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W. U. COTTON, Editor

This is No. 86

# Cotton's Weekly

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J. H. A. WEBB, BUSINESS MANAGER

## MACHINERY OF PRODUCTION

During the last few years the Monetary Times estimates that Canada has borrowed Six Hundred Million Dollars from Great Britain. This is an enormous sum of money for a young country to borrow from the financiers of another. This borrowing, however, throws a strong light upon the maintenance of the market.

A number of years ago the Socialists of Europe declared that the capitalist system would have fallen before now because of the failure of the capitalist markets compared with the productivity of the machinery. They neglected to take into consideration the preparation of the newer countries for capitalist production.

Capitalism depends upon the giant machine for its existence. When tools are primitive and individual then capitalism cannot develop because each worker can provide himself with his own tools. The only instrument of production which can be cornered is the land itself, and upon the control of the land the feudal system was reared.

The giant machine, the huge printing press, the steam engine, the stamping mill, the blast furnace, these could not be owned by the individual workers and so fell into the power of the capitalist who uses them to exploit the peasant.

But feudalism fell because of its inherent defects and capitalism is bound to fall because of the inability of the capitalist to find a market for his goods.

The market in Europe would have fallen were it not for the demand of newer countries for the giant machines of production.

Canada is building railways and mills and factories. India is putting up cotton mills. South Africa is pushing her railways north and and bridging mighty rivers. China is building railways. Japan is building ship yards. The non-capitalist countries are building the machinery for production along capitalist lines. The market of Europe and America has been sustained not by the sale of goods for consumption, but by the sale of the machinery of production to countries preparing themselves for capitalist exploitation.

The downfall of capitalism has been stayed off. The downfall, however, may be all the more spectacular when it does come. When Canada, Australia, Africa, India, China, Persia, Turkey, are seeking an export market; when the capitalists of every country under the sun are seeking to sell to other countries without buying in return, then the capitalist system is bound to fall. Instead of Great Britain, France and Germany adopting Socialism, the world at large will be forced to throw off the capitalist limitations. The workers of the world will unite to accomplish this end, and Chinamen, Hindoos and Caucasians will unite in labor's brotherhood to throw off the yoke of their common exploiters.

The Wright brothers have obtained an injunction against other parties being allowed to build aeroplanes along the pattern of the Wright machine in the United States. This is to protect themselves. Yet the advance of humanity is hindered by this injunction. There are hundreds of eager men investigating the principles of aerial flight and by the injunction a large part of the investigation is cut off. The Wright brothers machine was the result of past experiences carried just a little bit farther. The Wright brothers, no doubt, would like to see all men share in their discoveries and carry them further. But they live in a competitive world and must protect themselves. Under Socialism the good of one would be the good of all. Inventions would become the property of the people. The inventors would not have to hug their inventions to themselves for the sake of profit. Social labor would produce the means of life for all and individual discoveries would become the property of all.

The government of Canada is bonusing the Canadian Associated Press to the extent of twelve thousand dollars a year. This is the service which tells how Great Britain is just aching to become protectionist. This is the service which reports the court gossip about King Edward. The Canadian government bonuses those institutions which tickle the fancy of the capitalist exploiters.

The workers have the power. Let them use it.

Socialism stands for the abolition of rent, interest and profit.

Government of industry by the men who do the work will be realized under Socialism.

We have representative institutions in Canada which are far different from institutions of political democracy.

Parasites are unnecessary. The ballot of the workers can abolish the parasite capitalist class whenever the workers desire to use the ballot.

There are some workers who are so frightened of the liberty Socialism will bring them that they prefer to let the capitalists steal them blind.

The telegraph companies are now sending fifty words at night for the price of ten. The revolution of telegraph business is being pressed forward by fear of the telepost.

The combine has come to stay. Men cannot be forced back into competitive business methods. To fight the combine is useless. Let society press forward and democratize the combine, not suppress it.

Capitalism is a historical process of production arising out of a past mode and evolving into a future mode of production. Humanity will burst the bonds of capitalist limitations as capitalism burst the bonds imposed by feudalism.

The organization of the workers on the political field is a necessary adjunct to their organization on the industrial field. Yet many workers do not realize this. Those who would scorn to scab in the shop are proud of scabbing at the polls.

Why should one set of men do the work and another set of men do nothing and yet draw the greater part of the revenues for the work done? The capitalist draws the revenues without work. Socialism will prevent the capitalist getting his unearned income.

We have political democracy after a fashion, but we have not industrial democracy. Socialism will give a man a vote on his job. He will be able to have a voice in the management of the place in which he works. Industrial politics will mean something to the worker then, when he can see that his vote directly affects himself in the work he does.

The Province of Quebec is establishing a series of provincial labor bureaus and is bringing the private labor bureaus under control of the provincial authorities. Every advance in the mode of capitalist production and organization of industry brings the Socialist state that much nearer.

Five hundred miners are entombed in a mine in Wales. Wales is the country where the mine owners want to cut the pay of the miners because of the reduced hours of work enacted by the British Parliament. The men take the risk of death for small pay and the profits go to the mineowners who do no work and take no risk. This is a beautiful arrangement from the mine-owner's point of view. The men, however, are rapidly turning Socialists.

There are two thousand five hundred members of the Manufacturers' Association and there are four hundred thousand factory laborers. Why is it that the two thousand five hundred possess more influence with Laurier and his gang than the four hundred thousand? Because the manufacturers unite on the political field and bamboozle the workers into voting for the puppets of the Manufacturers' Association. When the four hundred thousand unite on the political field the power of the Manufacturers' Association will be broken.

Two grain elevator companies have been fined five thousand dollars for making false statements to the government agents as to the grain contents thereof and as to the grade of wheat. Under capitalism where the food of the people is bought and sold for profit, there is great temptation to deceive. Under Socialism, when food will be produced for use and not for profit, there will be no temptation to make wrong statements as to the quality of the food produced, as no one will benefit by such statements.

## SPREAD LITERATURE

How can you expect men to think along Socialist lines unless you put them in the way of finding out what Socialism stands for? How do you expect laboring men to obtain a desire for industrial democracy unless you show them what industrial democracy means? There are capitalist newspapers and capitalist politicians and capitalist exponents all seeking to persuade the men who work, and carry the capitalists on their backs, that capitalism is necessary, righteous and just. The only way to overcome the persuasion of capitalism is by Socialist persuasion either by the written or spoken word.

The Socialists of Milwaukee won out by systematic distribution of Socialist pamphlets and papers for several years. The prejudice against Socialism in the minds of many men was broken down and the Socialists were triumphantly returned. The Milwaukee Socialists discouraged street speaking, and depended on the written word and on hall lectures.

There are seven million people in Canada and only two Socialist papers to turn them from the evil of their capitalist thoughts. The Western Clarion, published at Vancouver, B. C., owned and controlled by the Socialist Party of Canada, is one. Cotton's Weekly is the other. These two papers, one in the east and the other in the west, are confronted with the opportunities of making Canada a Socialist stronghold.

The spoken word in Socialist propaganda is also necessary, but the printed word can go where the spoken word cannot reach. It can go to the lonely farm house. It can reach the Sunday breakfast table of the worker. It can persuade a man in the quiet moments of the evening.

If you desire to see Socialism spread, then spread the Socialist papers. Get them into new homes. By so doing you will get new workers for Socialism. The wider Socialism is spread the more sub-hustlers are gained for the Socialist papers.

Canada is a sparsely settled country. Her cities are hundreds of miles apart. Railway fare is expensive. But the capitalist exploiters have established a postal system for the purpose of cheaply spreading their literature and twisting the brains of the workers to support their own exploiters. Let the Socialists utilize the postal system established by the capitalists. Let them take advantage of the machinery established by the capitalists for the exploitation of the workers.

In Milwaukee twelve hundred workers covered the city every Sunday morning with Socialist literature. In Canada the postal system will carry the Socialist papers to the doors of the electors.

There are three things to do—agitate, educate, organize. The Socialist press is a powerful factor in carrying forward these three activities. By the spread of Socialist literature Socialism itself will grow. Get busy and get your neighbors to subscribe to the socialist publications of Canada. Every new reader of Socialist papers means a new mind turned from the old ideas to grow and broaden on the new.

There are seventeen thousand commercial travellers in Canada. These cost more than two thousand dollars a year each. Over forty million dollars every year is spent for the one item of commercial travellers. On one business man in one small village carrying on the retail business of one line of goods, twenty-two travellers call. Each represents a different firm. The departmental stores do not have to stand this expense. There are many other expenses which the departmental stores do not have to undergo. They are more economical and can undersell the little village merchant. The finish of the village merchant is near. The retailing of goods will be organized and trusted along with the manufacturing thereof. The little bourgeois retailer will find his business abolished and then economic determinism will teach him to raise his voice in wailing and to declare that the department stores are robbers. Will the little merchants have brains enough to see that they are dead and the only hope for them is the coming of Socialism?

The Dominion government will spend over a million dollars this year in drawing immigrants to Canada. The more people come the greater will be the number for the capitalists to exploit.

## ORGANIZATION

There are three things necessary for the propagation of the principles of Socialism and the raising of the working class to political power. These three things are Agitation, Education, Organization. Agitation awakens the worker to a realization of the woes and follies and injustices of the capitalist system. Education fills the minds of the workers with a knowledge of scientific Socialism and gives them the power to argue intelligently, to know what they want and to go after it. Organization prepares the machinery for the capturing of the political power.

In Canada there is still great need of agitation. There are many workers who actually believe in the capitalist system. They think their boss is a nice man who is doing all he can for them. They think that dividends are necessary and that the capitalists are useful beings. They have the idea that our Canadian courts are for giving the workers just laws and do not realize that our laws are loaded against labor. For such men the tearing down of the shams behind which capitalism hides itself is necessary. The rottenness of capitalism must be exposed.

There are workers who have awakened to the miseries caused by capitalism, but who do not see the Socialist tendencies and the Socialist remedy. These men need education. They need to read pamphlets and then deeper books. The educative side of Socialism is their need. A Socialist library is what they want.

But for the final triumph of Socialism on the political field an effective organization is what is wanted. The skeleton of this organization lies stretched from Atlantic to Pacific in the organization of the Socialist Party of Canada. It is an organization for the capturing of the political power in the interests of Socialism and the abolishing of wage slavery. It is also an organization for Agitation and Education. It combines the three.

Now let the Socialists of Canada who are not busy, get busy. Remember, the Socialists are out to capture the political power in municipal affairs, provincial affairs and Dominion affairs.

Every reader of Cotton's Weekly can get to work figuring out how he along with his fellow-Socialists, can capture his village, town, township, city ward, provincial electoral district or Dominion constituency.

We are out to capture the political power. We want to capture that power, but we will not do it by sacrificing our Socialist principles. We are out to win with the Socialist flag flying.

How can we win? Here comes in the question of organization. The old party machines have the faculty of organizing down fine. The machine men know their constituencies. They know how many votes there are in the county. They know almost how each man will vote before the votes are cast.

The organization of the old party machines cost money. They cost millions of dollars. The capitalists put up money for both sides. Then whether Laurier triumphs or Borden triumphs the capitalists are secure.

You have no capitalists backing you. They are plundering you and using the money to support the old party machines which allow them to continue their plunderings. You must depend on your own efforts. You and your fellow workers can swing the elections to the Socialist Party, because you have the votes. But you must organize.

What kind of organization are you supporting? How much do you know about your country or city? Do you know how many votes are in your county or city? Do you know what majority your Member of Parliament got? Do you know in what polls he got that majority? Have you thought up the arguments along Socialist lines which will turn the laugh on your capitalist M. P.? Have you met with your fellow workers and discussed plans, ways and means of capturing, not your province, but your own particular constituency, for Socialism?

Keep up your agitation. Keep up your educational propaganda. Keep up your Socialist organization. But study ways and means of making your own particular county a Socialist county. Find out how many votes there are in the country altogether. Go among your fellow workers and discover how many will vote for a Socialist candidate. Find out what Socialist among your comrades would be the most suitable

as a candidate. Get the people of your county thinking that a Socialist candidate will be run in the next election. Even if, at the last minute, you find you cannot raise the two hundred dollar deposit, and no candidate is run, never mind. Hope for better things next time.

Man is a political animal. Politics stir men's minds and make them think. Therefore get the men of your county to look upon the Socialist Party as a political party worth considering and reckoning with. Study your county. Get to know its voters and their prejudices. Get to know the majority you need and how many votes you can poll. You will find that the study of your own county for political purposes, the organization of yourself with your fellow Socialists to capture it, and the struggle for success at the polls, will bring Socialism rapidly to the front in the thoughts of the people of Canada. Get busy and organize your own county for a Socialist success at the polls.

Discontent with present conditions on the part of the workers means that present conditions will be done away with by the workers when that discontent becomes clarified and intelligently directed.

The Kentucky farmers have been convicted under the Sherman anti-trust law. Now the farmers and labor unionists can unite to fight the plute government. Economic determinism is driving the labor factions together.

W. S. Fielding has received over a hundred thousand dollars in pay during the fourteen years he has been cabinet minister. That was not enough and his friends have given him another hundred thousand to help him out. And the ordinary wage plug is supposed to live happy and save money on less than four hundred dollars a year.

W. S. Fielding has been given a present of a Hundred Thousand Dollars by his financial admirers. Why should they not give it to him? Is he not the finance minister of the Laurier cabinet, and has he not been feeding millions of government money to the financiers? Surely the financiers can afford to give Fielding a paltry hundred thousand?

C. Arnoldi, Assistant City Treasurer of Montreal, has refused to take an increase in salary of one hundred dollars. He declares that he gets this increase because two clerks under him have been cut fifty dollars a year each, and he does not wish to profit by the loss of others. Man-kind is not bad or selfish. But the capitalist system forces men to compete and to fight for business. When co-operation comes the actions of the Arnoldi's will be unnecessary. In a world of strife they are now looked upon as something unusual.

The New York Dock Commissioners have cut the pay roll of the New York docks over three hundred thousand dollars a year. This is applying business methods to the administration of civic affairs. Waste and inefficiency must go and the capitalist administration is doing its appointed work when it ruthlessly sacks the unnecessary laborers. Every step taken to put governmental institutions on an efficient basis makes those governmental institutions all the more important and powerful. The struggle for the control of the machinery of government will become all the more keen and the Socialists will win out because Socialism will be backed by the votes of the workers.

The retail merchants of Canada are trying to become incorporated under a charter from the Dominion. Some of the M. P.'s oppose the incorporation, alleging that such a corporation would be nothing but a vast combine. Whether the Members like it or not, combination is the order of the day. The aggregations of capital are growing greater and greater. But what makes the Retail Merchants Bill opposed is not the fact that it might result in a combine. It is opposed because the manufacturers do not want the little traders to have an organization which might put pressure on the manufacturers. There is a class struggle between the manufacturers and the retailers which will vanish when the retailers are put out of business by the manufacturers going into the mail order business.

## THE WORKERS CAN CONTROL

According to 1906 statistics, there were then three hundred and fifty-six thousand persons employed in the manufacturing establishments of Canada. As Canada has enormously developed during the interval, the wage workers in Canada will now number over four hundred thousand. There are about two thousand five hundred manufacturers in the Manufacturers' Association. There are over a hundred and fifty workers to every member of the Association. Yet the Manufacturers swing the politics of Canada. The workers get the heavy end of legislation.

Cannot the hundred and fifty out-vote the one? Cannot the workers, united into their own party, the Socialist Party of Canada, control the politics of the Dominion? Assuredly they can. Then why do they not do it?

Because their masters maintain two parties in the field to divide the votes of the workers and to make them think there is a political struggle taking place at Ottawa. The Liberal Party and the Conservative Party are the two wings of the capitalist system. The Conservative party leaders tell the workers how the Liberals are robbing the country and ask the workers to vote for the Conservatives to stop the robbery. The Liberal Party leaders tell the workers how much more the Conservatives would rob the country and ask the workers to vote for the Liberals. The workers therefore divide their votes and lose their power.

Both the Liberal and the Conservative party are owned by the capitalist exploiters. The members owned by the exploiters, are not all hypocrites. Many of them do not see how any other system of production could possibly exist and so support the present exploitation of the workers because they see nothing else to do.

The Socialist Party, however, does not talk about how the Liberals or the Conservatives are robbing the country. The Socialists show up how the Liberal and Conservative politicians support the system which robs the workers. The country or the people, which the old party leaders drag so often into their discussions, is an abstract idea which conveys little information to the labor-population of Canada. The people of Canada are composed of useful laborers and parasites. There are classing interests between the various divisions of Canada's population, and when the robbery of the country is paraded forth, the politicians are handling the question of robbery in a way which has no solid basis in logic.

The Socialist Party stands for the abolition of the robbery of the workers, no matter by whom committed. Both old parties stand for the robbery of the workers by the owners of the machinery of production. Ann the capitalist exploiters can rely upon both parties to protect the incomes of the parasites.

A significant incident has just occurred at Ottawa. Hon. Wm. Fielding has been the finance minister of Canada under the Liberals for fourteen years. Last week his admirers presented him with a gift of a Hundred and Fourteen Thousand Dollars. This sum was raised by private subscription and both Liberal and Conservative financiers contributed to it. Had their been any real question at issue between the two parties the Conservative moneyed men would not have subscribed to the fund for the support of the taciturn tariff maker.

Divided politically, the workers have no power. United politically, the workers can conquer and rule the politics of Canada. The Socialist party stands ready for the task of running Canada in the interest of the workers.

The railroad, steamboat, telephone, automobile and flying machine have torn down all geographical boundary lines. With the disappearance of natural boundary lines, political boundary lines separating nation from nation become absurd. Modern inventions have made national patriotism an artificial sentiment, to be cherished in the breasts of the ignorant because of their ignorance, and to be blatantly paraded forth by the capitalists for selfish ends.

The capitalists would feed the workers on their sympathy. What the workers want is for the capitalists to stop feeding themselves off what the workers produce.