

Cotton's Weekly

A. W. MANCE, Editor and Manager

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TORONTO SOCIALISTS NOMINATE CANDIDATES AND OPEN THEIR ELECTION CAMPAIGN

Pointed And Logical Manifesto Issued To The Working Class Voters. Every Toronto Socialist Expected To Be On The Job From Now Until The Ballots Are Counted, Victory In Sight.

Wage Workers of Toronto—rushing municipal election will be asked to consider the problems which confront the city, and your vote will be counted by many gentlemen who are not your friends. They will vote or refrain from voting for candidates because of their regard to the salary they take or the salary they are offered as a wage worker, or because of the salary of a "business man" or a "politician," but from the standpoint of a man who, through force of circumstances must at times tramp from factory to factory seeking employment.

We have an unemployment problem? Because—THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY AND THE MACHINERY NECESSARY TO UTILIZE AND DISTRIBUTE THEM ARE OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY A MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE, WHO CAN BY VIRTUE OF THAT OWNERSHIP DICTATE WHEN, HOW, AND TO WHAT PURPOSE THESE THINGS SHALL BE UTILIZED BY THE MAJORITY, WHO OWN NOTHING BUT THEIR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL ABILITY TO WORK.

Less Than Fifty Men Control.

As to how this division of society into owners and non-owners came about we have not the space to deal with here. Suffice to say, the owners (as a class) do not gain possession through exercising the virtues of industry, frugality and strict honesty, nor did the dispossessed (as a class) become such because of their intemperance, prodigality or laziness. (Less than fifty men control more than one third of Canada's wealth, as expressed in railways, factories, banks and natural resources.)

To live the dispossessed class (the wage workers) have no option but to beg permission from the owning class (the capitalist class) to work, to have access to the means of producing these things essential to life. This permission is granted on terms largely dictated by the capitalist class. The terms are, that the entire product of the workers shall be turned to those who own the means of production, and no matter how productive labor may be, all the laborers shall receive of their product just sufficient to subsist on, and by practicing frugality, to reproduce their class to supply their place on the labor market.

Why Many Must Ask Charity.

This surplus product, which remains in the hands of the owning class (after the workers have received their share in the form of wages) must be disposed of by the owners. The shareholders of a steel or woolen trust cannot consume all the steel or woolsens as such. These things must be sold, that is, ex-

changed for gold, or money with which our shareholders can purchase an innumerable variety of necessities and luxuries. This gives rise to a demand for markets. When none can be found, the machinery of production stands idle; the natural resources untouched, and the workers are thrown into the streets where they starve, or live on charity or their meagre savings until this accumulated product is marketed, or, as is often the case, destroyed.

Cause of "Business Depression."

This is the cause of "business depression" and "stringency" in the money market. Though the earth is teeming with abundance, though thousands of tons of machinery, necessary in utilizing that abundance, be standing idle, and thousands of workers vainly seeking work that they may live, THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO WORK UNTIL THE OWNING CLASS CAN SELL THE SURPLUS PRODUCT AT A PROFIT. IN THE MIDST OF PLENTY THE WORKING CLASS MUST SUFFER PRIVATION. The warehouses are crammed with food and clothing, houses stand untenanted, while the workers are without food and clothing, and crowded into slums, because—THEY DO NOT RECEIVE, AND NEVER CAN RECEIVE, IN THE FORM OF WAGES, SUFFICIENT TO BUY BACK WHAT THEY HAVE PRODUCED.

The introduction of machinery which can be operated by women and children, throws men out of work and reduces wages to the bare subsistence level. The husband and father is displaced to make room for wife and child, whose labor power can be bought cheaper. This labor, human energy, is made a commodity, a thing to be trafficked in like all other merchandise, and its price governed by the same laws which govern merchandise: The cost of production, modified by supply and demand. If a man can produce his everyday energy on a hunk of bread and an onion, and sleep ten to a room, HE WILL RECEIVE THE VALUE OF THESE THINGS IN WAGES, AND HIS LABOR POWER WILL BE BOUGHT, (or, in everyday language), HE WILL BE GIV-

ING THE JOB IN PREFERENCE TO THE MAN WHO DEMANDS A HIGHER PRICE, A BETTER STANDARD OF LIVING FOR THE SAME QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF LABOR.

There can be little betterment of the condition of the workers (as a class) under the present industrial system. Cheapening of food, clothing, etc., will not solve the problem. Wages, because of their very nature, THE PRICE OF THE COMMODITY, LABOR POWER, can never rise much above the bare cost of the food, clothing, and shelter necessary to keep the laborer in efficient working condition, and competition for jobs, especially in the less skilled trades, will ultimately force wages down to the new level of the cost, or price of living.

Why Interests Conflict.

As buyers and sellers of labor power the workers and the capitalists have conflicting interests. The buyers seek to buy cheap, the sellers to sell dear. The interests of these two classes can never be reconciled while this relationship lasts. From this one fact arises the great labor problem, with its strikes, lockouts, and attendant misery. It is also the root of a vast percentage of our social evils.

What must the workers do to better themselves? Can the government not pass laws in their interests? NO—THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT, AND WILL NOT PASS ANY LAWS THAT WOULD REALLY BETTER THE WORKERS UNLESS SUCH LAWS WILL NOT HURT THE INTERESTS OF THE CAPITALIST CLASS. And any measures that would really benefit the workers (apart from public health laws) must hurt the monied interests of the capitalists. The members of the government belong to the capitalist class, or are nominated by that class. The workers merely vote for, but never nominate the members of the government.

Therefore, the workers must nominate, and elect members of their own class (or men pledged to serve their class) to the various legislative, or law-making assemblies, to enact laws in their interests alone, REGARD-

LESS OF THE INTERESTS OF CAPITAL OR "BIG BUSINESS." REMEMBER—THIS IS PRECISELY WHAT ALL CAPITALIST GOVERNMENTS DO—ENACT LAWS IN THE INTERESTS OF THEIR OWN CLASS, REGARDLESS OF THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKERS—THE MASS OF THE PEOPLE.

The Powers of Government.

They must continue doing this until they have an overwhelming majority in the governmental bodies. When this is attained, they can use the powers of government, the state machinery, to restore back to the people the natural resources of the country, and the machinery of production and distribution. These things, instead of being owned, and despotically controlled by a small class in society, and operated to produce for the profit of that class, will be collectively owned, and democratically controlled, and operated to produce for the use and service of ALL THE PEOPLE. THEN ALL WHO ARE WILLING TO WORK SHALL HAVE FREE ACCESS TO THE MEANS OF WORK, THE MEANS WHEREBY WE LIVE, AND RECEIVE, NOT WAGES, BUT THE VALUE OF ALL THEY PRODUCE, OR THE SOCIAL VALUE OF THEIR SERVICES TO SOCIETY.

This transformation will bring about an industrial system wherein human life will not be trafficked in, bought and sold like merchandise, and wherein all class antagonisms, arising from conflicting class interests will disappear, for then, the interests of the individual will only be furthered in the furtherance of the interests of the community.

THE FOREGOING IS A BRIEF STATEMENT OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF CANADA.

Issued by the Executive Committee of the Toronto Central Committee, S.D.P.

POLICY OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES IF ELECTED TO OFFICE.

Though realizing that the problem of unemployment, and other social evils can never be solved while the present industrial system lasts, and

that no amount of social reform will permanently better the economic condition of the workers (as a class) the SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC candidates, if elected to office, will nevertheless, resist every encroachment of the capitalist class upon such rights as the workers now have, and strenuously fight for further concessions, no matter how small, from a material standpoint, knowing that the moral value (to the workers) of success in such struggles is incalculable. It makes them self-reliant, gives them confidence in their own strength, which they only realize through the action of their comrades in office, that the members of the working class possess that directive, constructive, and administrative ability of which the capitalist class and its statesmen pretend to have the exclusive monopoly. In substantiation of this, we ask you to study the record of the work done on behalf of the working class by ONE REPRESENTATIVE in the Toronto Municipal Council, CONTROLLER JAS. SIMPSON.

To advance the welfare of the working class, is to advance the true welfare of all humanity. An society is based upon LABOR, LABOR was, in the beginning, and still is, THE SOURCE OF ALL WEALTH AND CULTURE.

The great appeal great to us because we are on our knees! Let us Rise!—DesMoulin.

A STRANGE MEETING.

"A few years ago I was a delegate for the I. L. P. at the International Congress at Stuttgart, and stayed at the house of a German named Hans Woesscheide. After the battle of the Marne I was with a force pursuing the Germans, and one day engaged in bayonet fighting with a German cavalryman. Looking at him closer I recognized my host of happier days.

"He recognized me, and we hadn't the heart to fight further. He saved the situation by surrendering, and has been sent to England with a batch of prisoners."—Corporal S. Heyhurst, Shropshire Light Infantry, at Cheltenham.

UNLAWFUL

To say that something is unlawful is not necessarily to say that it is wrong, but merely that it is contrary to the opinions of some modern, mediaeval or ancient lawmaking power. In order to discover whether an unlawful thing is also a wrong thing, we must analyze both it and the law it contravenes, in the light of common sense, modern desires and present conditions. Good old laws become bad as the conditions which demand them disappear. The reputation of lawmakers rests upon their ability to make good laws, and the number of good laws is never large enough to make such reputations any too secure. When one mingles with lawmakers, moreover, and listens to their hollow-sounding oratory, one marvels how they can be right as often as they are. When lawmakers become so feeble and so out of harmony with their time that only a tiny minority of their laws are right, thus giving righteousness to a large majority of unlawful acts, revolution ensues, during which a set of lawmakers is installed. —O. Jones.

When the premises of a firm in Holland was raided for furnishing cocoa to the combatant Germans, many barrels of sand were found which were used to adulterate the cocoa. Capitalism, true to its nature, tricks the food out of the mouths even of the men it arms for death.

Capitalism means war, lust, death.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

After January 1st, 1915, the subscription price of Cotton's Weekly will be 50 cents a year, or 25 cents for six months. All persons holding the 40 weeks for 25 cents subscription cards are requested to dispose of them by that date, as after January 1st they will only be honored for six months' subscription.

STIRRING APPEAL OF SOCIALISM

The following are a few choice suggestions from an article by Ailan Pearson in Pearson's Magazine. The title of the article is "War and Socialism."

The human race has within it possibilities altogether too splendid to be wasted in the wars and woes of capitalism. We ask you to come into counsel with us. We ask you to come with an open mind. We ask you to bristle with interrogation points as we ourselves bristle with interrogation points. We are eager to defend and explain.

We are in this war to stay—every one of us—and we are going to stay until the undertaker puts us away. In our fight against needless poverty and the capitalist power that makes it, we feel that we are engaged in as holy an undertaking as ever called men to action.

You tell us that the people of the United States, acting through their government, cannot feed, clothe and house themselves. We frankly say we do not believe you. By the power of our press and the men in our trenches we are going to drive you from your position. We are strong in the sense that we have right on our side, and the needs of humanity on our side. We will not be denied. By constant reiteration, by constant agitation, we will yet make the reasonableness of our demands so apparent that no well-disposed man or woman will think of challenging us!

In a little while, at longest, you will be dead. The gentle rain at night will patter down upon your earthen roof and the morning sun will seek you out in vain. In a little while nothing that you have done will remain to show that you ever lived.

Before that time comes do something for humanity. Make posterity your debtor by helping to bring about a better civilization.

THE PROFIT SYSTEM

How dear to our hearts is the system of profit.

As waste and destruction presents it to view:

The cold-blooded scheming, the misery of it.

And every dark deed that its infamy knew.

The wide-spreading need and the crimes fostered by it.

The bribes and the lies that our character kill.

The laws that are made to forever supply it.

The baiting of Labor, our coffers to fill.

The old profit system, the mammon ruled system.

The death dealing system that manhood will kill.

How dearly we love the commercial pressure.

The science of grinding out profit and gold.

From breadlines, supported with exquisite pleasure.

And sweatshops where workingmen's children are sold.

The traffic in lives that are sacrificed by it.

The teaching of children our brothers to kill.

The court of the robbers, the jail that is nigh it.

The whiteslave's trade that is flourishing still.

Our old profit system, our mammon ruled system.

Our death dealing system, that manhood will kill.

How proudly we point to our great institutions.

Erected to cover corruption and greed;

ers will kill,

To slum and asylum, to poorhouse and prison,

And even to the bar-room, its poison and swill.

To our profit system, our mammon ruled system.

Our death-dealing system that manhood will kill.

How sweet to our ears is the carnage of battle,

When the demons of hell are busy at war.

The shriek of the shrapnel, the musketry rattle,

The shout for the King, the Kaiser, and Czar.

The screams of the wounded, the groans of the dying,

The prayer to bless as we murder and kill.

The desolate homes, the wailing and crying.

Our hearts with vainglory and loyalty fill.

For our profit system, our mammon ruled system.

Our death-dealing system that manhood will kill.

How long shall it last, Lord, this system of darkness,

How long shall we worship the idol of greed?

How long shall the children be sold on the market,

How long shall a profit be made from our need?

How long shall we ask for thy blessing in warfare,

How long shall it pay us, our brothers to kill?

How long shall a brickpile yet sanctify murder?

How long shall we wait for the dawn of Thy will?

The brotherhood system, the justice-ruled system,

The life-giving system, proclaiming Thy will?

—John A. Lund, Barons, Alta.

SPEED THE REVOLUTION

By W. U. Cotton.

This is the last issue of Cotton's Weekly which will be issued from Cowansville.

The paper goes to the vicinity of Toronto. This is the logical step in the forward movement.

In 1908 the Socialist movement was young and a paper at Cowansville was eagerly welcomed. A Socialist paper anywhere in Canada would have been welcomed.

The paper grew in power. The movement grew in numbers and vigor. What was a forward step seven years ago has now become a fetter. The paper to grow must be moved.

Therefore the comrades have boldly set themselves the task, and will accomplish it. The movement will have a more powerful organ and will produce a stronger movement.

Never was the time for Socialist propaganda more fit. What we have been telling the people about the bankruptcy and horror of capitalism is now plain to all. Never was there such a war in the history of the world. Never were the horrors and sufferings greater. Capitalism is bankrupt and is hurling humanity to destruction. Only Socialism can save.

After the war capitalism cannot be reinstated. There will be large measures of state Socialism. Fewer workers and the vast work of reconstruction to be carried out will cause a marvellous increase in automatic machinery. The workers will be more powerful and individualism in capitalist exploitation will be largely curtailed. The state will be more powerful and the workers, even those now blind, will see the necessity for capturing the political power.

The old capitalist arguments are dead. The system is in its last desperate struggle. The new era is coming in—in an ocean of blood. The devil of capitalism is departing; the body politic has fiercely torn the body.

The healing power of Socialism is now the only hope. Speed the revolution.

Now that they have the federal reserve web ready the cotton market has been reopened. The farmers are to be the victims, as usual.—Appeal to Reason.

Important Notice!

The next issue of Cotton's Weekly will be published from Leaside, Ont. For full information see article on editorial page.

In the future address all mail intended for Cotton's Weekly or the Co-operative Publishing Co. to 790 Broadview Avenue, Toronto.

Job Printing

Send your job printing to Cotton's Co-operative Publishing Company, 790 Broadview Avenue, Toronto.

In the future we will be prepared to give you first-class work at reasonable prices. Use this label on all work when desired.

You do not hear any capitalist apologists now declaring that Socialism is based on hate.

The revolutionary war that the capitalists raised as a hobgoblin to frighten the workers with is an nothing to the real war the capitalists hurl the workers into.

Britain wants trade. Germany wants trade. Both want trade for the sake of the products of the workers. So the capitalists set the workers killing each other in order that the workers of the country that wins may produce goods for the master class to sell in a bigger market.

Rent, interest and profit RIP the working class to pieces in war. We want to bury Rent, interest and profit and plant the epitaph: "Requiescat In Pace" over the grave.

If the cannon, battleships, maxims, lyddite and war material had not been made, but the energy spent in creating these instruments of destruction had been spent for giving the people larger and fuller life, war would not have come, but the world would have blossomed with happiness like a flower garden with flowers.

Capitalism cannot feed hungry children, but it can feed millions of strong men who are bent on killing men. What a senseless system.

The Canadian contingent had to have new shoes in England. The profit system shoes its men trained to kill with poor footwear.