish industries where the toilers will have a share and a voice in their control because they are MEN.

A Slogan.

I read in the daily paper that in Colorado they have adopted the slogan of "Down with trades unionism." This is a threat to trades unionists to leave that state, and we are naturally led to wonder if all the states will take up this cry until it becomes a national cry.

Persecution.

The men who advocated religious, civil and educational freedom for the people were persecuted, but did not get what they asked for until they established institutions governed by those principles themselves; they did not succeed in making their opponents give them a voice in their institutions.

Canada.

When the slaves were persecuted, they did not try to get into the northern states, but into Canada, and they know that the moment they stepped on Canadian soil they were slaves no longer, but free men.

The Toilers.

The toilers in the republic that are now being persecuted because they are trying to get industrial freedom may eventually have to come to Canada to be industrially free.

Can We Do It?

Can the toilers secure industrial freedom? We say they can. How can they do it? By forming a labor party to advocate and secure municipal, provincial and national control of our public utilities, and by establishing stores, workshops, factories, farms, mines, etc., owned and controlled by the toilers.

A Labor Paper.

The toilers should read the labor paper every week and learn what toilers are doing and can do.

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For further purpose the cooperation of the Labor Organizations and others interested in the general progress of the Province is invited.

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Directory of Union Meetings

Unless otherwise stated all meetings held place at 2 p.m.

Wherever a date is given it is that of the Secretary.

Organizations desiring to be included should notify the office at 2000-2002 Toronto University Lab. Bldg. on N. W. corner of Spadina and Dundas Sts. at 10 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or 4th Monday, 2000-2002 Toronto University Lab. Bldg. on N. W. corner of Spadina and Dundas Sts.

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Meetings

MEETINGS
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Current Comment

The Assigned Sheet Metal Workers' Union... The Amalgamated Society of Engineers... The International Brotherhood of Bookbinders...

Bowser Tries Playwriting

By Returns to the Old Subject With New Hopes and Ambitions. Even Though Mrs. B. Gives Him No Encouragement.

AT THE first glance at Mr. Bowser's face Mrs. Bowser had no doubt that he had something on his mind to bother him, but whether he was trying to find out a new flying machine or seeking to find out how long it would take to bear running at twenty miles an hour to catch a boy running at eight miles an hour, she could not say. As he was quiet and good natured over it, she let him figure away, and it was half an hour after dinner before he finally said: "Look here, now, but I'd like to have a talk with you, a real sensible talk. I'll agree not to get mad, and you must agree not to say anything sarcastic. I'll talk, of course, and be glad to be fulfilled. "What is it that's bothering you?" "Well, you know I belong to the Primrose Dramatic Club. I haven't attended but two or three meetings, and they are pushing me to show up. In fact, they want me to write a play to be produced two weeks hence. "Well?" "I want to oblige them, of course, and I want the honor and prestige of the play, but can I write one? That's what I want to talk to you about. Don't jump on me with both feet as you generally do, and cry 'fad,' but give me a candid opinion. "Mr. Bowser, how many times in your life have you been to the theater?" she asked as she laid aside her book. "As many as five or six." "And did you pay the least attention to what is called the action of the play-to the construction-to the situations-to the stage craft?" "I don't know that I did, but what's that to do with it? Some of the plays written by people who were never inside a theater have been the most successful." "Whoever has told you that has told you nonsense. You can't learn to be an actor by looking at a drug store nor

THE TOILER

or she has put a dose of chloral in her father's gin and water. "That's very fair. But how much does she weigh?" "How much? How much? Well, what odds does that make? Whoever heard of weighing the characters of a play?" "It makes just this difference, Mr. Bowser. If your heroine weighs 100 pounds and your hero only 140 the audience would be prepared to see him throw her over his shoulder and trot across a grassy bridge and up the side of a steep mountain. However, you can have her take antifal and feed him upon corned beef at the same time, and thus get the right proportions. He bears her off at midnight, but where to?" "I said there was to be no sarcasm," protested Mr. Bowser. "And there is none. I am just making friendly comments. Does he bear her to a depot, a ferryboat or where?" "He bears her to the mountains, of course. I want mountains in for scenic effect. He bears her to a cave in the mountains. Her father discovers her flight next morning, and he raises a force of fifty men and starts in pursuit. He swears that he will have her back dead or alive and that he will kill Adolphus or put him in the torture. Right there again is a chance for a Booth or Barrett. Imagine the scene. The fifty men are drawn upon a bridge over a gulf. The old man stands confronting them. Suddenly he raises his right hand and-

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The Circulation Committee of the District Labor Council submitted to the Directors of the THE TOILER PUBLISHING CO. the following proposition: "That a trophy valued at \$50 be presented to the Section of the District Labor Council sending in the most subscriptions by the first of September, 1904. Not less than 300 Subscriptions will be necessary to win the trophy."

F. J. WILSON, President. WM. BOLAND, Secretary.

The Directors have accepted the proposition and will offer the following prizes to be competed for between the 1st day of May, 1904, and the 1st day of September, 1904, inclusive:

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TORONTO

TORONTO DISTRICT LABOR-COUNCIL

The meeting of the central body on June 25th was of a record kind, both in regard to attendance and unfinished business. There must be a radical change if we are in earnest toward our committee-elect.

THE TURBINA

The Dominion Government by an act for the relief of the Hon. C. A. Parsons, enacted on the 6th June, 1904, has authorized the exportation into Canada of the patented marine turbine machinery employed in said vessel, as well as in kindred vessels, up to the end of the year 1905, so as not to affect the validity of the patents. Messrs. Blount & Maclean, of 104 Bay St., were the solicitors employed in procuring the passage of this act.



A FOUR DANCER

She-Let's walk a little while. He-Funny all the girls I've danced with tonight seem to be so very fond of walking-Chicago American.

Not "Busted." Bill-I hear Willie had his picture taken in his automobile. Jill-Is that so? Was it a bust picture? No, they hadn't started up the motor yet.-Yonkers Statesman.

He-bears her away at midnight soft.

There never was a heart truly got at and generous that was not also tender and compassionate.

THE TOILER

or she has put a dose of chloral in her father's gin and water. "That's very fair. But how much does she weigh?" "How much? How much? Well, what odds does that make? Whoever heard of weighing the characters of a play?" "It makes just this difference, Mr. Bowser. If your heroine weighs 100 pounds and your hero only 140 the audience would be prepared to see him throw her over his shoulder and trot across a grassy bridge and up the side of a steep mountain. However, you can have her take antifal and feed him upon corned beef at the same time, and thus get the right proportions. He bears her off at midnight, but where to?" "I said there was to be no sarcasm," protested Mr. Bowser. "And there is none. I am just making friendly comments. Does he bear her to a depot, a ferryboat or where?" "He bears her to the mountains, of course. I want mountains in for scenic effect. He bears her to a cave in the mountains. Her father discovers her flight next morning, and he raises a force of fifty men and starts in pursuit. He swears that he will have her back dead or alive and that he will kill Adolphus or put him in the torture. Right there again is a chance for a Booth or Barrett. Imagine the scene. The fifty men are drawn upon a bridge over a gulf. The old man stands confronting them. Suddenly he raises his right hand and-

