

# THE INFLUENCE OF THE USA HISTORIC EVENTS ON PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LITERARY ARTISTRY OF JACK LONDON

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## **The goals of the research:**

- 1.** To study: **a)** critical articles about J. London;  
**b)** J. London's fiction;
- 2.** To analyze the USA historic situation of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and the early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**The subject of the research** – the influence of the historic events on personal development and literary artistry.

**The object of the research** – J. London's biography, personal qualities and the main ideas.

# New-York. The early 20<sup>th</sup> century.



# Oligarchic Capital

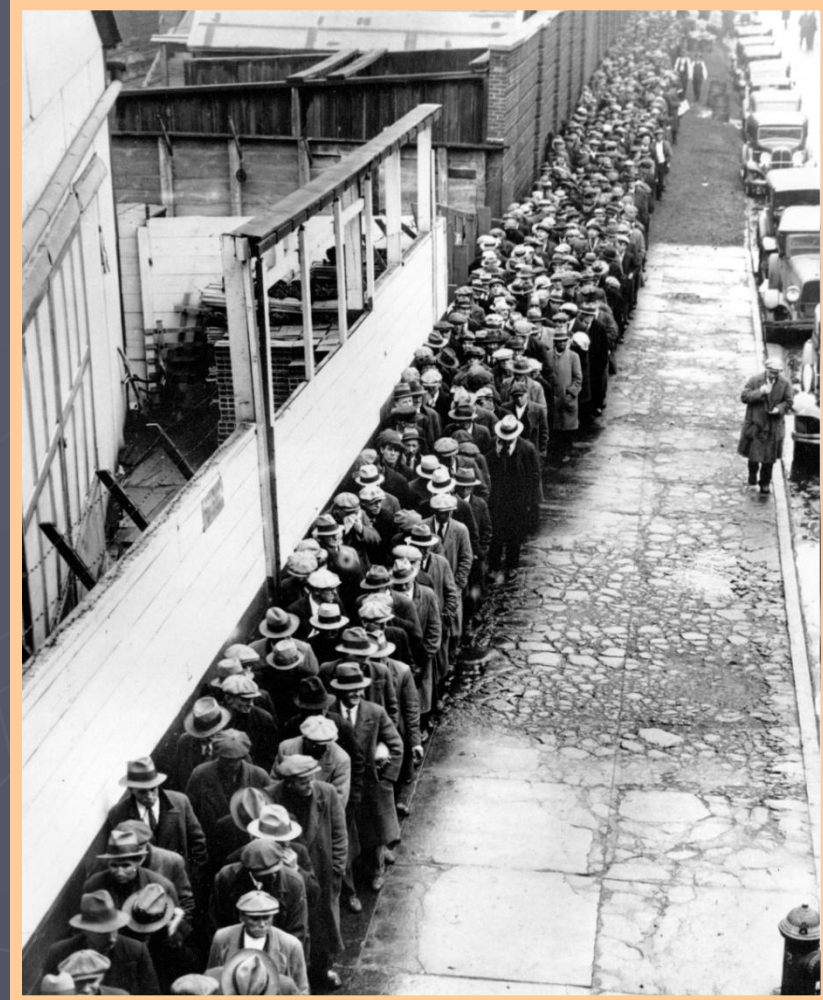


John D. Rockefeller, whose Standard Oil fortune financed the vast philanthropies in his name, and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who took over his father's financial empire and philanthropies (1921). *Rockefeller Archive Center.*

“The oligarchs themselves were going through a remarkable and, it must be confessed, unexpected development. As a class, they disciplined themselves. They served as leaders of troops and captains of industry”. (Jack London “The Iron Heel”)



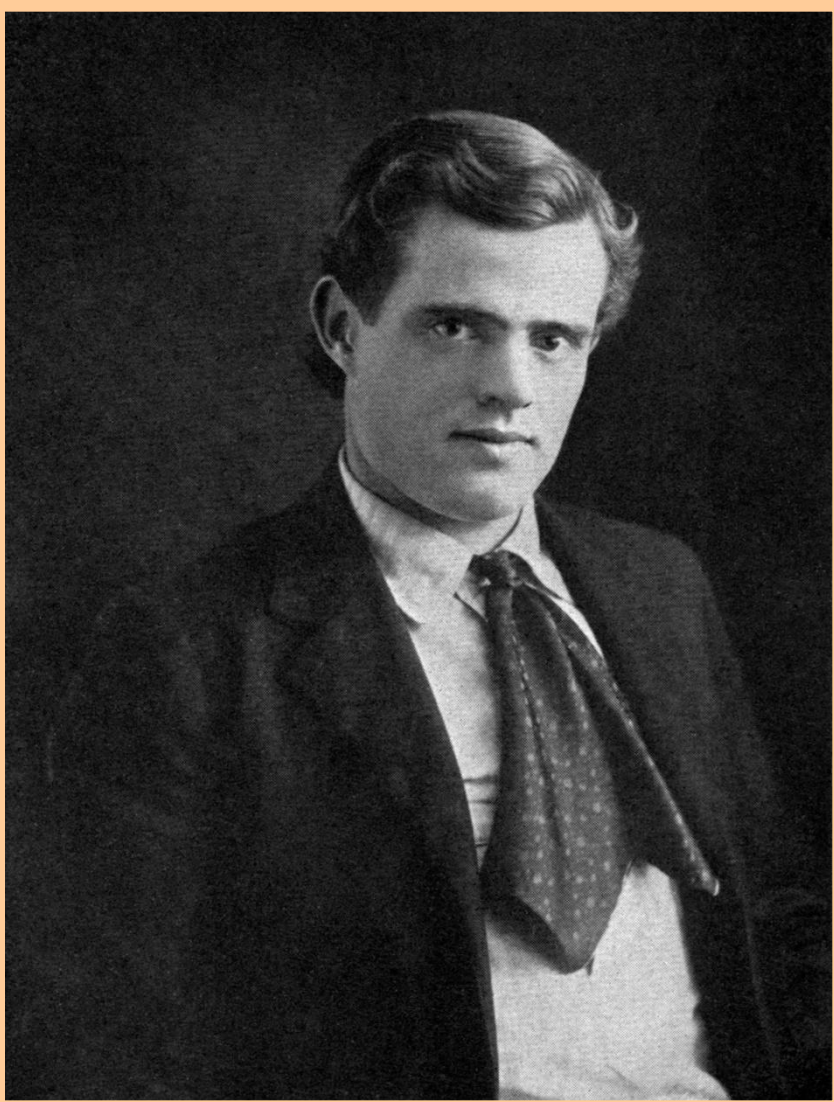
In 1893-1894 a great slump began and the unemployment increased.



# 1896 – 1897. The Gold Rush.







# Jack London

**1876 - 1916**

# San Francisco

## Childhood

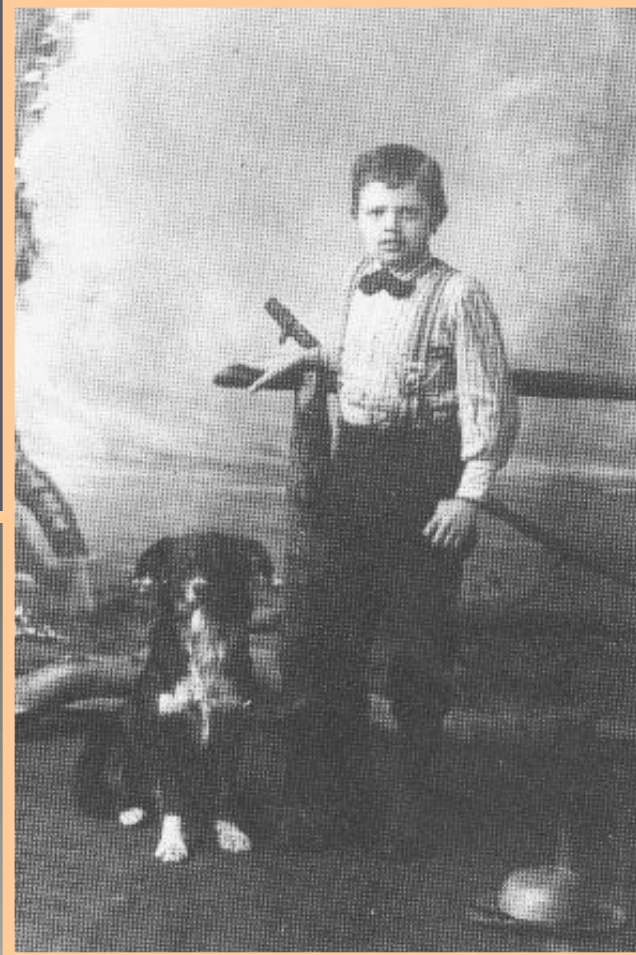


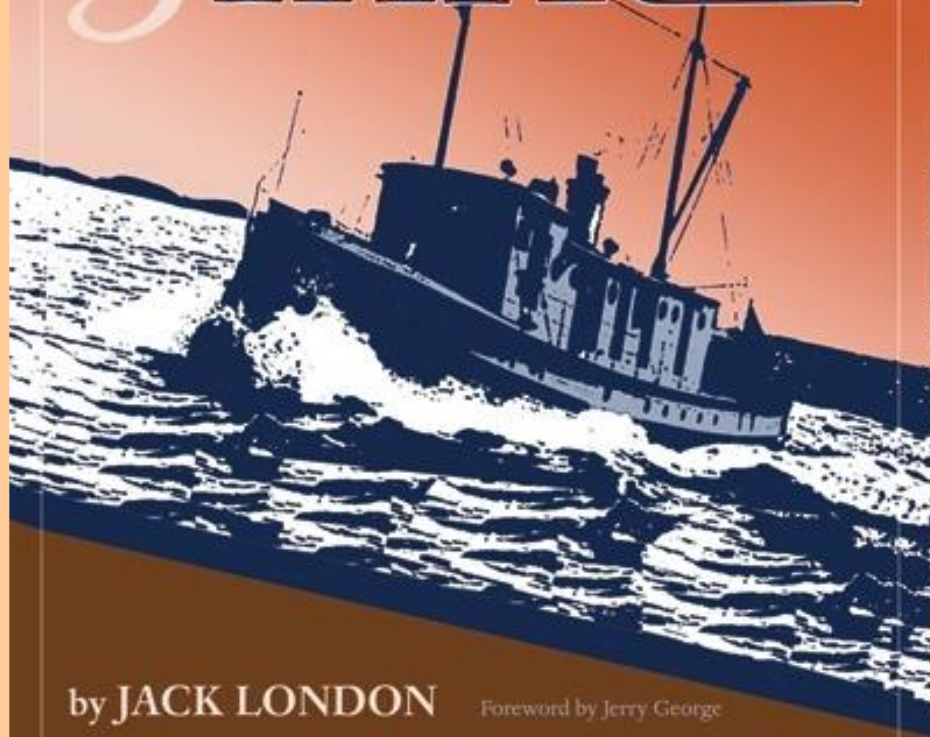


Photo # KN-571 USS Kearsarge, by Clary Ray



A CALIFORNIA LEGACY BOOK

# TALES OF THE FISH PATROL



by JACK LONDON

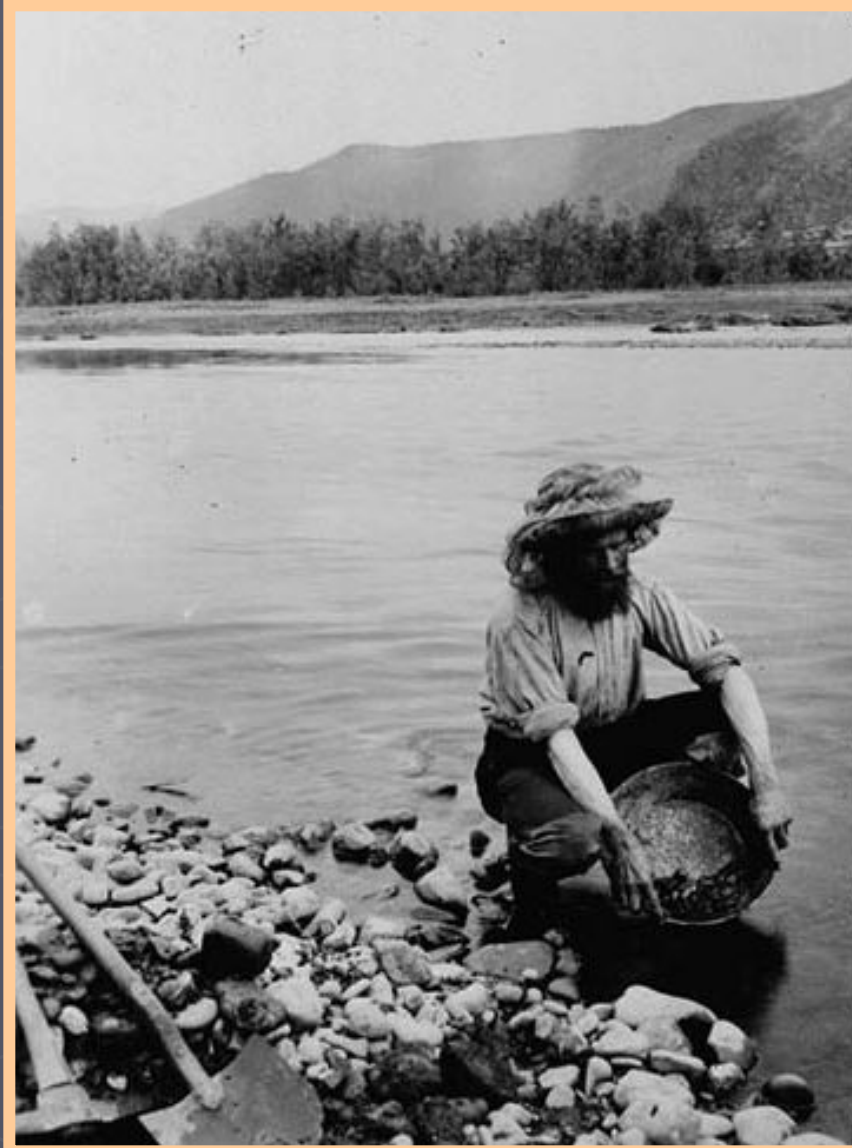
Foreword by Jerry George

# Berkeley, the University of California. 20 years old.



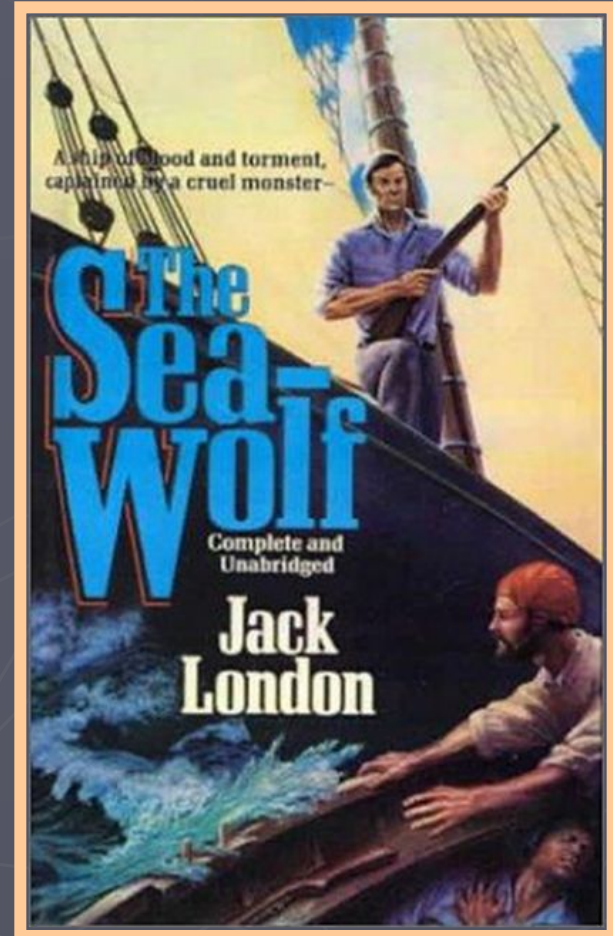


# The Gold Rush. The Klondike region.



# No gold, but a pile of wonderful stories.

- The Sea-Wolf
- The Call of the Wild
- White Fang
- The Son of the Wolf
- Burning Daylight
- The Game

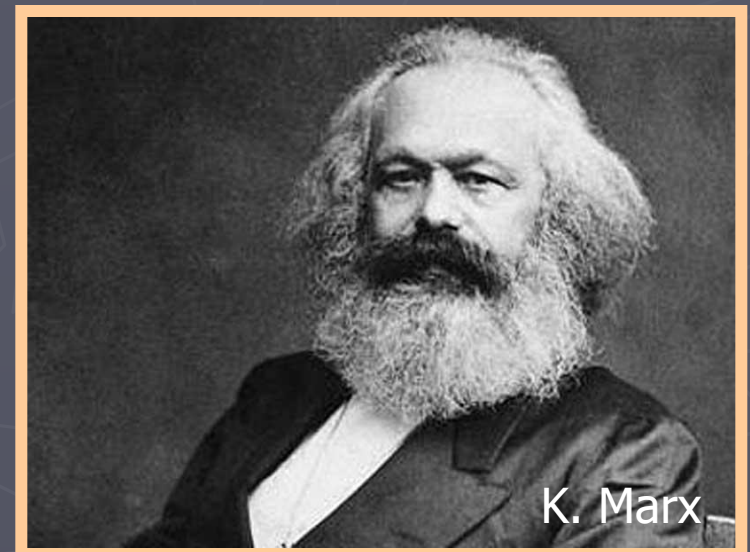
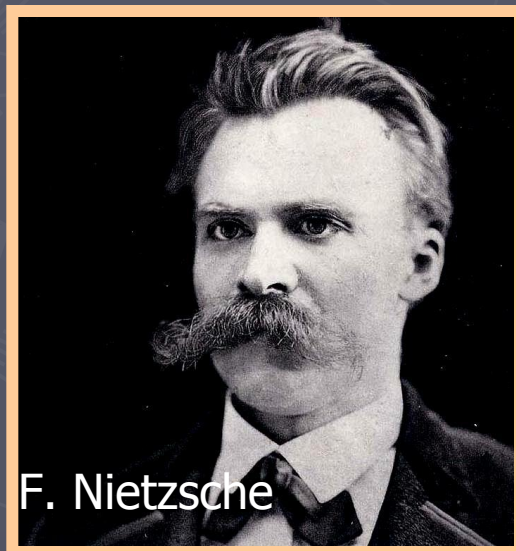
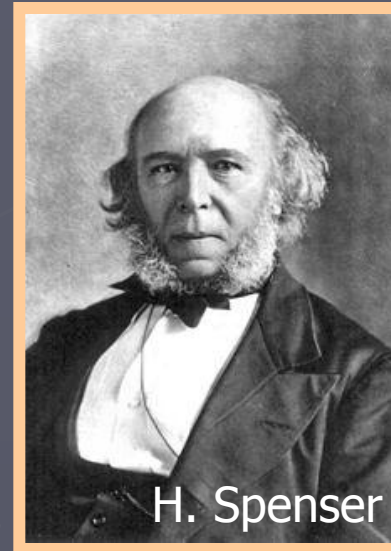
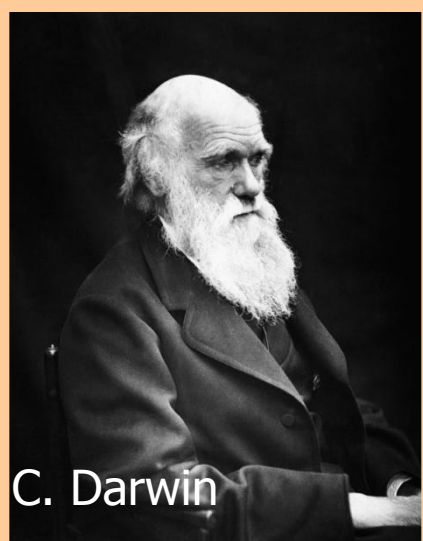


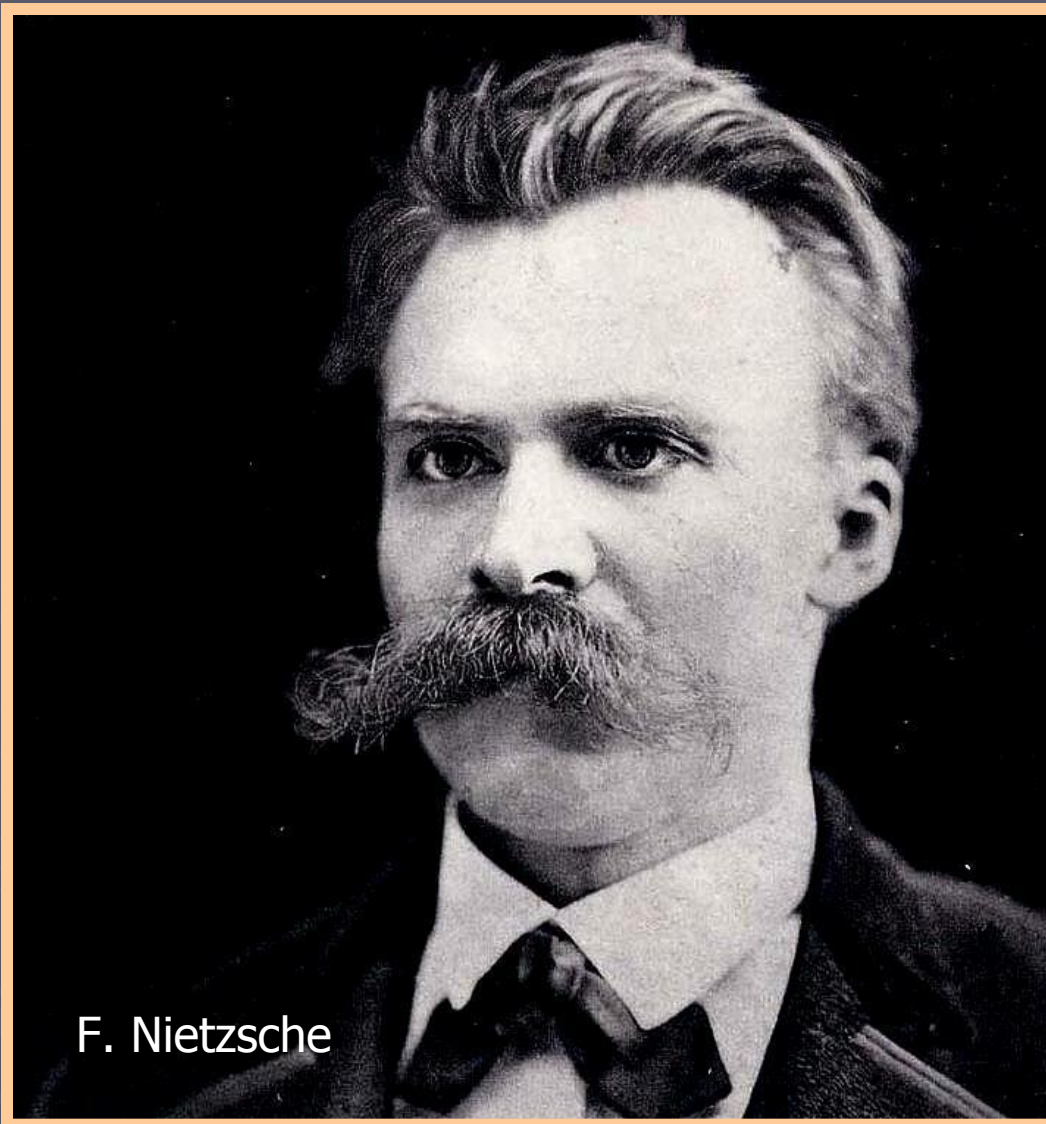
# The march of the unemployed, 1894.





# New social and scientific ideas





F. Nietzsche

Nietzsche  
expounded his  
theory of the  
“beyond - man” or  
“superman”

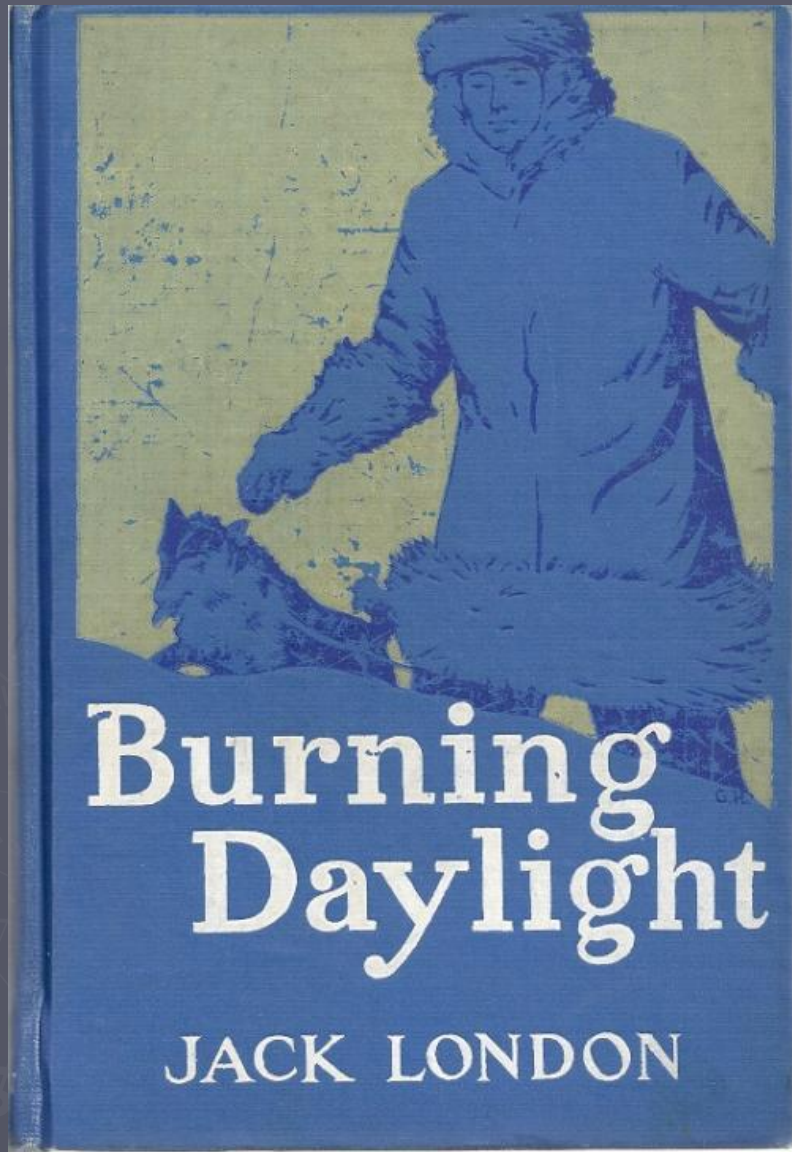
# Martin Eden



“One of my motifs, in this book, was an attack on individualism.”

J. London

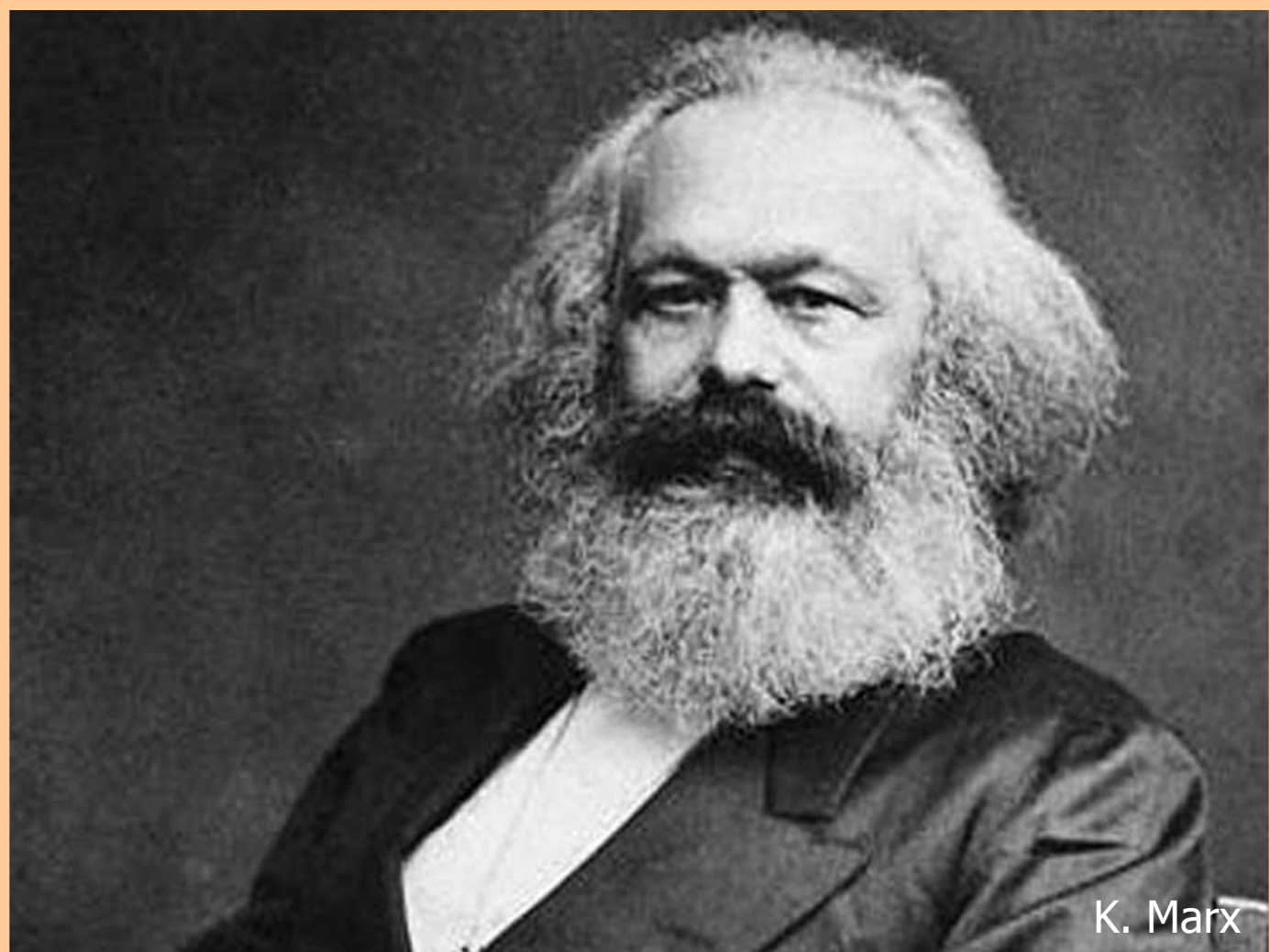




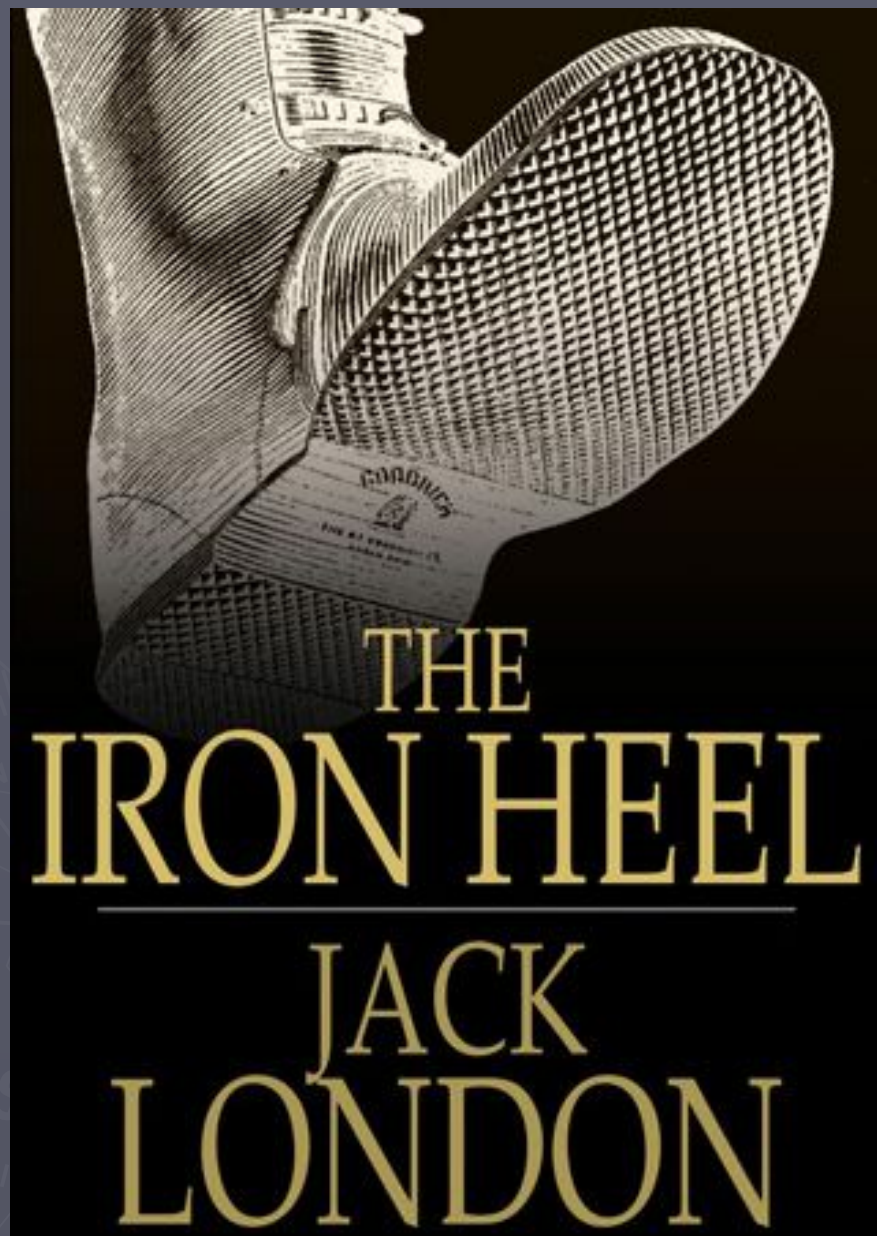
“Read my *Burning Daylight*, in which I show a successful superman who at the end of his triumph and career throws his thirty million dollars to the winds in order to win a greater thing, namely love.”

J.London

Marx's influence on London is most apparent in his collection of essays *The War of Classes* (1905)



K. Marx



London's desire for a socialist revolution came to frustration in *The Iron Heel* (1908)



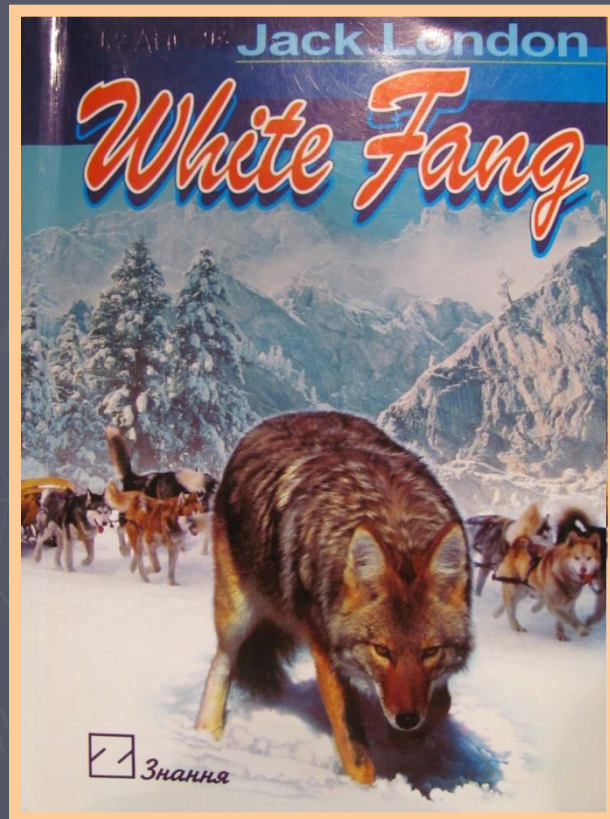
# “Burning Daylight”



“He was a man’s man primarily, and the instinct in him to play the game of life was strong”.

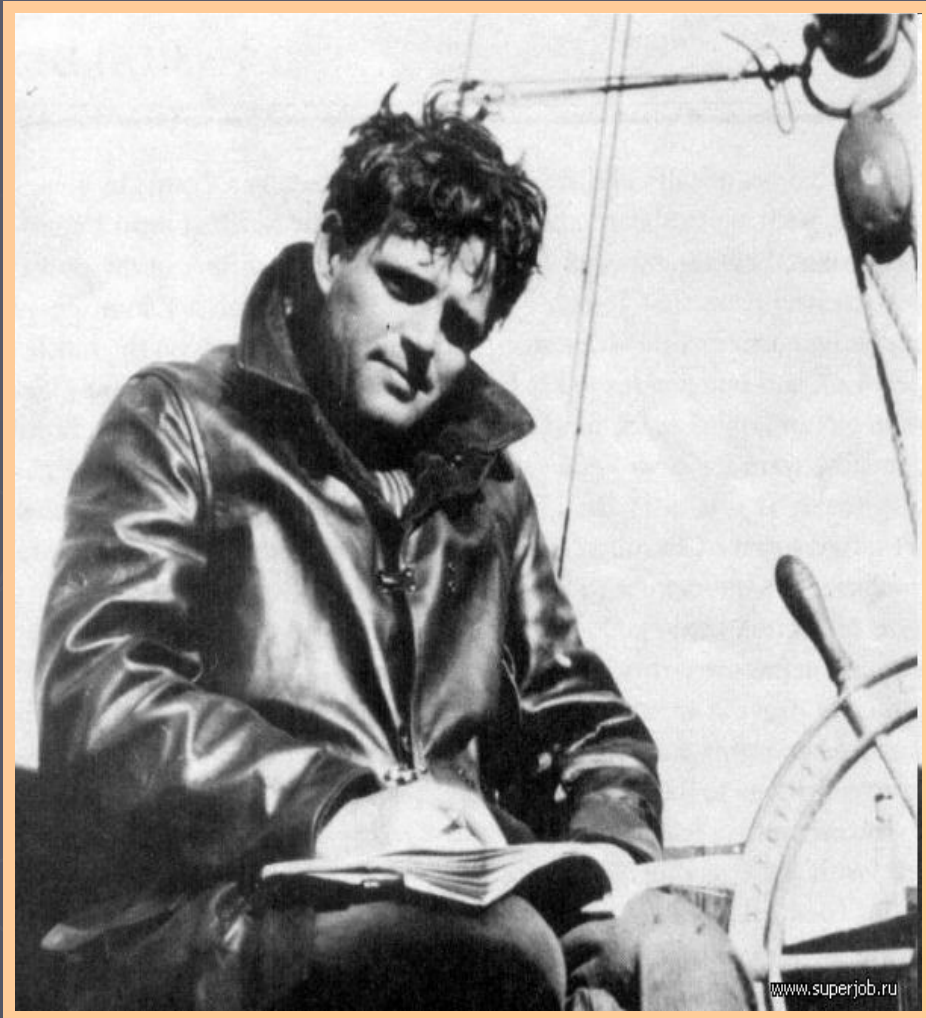
(Jack London “Burning Daylight”)

“Yet his dominant nature asserted itself, and he had first to thrash other dogs into an acknowledgment of his superiority and leadership.”  
(Jack London “White Fang”)



"I would rather be ashes than dust! I would rather be a superb meteor, every atom of me in magnificent glow, than a sleepy and permanent plant. The proper function of man is to live, not to exist. I shall use my time."

(Jack London)





# Sources

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- “White Fang” – Moscow, Progress Publishers, 1976
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