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THE GERMAN SITUATION

The German situation at present is of intense interest to every student of economic determinism.

Kaiser Wilhelm has called upon his subjects to make sacrifices for the maintenance of the Fatherland. An additional military burden is being placed upon the country. More forts, more guns, more regiments are to be created. The initial capital cost of the increase is \$250,000,000. The common workers are at the subsistence level now. No fresh burdens can be placed upon them. Hence the Kaiser purposes a capital tax upon the rich. He proposes that the government levy a non-recurrent tax upon the total fortunes of the exploiters. The Kaiser himself will pay \$1,800,000; the owners of the Krupp gun works will pay about \$2,500,000, and other fortunes will pay in proportion.

There are two interesting features about this taxation. The first is the reasons why the Kaiser considers the tax necessary, and the second is the probable result.

Capitalism, to live, must reach out for an ever extending market. Capitalism gives production to the few, and to the laboring many it gives but a living wage. What the working class produce beyond a living wage goes to the owners of the means of production and distribution. These owners, however, cannot realize their profit, until they have sold the products of the workers.

When the product cannot be sold, commercial crises arrive, and those capitalists with a small capital are bankrupted and descend into the ranks of the wage workers. The small, independent producers are forced out of business and also descend into the ranks of the proletarians. When the crisis is over, the net result is that there are fewer and more powerful capitalists, and more wage workers. The greater number of wage workers produce more commodities to be sold to a smaller market, for the small capitalists, having been squeezed out, are now robbed producers instead of parasite consumers. Hence the progress of capitalism increases the production while at the same time it decreases the market. This is one of the inherent contradictions of the capitalist system.

To continue, the capitalist system must extend its markets. Hence the governments of all countries endeavor to export as much as possible. The home market continually contracting, the world market is invaded. But the world market itself is composed of the various capitalist countries and a few semi-barbarous regions which are rapidly becoming drawn into the capitalist mode of production. The world market is a myth.

Although a myth, it is used potently by the rulers to deceive the various peoples. Giant armies are created and navies built in order to "protect" or "create" the world market of the various capitalist countries. These armies and navies are kept in reality to force goods produced by one country into the overcrowded markets of another country. It cannot be done, but the home market is relieved by turning the productive forces into the wasteful labor of creating guns and forts, and feeding, clothing and sheltering non-productive armies.

This business, it is readily seen, is unprofitable if long carried on. Taxes, which come out of the ruling class, eat up the surplus values taken from the producing class. The idle parasites groan under the burden of the annual taxation.

At this point a very interesting stage indeed is reached. The military burdens no longer encroach upon the annual revenues only; they begin to encroach upon the capital of the parasite class. The tax becomes placed, not upon current revenue, but upon the gross capital itself.

The Kaiser, who is half wise, half foolish, sees this stage has come, and boldly announces the necessity of it. He calls upon the patriotic rich to make sacrifices, to reduce their capital in order to maintain the armed forces of the Fatherland in such a manner as to be able to keep the Fatherland in the forefront of the race for the myth of the "world markets." At once we are at the beginning of the second and more interesting phase.

Will the ruling class dig up? Will they part with their money or sell part of their estates or mortgage their factories?

It is doubtful. Economic determinism says no. It is against the teachings of history for a ruling class in the age of their approaching dissolution to make sacrifices. While the French peasants starved, the rulers French made merry at Versailles. While the Babylonian rulers held feasts,

If the German moneybags do not pay, the capitalist system approaches its downfall. If they do pay, they narrow their productive capital and their country becomes invaded by foreign capital and they lose their place in the fierce struggle at the front.

There is an old prophecy which says the Hohenzollerns will cease to rule Germany in 1913. Maybe the oligarchy will sacrifice William to their impotent rage. Whatever they do, the collapse of the capitalist system has been shown to be measurably nearer.

Joe Ettor was excluded from Canada. He came with a message to the working class that they are robbed, and this message could not be tolerated by the executive of the master class at Ottawa.

The life of the worker today is one long spree of misery.

"Only the rich can get justice, only the poor cannot escape it."—H. D. Lloyd.

The capitalist is just about as useful to humanity as a rat is in a grain bin.

The Canadian producer is against the Borden navy scheme—and against the Laurier navy scheme also.

The firemen on the American rail ways are finding that the increased cost of living eats up all the increase in wages they get. What else do they expect under the capitalist system?

"State ownership does not mean Socialism. The least democratic countries in the world have state coal mines and state railroads, but they have no ownership by the people."—Henry Demarest Lloyd.

Socialism is coming just as sure as rains come from the clouds. It is coming because men are what they are and the evil in the capitalist system now far outweighs the good that was in it.

If we rest we rust; if we trust we bust; therefore no rest, no trust, no bust. Don't let the capitalists catch the Socialists resting or trusting to the master's system changing itself, or we would surely bust. Get busy now.

"Take no thought of the morrow, what ye shall eat, drink, or what ye shall put on," said the Great Nazarene. The capitalist class enforces this rule upon the working class, by giving just enough wages to over today's living.

The police of Brantford, Ont., threatened to strike and now the city council is considering the advisability of increasing their pay. It will be bad for the plutes when the police and the soldiery feel their solidarity with labor and join in the general strike.

"Take no thought of tomorrow," preach the ministers, and then they connive to get a ministers' superannuation fund to keep them when they can no longer sell their labor power in the pulpit. If the ministers preach one thing and practice another, why do they consider Socialism irrelevant when they study economic determinism and preach what the ministers practice?

The Asbestos Corporation with mines at Thetford, P.Q., declares that net profits on its first year of operation are \$150,304. This is equal to the annual income of 316 Canadian wage workers. No wonder the plute want the present system to continue when they can annex to their own benefit without work the average income of hundreds of wage workers through one small company.

"You Socialists see no good in anything," is often said. That is where a mistake is made. The Socialists realize there is good even in the capitalist system. It was necessary to break up the feudal system, and it is necessary until the workers are educated to what Socialism really is. It is our duty to our fellow workers to show them what is wrong with the present system so they can know how to replace it with a better.

Miss Lillian Lenton, a British suffragist, is ill with septic pneumonia through being forcibly fed while in an English jail. The heroism of the women suffragists of Britain in their struggle for political equality with men will rank with the great events of history. However, in Montreal, there is a reptile cartoonist on the staff of the Montreal Star whose coarse brutality and stupid insults are taken for wit by Sir Hugh Graham. If Graham wishes his paper to retain even a little degree of respectability he should forbid A. G. Racy lampooning the noblest and truest members of the sex to which his mother belonged.

You create wealth. Your pay is about one-fourth of the daily wealth you create. Upon this one-fourth you can barely live. You can lay up nothing for your wife and children against the day of your death. When you die, the landlord will want his rent and the grocer will want his pay for provisions and the doctor will want his fees and your wife has nothing. She has to go out to work, your children must slave. But when the owner of the place you work in dies, his family suffers no want, because they live on what is stolen from you. Had you received the equivalent of the wealth you create your family would not want. Socialism will give you this. It will free your wife and children from ever facing want and misery.

In Indiana three traction engines hitched to fifty plows, ploughed an acre in four minutes and fifteen seconds. The farmer with his horse and plow and his country yoked hireling can see his finish. The capitalists are going to take his farm away. They won't do this by force or seizing the title-deeds. They will out-compete him through the operation of machine farming and the horse-plow farmer won't be able to make a living.

SOCIALIST SONGS, WITH MUSIC. This collection includes all of Morris' greatest song poems, also the Marcellaise, the International, and other songs breathing the spirit of revolution, mostly set to familiar tunes. Attractive paper covers, 25 cents postpaid, or three copies for 75 cents. From Cotton's Book Department.

Tackle your neighbor for a subscription.

The King and the Suffragists

Charles Edward Russell in the Coming Nation.

GOING THE LIMIT.

Gracious Kink George, I am pleased to observe, is likely to get himself in bad by butting into the suffragette issue—or as near to bad as any kink could be in the present maulin state of British opinion regarding royalty.

When Mrs. Pankhurst made her Cardiff speech exulting in the blowing up of Lloyd George's house, the administration, having some symptoms of good sense, didn't want to prosecute her worth a cent. Their idea was to rattle around and make a noise and forget it, as usual, in which they were perfectly right.

But it seems that the gracious Queen Mary, who is a vigorous and pungent lady, knew better. She hunched the kink, who sent for the Home Secretary and gave him orders to go the limit and convict Mrs. Pankhurst. It is no secret in London that the gracious queen thinks all the militant suffragettes ought to be put to death anyway.

So the poor Secretary, who must have made a wry face when he found a place of solitude, had no choice but to obey. The kink had spoken, and that settled the matter.

Whereupon Mrs. Pankhurst was arrested. The government already wishes it had never heard of her or her speech. Her trial has been put off as long as possible, and meantime the government has made haste to admit her to bail.

The fact is, the kink has plunged the government into a most embarrassing position. To proceed with the prosecution is to urge the doctrine of "accessory before the fact" in the most offensive form in which it has appeared in modern times, a form so offensive that the friends of free speech all over the world would be obliged to protest against it, and at the same time so manifestly preposterous that it would cover the government with ridicule.

The cabinet ministers must heartily wish that George would stick to his postage stamps. Another disastrous phase of the grave blunder into which the kink has driven the administration is the fact that if Mrs. Pankhurst is ever tried on this charge it will be necessary to have endless publicity about the reasons that impel her and her associates to resort to violence in behalf of their cause.

Lloyd George, that smooth and cunning faker, doesn't want any of that.

He doesn't want any avoidable talk about the dirty trick he played on the suffragists, for one thing. And you can wager that he doesn't want attention called to the fact that these women are demanding a share in the government that governs them.

There is the fatal flaw in all the cases against these women and the real reason why their prosecutions languish in this remarkable manner. The monstrosity of the whole thing is too plainly revealed. Here are women protesting against the essential tyranny of being governed by a government in which they have no share. And here is the government demonstrating that these women are in fact governed and that government is in fact tyrannical by thrusting

into jail the women that protest against it.

An object lesson like that would get through the thick skull even of a Winston Churchill. I know that is saying a great deal, but I believe it would, of course, you might have to operate first. But it could be done.

We in this country need not be affected in any way by the constant assurances of the Associated Press that the violent tactics of the militant suffragists are alienating public sympathy and hurting the suffrage cause—any more than we need to pay any attention to the mush-heads over here that are overcome with horror at such things.

The Associated Press has been good enough to assure us every week for five years that the suffrage cause was being ground in England. If this old painted liar and harlot had ever been right about the matter the suffrage cause would have been dead and buried long ago.

As to the horror of suffragette violence, that is all bunk. All the window smashing that there has been since the militants began and all the letter box burnings and all the rest put together would not make an act of violence as big as a pin point compared with the hourly violence of a government that governs without the consent of the governed.

Let them do away with that act of violence first if they don't want the others. Laws! Well, if our forefathers had had the respect for the laws that some of the old women in pants are now preaching we'd all be today the subjects of a mediæval kingdom that has Lloyd George for a prime minister, and God knows there is nothing worse than that.

WHERE COURAGE FAILS.

There is plenty of humor in the English situation, though doubtless not for the poor cabinet ministers that must go about with heavy body guards to protect them from these terrible women.

The Public Prosecutor, in opening the case of the two women that are accused of firing the pavilion at Kew Gardens, made the solemn and terrific declaration that these women were liable to a sentence of penal servitude for life.

"Think of that!" said the chuckle-headed, "imprisonment for life!" The next thing that was heard of these two women was that one had been released on nominal bail and the other had been allowed to depart quietly without any bail at all.

Some magistrate ass, hearing of this remarkable disposition of a case that began with so much noise and clamor, foamed at the mouth and announced that he would do many valorous things to discover why these malefactors had been treated with this amazing lenity. But I observe that somebody that was wise put the kibosh on him, too, before he had made another pass.

Brave, valiant, dauntless, stout-hearted public officers, no doubt, and devoted servants of his gracious majesty, but they don't care about mixing up with any more of this thing than they are obliged to.

A handful of weak women have terrorized the whole British government by merely demanding and insisting upon their rights. Marvellous and instructive spectacle. Don't miss any of it.

If they can get cheap fares to lower rents at a distance from their slave pens, their employers can pay lower wages.

Hence when the Robert gang capture the street railway, load it down with watered stock, and take an added one hundred thousand dollars out of the pockets of the people of Halifax, that hundred thousand dollars does not come out of the producing class. It comes out of the other groups of labor skinned who find their wage bills higher and therefore their profits lower.

So the Herald rants and fumes, and as it is a Tory paper, while the Murray government is Liberal, it hints about graft. The Herald wants the Tories in office so it can get good big gobs of government printing paper.

Socialists smile at the howls of the Halifax Herald. They know no reforms will permanently benefit the producers. If one set of parasites climb on their backs, it means that another set of parasites have poorer pickings.

Rent, interest and profit must be abolished before the workers shall be free from their slavery. As long as the capitalists play see-saw on the backs of the workers, the workers will carry the useless creatures. It is a matter of little moment to them whether the railway ground is up and the employing crowd is up and the railway crowd is down. They want both gangs off the board and the board itself raised off their backs so they can walk upright. The board will not be removed until the workers themselves hoist it.

Following the precedent of 1903, it is reported from Washington, U. S. A., the steel corporation is to offer its employees the privilege of subscribing to preferred and common shares on the basis of 100 dollars and 66 dollars respectively. The amount of stock held and that subscribed for by the employees working at from 15 to 17 cents per hour would make interesting reading. — International Labor Letter.

Always carry an extra copy of Cotton's in your pocket.
Spring a sub card on your workmate.

Everybody works but the capitalist. He's the wise guy, and you are the lobsters.

David killed the giant Goliath. The working class can kill the capitalist system by slinging their vote at it through the Socialist ballot.

The Canadian Senate is a legislative body where obsolete politicians are pensioned off for life, and is about as much use as a rotten egg is to a cook.

The net profits of the British Columbia Packers' Association last year were \$437,493, equal to the yearly earnings of 921 Canadian slaves. It is a nice system for the plutes.

The farmers plant their potatoes in the ground where they will multiply. The capitalists do not plant their dollars in the ground. They plant them where the workers will multiply them without any labor from the capitalists.

The capitalist system is propped up by politicians, manufacturers, bankers, railroad magnates, combine rings and uneducated workers. The whole bunch stand for the robbery of the working class. Educate the producers, and the system will peter out.

The capitalist class are the world's greatest brigands. They are robbing the workers of all they produce but a skimpy living. A mountain brigand takes a big chance of getting shot. The capitalist brigand takes his ease in the pleasantest manner that his pilferings can procure, and he takes it day after day in the very sight of those he robs.

How many million dollars is the Canadian Federal government giving to fight the white plague? Yet Borden and Laurier are scrapping over which set of parasites shall get their hands on \$35,000,000 of public money to build unnecessary murder ships. Let the sick die and kill the living, for profits must be protected and the life of the producer is cheap. This is the policy of the politicians at Ottawa.

We hear much about the dead Christ, and little of the living Christ from the pulpit orators of today. It is safer thus. For nowadays the churches have been captured by the sons of mammon, and they wouldn't like it if preachers should preach about chasing the traders out of the churches and tanning the money changers. So the preachers make long prayers and tell how "un-Christian" Socialism is.

The workers have hell upon earth under capitalism and are promised heaven when they die. When the workers talk about bringing heaven nearer to earth for the masses by prying off the thieving, lying, brutal capitalist class, the capitalists howl aloud about the impiety of the working class and shoot a line of drool that is enough to sicken a self-respecting jackass. The drool does not sicken the capitalist. They thrive on it.

The net profits of the Canadian General Electric Company for 1912 were \$1,555,361, a sum equal to the annual income of 3,274 Canadian workers. This company exploits slaves in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Peterborough, Winnipeg, Vancouver, and other places. Those who receive the results of its legalized robbery of the working class think the present robber system very fine indeed, and they consider Socialists who protest discontented agitators who want to disturb the comfort of the "upper classes."

THIS IS ENCOURAGING.

Occasionally we get letters like the following. They are a good tonic, and serve to inspire us to keep up our efforts unceasingly. May it serve a like purpose to our readers and hasten scattered all over the Dominion.

Saskatchewan, Feb. 2, '13.

I have been a constant reader of your little paper for the past two years. Some old Socialist has been sending it to me. When it first began to come, we took it out of the office, just because it was handed out to us.

When we had read a few copies of it, we were sorry the paper was coming, and often we would not open the paper to look at it. It was either doomed for the waste paper basket or the stove.

Today that little "Cotton's Weekly" lays on the finest shelf in our home; and I hope that in the future I may be the cause of it finding a welcome in many homes. I have enclosed \$1.00 for which please send your paper to the following list of four.

I think the A.B.C. of Socialism is, very good, and would like to see it appear often in the paper. I am enclosing a clipping from a paper which might interest you. From a constant reader and a hard-shelled old Socialist.

C. A. GALLAGHER.

British Columbia has repealed the \$3 poll tax which was formerly levied on the migratory workers. This tax McBride repealed for the benefit of the plunderers. They want labor power to flow freely to the slave pens, to the railway hells, to the mines with their dangers and to the lumber camps where they take all the money of the slaves for board, bunks, doctor fees and the like.

NAVY DEBATE AT OTTAWA

My, my, my. Have you heard the cat fight at Ottawa? Have you heard the awful noise of the yowling of the M.P.'s? Paws have been raised in the air, but little real fur has flown. The noise has lasted, at the time of the present writing, for two solid weeks, day and night, with the exception of Sundays.

The fight arose in this way. The Tory government under Borden proposes to hand over \$35,000,000 to the British labor skinner to build and equip three Dreadnoughts to form part of the British fleet until such time as the Canadian government saw fit to recall them to Canadian management.

The Liberal opposition under Laurier proposes to hand over something like the same amount to Canadian labor-skinners for them to build and equip war vessels in Canada and have them under Canadian control.

Those who understand Canadian political life realize that there can be no moral, nor patriotic, nor sentimental, nor honest principles dividing the two parties on this question.

The only questions involved concern the profit-interests of the thieving capitalist class, and the personal interests of the henchmen of the labor exploiters who infest the House of Commons.

Why is it that the Liberals are resolved on stopping the Borden navy scheme and the Tories are determined to ram it through? We cannot imagine politicians of the Liberal stripe sitting up night after night and working their voices in the straitjacket, and the Tories doing the same, except for some special reason.

Bourassa appears to have hit on the real situation. He declares in his paper that if the Borden plans succeed, of the \$35,000,000 going to the British battleship grafters, \$3,000,000 will be turned back into the Tory political war chest with which to fight elections.

This explains the whole proceeding. The Liberal politicians know that if the Tories gather such a war fund, together with the other tribute which the party in power can gather, the Liberals will have no show at the next elections. For the electors of Canada have been sufficiently impregnated with the morality of their masters to seize every unearned dollar they can. The capitalist system with its glorifying of the commodity nature of all things, from the sermon of the minister to the bodies of women, has taught the voters that the best way they can use their vote is to sell it.

The Liberals propose to construct war vessels in Canada. Borden declares that these ships will cost enormously in Canada. If they do, all the better for the Liberal party and the capitalist labor skinner. We cannot imagine that the Liberal politicians, who are planning to spend \$35,000,000 uselessly among Canadian labor skinner would do so without demanding a political war fund from those who would profit most from such expenditure.

The Liberals, therefore, like the Tories, are fighting for a campaign wad. The fight they lead in the open is largely a sham fight. Those producers who are excited by the present squabble between the two rival bands of political henchmen at Ottawa who represent two factions of labor-oppressing masters should calm themselves, for they are among the producers who will be skinned no matter which faction wins.

The net earnings for the Canadian Car and Foundry Company last year were \$1,039,932. This is equal to the annual wage of 2,190 Canadian slaves. N. Curry is president of this company, and as a reward for his successful handling of the labor skinning proposition, the Borden executive committee of the master class called him to the Senate to help deliberate over the making of the laws to continue and perfect the system of wage slavery. The peculiar thing about the business is that many of the slaves at Amherst, N.S., Turcotte P.Q., and Brantford, Ont., who are robbed by the Canadian Car and Foundry Co., are pleased to see the labor skinner set over them in a position where he can help make laws against the working class. The full plant of the Canadian Car and Foundry Company was not in operation last year. Consequently the net earnings were small compared with what they will be for this year.

R. G. Miller, bookkeeper, employed by D. Matheson, contractor, of Vancouver, kept an account for his employer which he called the "B. and C. account." The B. and C. stood for Bribery and Corruption. Bribery and corruption are natural to the capitalist system. The working class produce all the wealth and get only a living wage. The rest goes to the parasite class as unearned revenues. Morally, the master class are no more entitled to these surplus values than the man in the moon. However, they have had laws passed legalizing their immoral gains. When persons are in a position to swing contracts to these legalized thieves, it is nothing but natural they should want a share. Hence legalized robbery must divide up with illegal grafters. Abolish the immoral system, and the bribe-taker, who is an illegal parasite on the legal parasite, will also vanish.

The Hillcrest Collieries, Ltd., show net profits of \$100,100 on the year's business. This is equal to the average income of 211 Canadian workers. Nice system for those who rob the working class.

\$1.00 will purchase four sub cards.

Military Lunacy on the increase

By this time next year the standing armies of Europe, which now number some five millions, will have been increased by at least a million. For some reason, the details of which are not exactly clear, most of the great European powers are increasing their land forces simultaneously. Possibly it is some sort of obscure paroxysm of military lunacy.

Germany makes an increase of 168,000 men to her army, bringing the total up to 806,000, excluding officers, of which there are some 60,000 all told. The German number close on 900,000 when the increase is completed.

France adds 210,000, making a total of 788,000, excluding officers, which would bring her standing army to a figure of about 850,000 all told.

Russia, which has a standing army of 1,100,000 already, is also making a heavy addition to her fighting forces, and it is said that Austria will make a much greater proportionate increase in her army than any of the others. Italy contemplates a similar increase. It is not to be doubted for one moment that the other nations will feel compelled to follow the example of the greater powers, as far as their ability will permit.

Militarism seems to have reached the point in Europe, and especially in Germany, where the increased armaments add nothing in a direct financial sense to the burdens of the working class. It would seem that the last possible penny of surplus value has been exacted from them and the cost of the new armaments will have to be defrayed mainly from the proceeds of the plunder of the bourgeoisie. And it is this fact that explains largely the growing tendency among them to describe militarism as a craze, a madness, a national lunacy. Humanitarian feelings have little to do with it, and serve but as the mask or pretext through which the complaint is made. Modern capitalism is rapidly approaching a condition where it will require the major part of the plunder extracted from the working class to provide material for the defense of the remnant of the loot, and it is the perception of this fact that underlies the warnings of "national bankruptcy" now so frequently heard in protest against the excessive cost of militarism. The cost of playing the skin game in security threatens to devour all the profits.

The predominating danger now to the working class in all this is that, as they can no longer directly pay the cost of the game financially, they may be called upon to contribute their quota by strewing the battlefields of Europe with their carcasses. And the one security against this is the growing power of the International Socialist Movement, which was so auspiciously demonstrated at the recent conference held at Basel, Switzerland, in which notice was served on the prospective belligerents that, if they started war without reckoning on the action of the working class, they would do so at their own peril. Could we only be tolerably certain that the power of Socialism would prove sufficient for this purpose, we could view with comparative equanimity the spectacle of the ruling class bankrupting itself in defraying the cost of ever-increasing armaments, and handing to the financial bankruptcy of capitalism in this manner most certainly means social revolution and Socialism.

The Socialists of the world today, and particularly those of Europe, are more and more being forced into the position of wardens and keepers of a vast lunatic asylum, in which their immediate duty is to prevent the most violent and powerful lunatic from doing physical injury to their

Socialist keepers also under the pretext of injuring one another. It is a ticklish position to occupy when we are in doubt as to the sufficiency of our power to prevent them bursting the Socialist strait-jacket with which we are trying to fit them. If, however, we can hold them down for another ten years or so, there is every reason to expect that they will die more or less quietly of their own insanity, and thus spare us the disagreeable necessity of knocking them on the head, should they manage, despite our efforts, to succeed in breaking loose.—New York Call.

B. C. Socialists' Notice!

The McBride Government has cancelled the voters' lists. If you do not register before April 26th, you are disfranchised. Warn every worker you meet to register. They have also extended the life of the legislature to five years. Get ready for an election, and make good. Remember it will be the last chance in five years. McBride, glutted with power, gorged with pride and lured with the possibilities, means to lose no chance or leave no stone unturned in order to hang on to a good thing. The Liberals are out of business in B. C. Socialists! Unite against the Conservatives, and make it a worthy campaign!

CLASS-CONSCIOUS COMMENTS

Swat the capitalist!

Kingston, Queen's University, Kingston, recently said, "No apology is necessary for a minister of the gospel to use his utmost energies to advocate the welfare of the militia." Of course not. He is only doing what he is engaged and paid to do by his capitalist masters. But why should he suggest that somebody expects an apology unless he knows that he is engaged in a dirty, discreditable business?

"And now it looks as though women may at last get votes. We have always had a hankering suspicion that they were a great deal more interested in the contents of the weekly pay envelope," says the Fort William Times-Journal. Just so—that's precisely what they are interested in; and it is just because the pay envelope interests them so much that they want the vote as a factor in the struggle to better economic conditions.

After all, Col. the Honorable Sam Hughes is probably doing far more for him than he is aware of to advance the cause of anti-militarism by abolishing the canteen. The great incentive to a soldier's life had always and everywhere been the opportunities to offer for cheap and gregarious vice. Half the glamor which attracts the reckless and unthinking to betray their class by enlisting will be gone if liquor is unobtainable.

A farmer is a poorly paid workman who fancies himself a capitalist because he owns the tools of his trade.

In a recent edition of the Duluth Herald a cartoon appeared with the caption, "The lumberjack of the future." The drawing depicted a lumberjack having his usual morning bath and shave. It is surely a striking instance of how far custom and inherited opinions can pervert our views of the fitness of things, that the idea of a common working man enjoying some of the luxuries his toil has helped to create should be regarded as extremely funny. Why are luxuries only for loafers? Apparently because the workers like to have it that way.

Principal Gordon of Queen's University, Kingston, strongly advocates universal military training, and regrets that the trades unions should oppose it. "He thought they should be consulted and shown the advantages of universal training." The working men haven't much to learn in that respect. In the course of labor troubles they have been confronted too often with the rifles and bayonets of the soldiers of the king not to realize fully all the "advantages" of military training. THEY know all about it, principal, thank you.

A sure sign that the proposed Ontario tax reform will not benefit the wage earner in the least is the way the little capitalist is crying out for it, and the class of papers which support it. Let the capitalist who has his money in land and the other fellow who owns stocks, bonds, factories, etc., fight it out themselves, and may the devil take the hindmost—both of them for that matter.—Phillips Thompson, Toronto.

WHO IS A SOCIALIST?

Who is a Socialist? It is the man who strives to formulate or aid a plan to better earth's conditions. It is he who, having ears to hear, and eyes to see, is neither deaf nor blind, when might, rough deed, Trends down the privileges and the rights which God means for all men, the privilege to toil, to breathe pure air, to till the fertile soil. The right to live, to love, to wed, to wed, And earn for hungry mouths their meed of bread. The Socialist is he who claims no more than his just share from generous Nature's store. But that he asks, and asks too, that no other Shall claim the share of any weaker brother. And brand him beggar in his own domain. To glut a mad, inordinate lust for gain. The Socialist is one who holds the best Of all God's gifts is toll—the second, rest. He asks that all men learn the sweets of labor, And that no idler fatten on his neighbor. That all men be allowed their share of leisure, Nor thousands slave that one may seek his pleasure. Who on the Golden Rule shall dare insist—Behold in him the modern Socialist.

EXCHANGES ON CHEQUES. If cheques are sent as remittances to Cotton's Weekly, exchange should be added to the amount.

A Victim of the Master Class

J. K. Mergler.

Not a sign of rejoicing was to be seen on his features, not a trace of a reviving spirit. This notice of coming freedom did not in the least appear precious to him. They were days of anguish, and sullen brooding on which he expected the warden to open the door of his prison.

And here he stood before him, his features hardened as if trying to repress his agony. He felt like weeping, but was instinctively ashamed before this man in uniform. What meant this outside to him, anyhow, but a dreadful hubbub of misery and fear for the morrow? The human desire for freedom was long ago extinguished in the breast of this man. Here in his little cell where everything was cozy and clean, he felt happy and contented. The walls a clear white, the bedclothes on his cot warm and clean, invited him seductively to lie down and rest his tired limbs. He was getting old. Time certainly does fly. Thirty years ago, those years which seemed now like so many long days; who would have thought that this would be the end? Now he was broken in spirit, emaciated in body, with a strong pain in his left shoulder going through like a long pin stroke touching his wounded heart, a jail-bird, without friends. In his youth he was strong, hardy, a physical match for three. What meant hard labor to him but joy, more so after the receipt of a letter from the old lady, with blessings for encouragement, and usually a postscript from Annie. Oh, Annie, she with her smiling eyes and fancy dimples whenever she laughed her clear silvery laugh. Where could she be now? Old, and lonely, perhaps as he? But good God, no; there was no one as miserable as he in this great world; no one in such sad state.

His habit daily, whether at work with the chain gang, or at night in his cell, was to emigrate mentally to the lovely past, to catch a glimpse of the days when he painted glorious imaginary scenes of his future. It made him sad, but it did him good. He was thus enabled to forget his present self and surroundings, to forget the striped suit he wore—the symbol of shame and the drear times when forced to commit that crime.

But now, his freedom at hand, what should he do? Where should he go? He had not strength enough to face the world. He felt like creeping into some hole and hiding from view. He felt like resting, for he was tired, tired of the burden of life. If he

knew where some of the boys were, he would go to them and ask for a resting place, with the promise some time of repaying, when he regained his health. But they must by now be scattered all over the earth like the herd of buffalo he hunted in their company. That was a life worth living.

There was no rumble of street cars then, no irritating noise, no smoky chimneys, no courts, no skyscrapers. Here he once intended to strike up his home, where Annie would be his. But soon they swarmed like noisy wasps around him, leading long armies of working insects with them, with permits from the Dominion House, giving them ownership of all the country. They forced him from his piece of land where everything was so rosy and promising. They laid the iron track through there like a long endless snake, and the land of dreams became a humdrum of civilization, in all its meanness, and pettiness. He was forced to work as a day laborer, at any old work. He shovelled earth to make room for the iron giant to pass. He helped lay the track and build the bridges, and lay the foundation for a city, but never could get within reach of his object. Ontario and that little village kept crouching away from him farther and farther in the distance. Next year he would be able to marry, but many years slipped away with the same breakdown of hopes, till at last she married. He did not begrudge her. All he wanted was her happiness. God only knows, and in his pitiful position he could not make her happy. His mother still remained his only friend, but she, too, was called off this earth. Then he had nothing to strive for, no one to love, so he drifted lower, and lower, till at last...

But he would not leave this comfortable place. Rather commit a fresh crime and return. Long ago he had enough of playing hunter, and being hunted, enough of days without bread, in a land where he, one of the first, labored. Enough of filthy grub, lousy beds in some charity house. He wanted rest, rest; he was old enough to demand it; he felt ill enough to deserve it. He crossed the cell, to and fro, sat down and stood up in turn. He was a bundle of agitation and feverish excitement. They shall not expel him from his last refuge of comfort, he would remain there if it cost him his life.

When next morning they came to set him free, they found him stone dead, strangled by his own hands, for he was tired... and needed rest.

Government Ownership contrasted with Collective Ownership Under Socialism

By William English Walling.

Perhaps the most important law of economic evolution is the steady assumption of one industrial function after another by government. Ever since railroads became general, and established the present industrial system, national, local and municipal governments have everywhere been steadily encroaching upon the industrial domain. Year after year governments have employed a larger and larger proportion of the population. This tendency towards government ownership has nothing to do with democracy—one way or the other—for it holds as well in Russia, Japan and Mexico, as it does in Australia, Switzerland and France. Great Britain and the United States, it is true, have moved somewhat more slowly in this direction, but the rate of the collectivist movement is now being accelerated more rapidly in these than in any other countries. In Great Britain it has so far taken the form chiefly of municipal ownership and a partial nationalization of land rent. In the United States it promises in the immediate future to take the form of conservation (retention of national ownership of natural resources), and governmental control of trusts (or semi-monopolized industries) as to stock issues and prices or rates. The gradual absorption of railways, mines, the tobacco and spirit industries which we have seen on the Continent of Europe make the collectivist tendency easier to measure there, but in no way more significant than the related tendencies in this country and Great Britain.

This tendency towards collectivism is the normal evolution of our present capitalist society. It is a favorite by Socialists as the inevitable result of the formation of the trusts—which they also hailed as a great step forward in the organization of industry. It is as indispensable as a basis for Socialism as were the trusts. But as long as the capitalists are the possessors of exceptional education and occupational opportunities continue to control government, as they do today, it is obvious that there may be no relative improvement of the income and opportunities of the non-privileged when compared with those of the privileged; and there can be no Socialism as long as this situation continues. For the policy of such a semi-collectivist government controlled by small capitalists and related groups, as we see from the programs of Lloyd George, Briand, Roosevelt, and the so-called Australian Labor Party, demand that the new sources of government income derived from governmentally operated industries be used as follows:

(a) to decrease the taxes of the small capitalists;

(b) to build roads and canals, to re-forest, drain and irrigate lands and do other things, the larger part of the benefit of which would go to the small capitalists;

(c) to increase the health and industrial efficiency of labor, but only to the point of making more profitable laborers and not to the point of

giving them social efficiency and full opportunity, i.e., equal training and opportunity with the children of the privileged to compete for all the more desirable positions in society;

(d) to furnish safe investments for small capitalists, and finally;

(e) to lower the prices of machinery, half-finished raw materials, transportation and credit to the small capitalist producer, but not to the ultimate consumer.

And finally the control of industry by a political majority may mean class control and the autocratic administration of industry. And this is what it does mean wherever the elements are in a majority—as in all agricultural communities such as Switzerland, Australia, New Zealand and the Western and Southern States (since every white man is privileged in the South). For not only do we find the above small capitalist policies carried out as against the Socialist policies, but we find that labor organizations are deprived of the one weapon of defense in their possession—and the only weapon, moreover, by which they can hope to establish Socialism against the desperate resistance that is almost certain to be expected from the small capitalist and "State Socialist" governments. I have designated—namely the strike. On the supposition that these new collectivist democracies represent all the people, it is almost universally agreed among non-Socialist reformers and progressives that some form of compulsory arbitration, which means industrial despotism, is to be established for all governmentally owned or controlled industries.

"State Socialism" (or State Capitalism) tends towards an industrial despotism. Socialism aims at an industrial democracy requiring, as it does, that all the socially necessary means of production be democratically controlled and administered. As that individualistic form of capitalism that formerly opposed government ownership has long ago been overthrown everywhere except in America, where at last its overthrow is imminent, the sole enemy of Socialism henceforth is capitalism under its new form of "State Socialism."—Intercollegiate Socialist.

There is a vast difference between the Socialist movement and the Socialist Party. The Socialist movement is in one sense the awakening social consciousness of the race, the Socialist Party is the organized expression of the interest of the world's workers; the visible recognizable portion that can be definitely counted by means of dues and votes, but the general movement toward Socialism is immeasurably greater.

During the last year the Nurses' Association of Missouri at their own expense and by their own initiative made a social survey of the conditions of jails and almshouses of the state. From their own funds they printed splendid booklets setting forth their findings in the most startling manner, and they are maintain-

ing a travelling lecturer to hold public lectures and awaken the citizens to the frightful social conditions of these state and county institutions. Here is a group of young working women, possibly the most highly paid as a class of any working women in the state; women who have nothing in common with jails and almshouses, neither are they conscious Socialists to any extent. They are simply women who by contact with the world and a broad culture have had their social consciousness developed, have unconsciously become a part of the Socialist movement and fighting for the downmost dog, the most helpless and hopeless part of mankind, the jailbird and the pauper.—Rip Saw.

TELEPHONES.

(For the year ending June 30th, 1912) In the provinces of Alberta and Manitoba all telephone companies have been practically absorbed by the provincial government. In Saskatchewan the process of absorption is under way. The returns furnished by the Dominion Government show 435 telephone systems in operation in Canada, 3 of these are provincial government; 35 are municipal; 36 are stock, 132 co-operative; 21 partnership, and 113 are private. Capital liability was reported as \$46,226,881, while real property owned was reported as being \$26,867,729. The excess of property owned over capital liability is due to the fact that provincial ownership and many co-operatives have no capital liability. The cost of the provincial owned systems is simply part of the provincial debt.

Gross earnings for the year were \$12,727,617. Operating expenses were \$9,894,529. Net profits were returned as \$1,178,538. Operating expenses were \$34.52 per telephone, and \$19.22 per mile of wire. There were 389,572 miles of telephone wire in operation. Of these 63,982 were urban, and 252,619 were rural.

There were 379,880 telephones in use, or 1 telephone for every 19 people in Canada. The number of employees returned were 12,783, and the total wage bill was given as \$2,659,642.

However, these figures are wrong, as the Bell Telephone Company reports 8,617 employees with wages at \$13,380, 36 per year each. This is manifestly erroneous. We must therefore deduct the Bell Telephone reports to arrive at the rate of exploitation.

BUNDLE BOOSTING

A Bundle Booster is an individual who in receipt of a specified number of Cotton's every week for a specified period. He uses these copies for distribution in various ways, and reaches many people who can only be reached by this method. The spirit of the movement in a locality can be pretty accurately gauged by the amount of literature distributed. The Milwaukee Socialists have been pioneers in this line. Week after week, month after month, they will rise early on Sunday morning and cover all their district with Socialist papers. Now, the point is that most every Socialist can get more or less copies circulated in his district, if he so wishes. There are many ways of accomplishing this. The Milwaukee Socialists have made their way to it. They make good with them.

See the prices below. If you order to the extent of \$1.00 you get a receipt card good for \$1.00 on facts. If you order to the extent of \$3.00 you get facts free, by return mail.

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15 copies, 3 months, \$1.50; 25 copies, 3 months, \$2.50; 35 copies, 3 months, \$3.50; 45 copies, 3 months, \$4.50; 55 copies, 3 months, \$5.50; 65 copies, 3 months, \$6.50; 75 copies, 3 months, \$7.50; 85 copies, 3 months, \$8.50; 95 copies, 3 months, \$9.50; 105 copies, 3 months, \$10.50.

WAR.
And yet how sweet
The sound of the marching street
Of drum and life! And I forget
Wet eyes of widows, and forget
Broken hearts, and the whole
Dark butchery without a soul.
Without a soul—save this brief drink
Of heady music, sweet as death;
And even my peace-abiding feet
Go marching with the marching street
For yonder, yonder, goes the life.
And what care I for human life?

The tears fill my astonished eyes,
And my heart is like to break
And yet 'tis all embowered lies.
A dream those little drummers make
Oh, it is wickedness to clothe
Von hideous, grinning thing that
stalks
Hidden in music, like a queen
That in the garden of glory walks,
'All good men love the thing they
loathe! —Richard I. Gallienne

MONEY AND BRAINS.
By William Clancy.
London.—Prince Albert, second son of King George was sixty-fourth in merit in a class of 65 naval cadets.—News despatch.
Some class to Prince Albert. It's a jimmy pipe that if the prince was sixty-fourth in class of 65 his brother was the sixty-fifth.
The prince will spend the rest of his life in a rolling mill working 12-hour shifts for \$1.50 a day. Sure!
Of course, he will. He ain't got no brains. You've got to have brains to be a kink or a grab-it-allist.
If you ain't got no money, you ain't got no brains. That's all there is to it. Don't I know?
What is brains, anyway? Brains is divided into five parts: dollars, halves, quarters, dimes and nickels.
When a pal comes up to you and says: "Hey, Jack, lend me two bits, will you?" he won't want nothing. All he wants you to do is to think of him.
Now, children, what is it that makes the rich rich, and the poor poor?
Now, altogether.
Brains, me boy—brains!

WAGES IN THE U. S.
A recent investigation into the wages paid to tollers throughout America resulted in the following: Half of the adult males of the United States are receiving less than \$500 a year; three-quarters are receiving less than \$600 annually; nine-tenths are receiving less than \$800 a year; while less than 10 per cent. receive more than that figure. A corresponding computation of the wages of women shows that one-fifth receive less than \$300 annually; that three-fifths are receiving less than \$500 a year; while only one-twentieth are paid more than \$800 a year.

MISSOURI NURSES' ACTIVE

There is a vast difference between the Socialist movement and the Socialist Party. The Socialist movement is in one sense the awakening social consciousness of the race, the Socialist Party is the organized expression of the interest of the world's workers; the visible recognizable portion that can be definitely counted by means of dues and votes, but the general movement toward Socialism is immeasurably greater.

THE FIRST OF MAY

The first of May last year we had 14,756 subscriptions. If you try, comrades, and double that list by the first of May of the present year?

It looks a big contract, but the Socialists who are out to overthrow the capitalist system are not afraid of big tasks. If we cannot have the sub list doubled, which would mean a gain of 4,800 during the next six weeks, how near can you bring it to being doubled?

The first of May is international protest day. The Socialists of the world hold meetings on this day. They leave their work and hold parade.

The best way Canadian Socialism can celebrate the international day of revolt is to see how many slaves they can arouse by that time.

Will you take this suggestion and send in a list of subscribers, if you do this you may be able to round up another list before the first of May, and thus accomplish the doubling of the subscription list by that date.

CIRCULATION STATEMENT.
Week of March 24th, 1913.

	Of.	On.	Total.
Ontario	22	221	5,736
Saskatchewan	76	283	5,534
British Columbia	89	114	4,416
Alberta	46	116	5,490
Manitoba	59	10	1,470
Nova Scotia	88	77	1,400
Province Quebec	31	79	1,211
Yukon Territory	0	6	316
Newfoundland	0	6	316
Prince Edward Island	0	6	316
	631	1,021	29,936

Gain for week—306.
Total edition last week—31,000.

OH FARMERS AND WORKERS.

Oh farmers and workers of the world awake!
You are blind and cannot see
That it is you who make all wealth,
But cannot have it.
There are women and children in the city,
Who toil, but not in health;
But the capitalist gives them no pity.
While he roils and sleeps in his wealth.
But soon that toil shall cease;
The workers will make the joy in life,
And the capitalist will not take most of the money.
And life won't be such a struggle and strife.
—Lillian Brown, age 13, Dundurn, Sask.

ALBERTA ELECTIONS.

Alberta elections are rapidly approaching. No far three candidates are in the field. Comrade O. A. Alexander is the leader for the Socialists, Comrade Geo. Paton for Red Deer, and Comrade M. O'Brien for Rocky Mountain. More candidates will no doubt be in the field before long.

All those interested in Socialism should help the candidates in the field, and should also do their best to get other candidates in the running.

GETTING WISE YOUNG.

"Willie, who did you hit Johnny for?"
"He called me names, and I won't stand it."
"What did he call you?"
"A business man."

THOUSANDS SELLING

Origin of Species, Darwin \$2.00
24 Lectures on Science, J. H. Muller \$2.00
Lectures and Essays, Voltaire \$2.00
Age of Reason, Paine \$2.00
Riddle of the Universe, Comrade C. E. Brown, Sec'y, 401 Royal Ave.—\$2.00

PEOPLE'S BOOKSTORE

162 Cordova St. W. VANCOUVER, B. C.

SOCIALIST DIRECTORY

DOMINION Executive Committee, Socialist Democratic Party of Canada, meets every first and third Monday at 8 p.m. at St. East, H. Martin, and Comrade C. Street East, Berlin, Ont.—\$2.00

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C., Local No. 4, S.D.P. of C. Meets first and third Sunday, 1 p.m., at Com. Goodmurray's, South Westminster, Box 150, E.A. Brown, Sec'y, 401 Royal Ave.—\$2.00

NANAIMO Local No. 11, S.D.P. of C. English. Business meeting held on Sunday afternoons, 3 o'clock, above Beattie Hopkins, Printers, Wharf St. Propaganda meetings all times in open air. Temple, Rec. Sec., Box 65, Nanaimo, B. C.—\$2.00

BRITISH Columbia Executive S.D.P. of C. Meets in Nanaimo, (Wharf Street) above Beattie Hopkins. Regular meeting first Sunday in month at 12.30 noon. Routine business third Sunday in month at 8 p.m. A. Jordan, Prov. Sec., Box 418, Nanaimo, B. C.—\$2.00

LOCAL VANCOUVER No. 12, meets for business and propaganda on Sunday afternoons, 3 o'clock, above Beattie Hopkins, Printers, Wharf St. Propaganda meetings all times in open air. Temple, Rec. Sec., Box 65, Nanaimo, B. C.—\$2.00

PORT ARTHUR Local S.D.P. meets in Labor Temple, 2nd & 4th Thursdays 8 p.m. for business, and 1st and 3rd Thursdays to discuss matters of interest to every worker. Workers unite and run Port Arthur for the benefit of the workers. Herbert Barker, Sec.—\$2.00

SOUTH PORCUPINE Local No. 22, S.D.P. of C. holds business and propaganda meetings every Sunday at 8 p.m. in Miners' Union Hall, South Porcupine, F. Dugue, Sec. Box 521—\$2.00

TORONTO Local No. 1, S.D.P. Business meeting first and third Tuesday in month, Labor Temple, 177 Church St. 8 p.m. Second floor. Attend the lectures at the Cosmopolitan Theatre, Yonge St., corner Edward Street, Sunday at 8 p.m. C. Young, Sec. 724 Pape Ave.—\$2.00

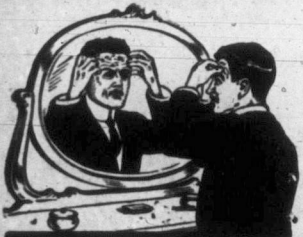
WOODSTOCK Local No. 21, S.D.P. of C. Meets at 29 Pius St. 1st and 3rd business Sunday mornings at 10 o'clock. Open every evening for business. George Hampe, Sec., Woodstock, Ont.—\$2.00

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