

## AN EDITOR ASTRAY

Springhill, N. S.

Editor Cotton's Weekly,

I notice in the "News Sentinel" of Amherst the assertion that socialism is ridiculous in the extreme. I would like to ask the Editor of that paper if it is ridiculous to abolish crimes by removing the cause that tends to breed criminals, to change a system that compels men to crush or to be crushed. Is it ridiculous to remove the cause of prostitution and cruelty? Mr. Editor of the Sentinel, what is ridiculous is to assert that socialism may remove some of the causes that lead to drink, prostitution, etc., but that it will fall short of abolishing these evils unless the Kingdom of God is set up in the heart and mind of mankind at the same time. Have you, Mr. Editor, got the Kingdom of God set up in your heart? Are you not struggling from the first day of January to the thirty-first day of December to make money and sometimes to overwork yourself for it? Is not the dollar, from the fact that you cannot live without it, your most sacred idol under the present system? If so then you are a worshipper of mammon, and you have mammon's kingdom in your heart and you are struggling to get more of it all the time. The present rotten system is to blame for this, not you.

Did you ever see a man who is supposed to teach the maxims and theory of the man of Nazareth succeed in setting up the Kingdom of God in any man's heart? If so just let me know where. I have never found any of them here in Springhill nor yet in Amherst. Did you ever dream that God's Kingdom could be set up in any capitalist's heart? If it can be why have they not got it after nineteen hundred years of teaching? Why is there so much trouble in Springhill between the employer and the employee? Why was there so much slack time in Amherst? I will tell you why. In the first place, because capitalists are greedy, ambitious and luxurious. They have made the laws for themselves, or have had the laws made by their friends to protect their riches. These laws give them the power to compel the workers to overproduce, themselves getting but a bare living. Through that overproduction come slack times and then the workers starve because they have produced too much. The worker goes naked because he has produced too much cloth. The miner must freeze because he has produced too much coal. The shoemaker goes barefoot because he has produced too many shoes. It is strange but true that if a man cannot get more than a bare living when he overproduces, he cannot get the necessities of life when idleness is caused by overproduction. Then appear starvation, thievery, prostitution and crime. You say that poverty is a fertile cause in producing crime and prostitution. But you do not say what is the cause of poverty. I refrain from saying, Mr. Editor of the Sentinel, that this is an absurdity on your part. But I must say that it is ridiculous for a man like you to assert that the Kingdom of God can be set up in the heart of mankind under present conditions. If I am mistaken about capitalists prove it and I am willing to walk fifty miles barefooted to get a good look at a capitalist who has the Kingdom of God set up in his heart and is free from greediness, luxury, ambition and the devilish curse of everything. Mammon. If I am not mistaken, how ridiculous you make yourself by asserting that to make socialism a success it must go hand in hand with the regeneration of the individual.

How, Mr. Editor, can you conceive the idea of regenerating the individual by setting up the Kingdom of God in his heart? Surely you are not without historical knowledge. You must have read about the Holy Inquisition, torture chambers, massacre of St. Bartholomew, Alexander Borgia, Diego Deza, Adrian de Florencia, Innocent III and Constantine, the first Christian Emperor. Do you know anything of their methods in setting up God's Kingdom in the heart of mankind and the ways and means used to regenerate the individual? What a nice and sweet thing it was for mankind to receive the teachings of the Man of Nazareth, while burning at the stake. These regenerators of the individual, these preachers of thou shalt not kill, there is not one page of this history that is not red with the blood of humanity. They have set up, not God's but the Devil's kingdom in the heart of mankind. They degenerated the individual by keeping him in ignorance and slavery. And, Mr. Editor, you have the foolish ideas that these regenerators and

socialism must go hand in hand to make a success.

Socialism will free the mass. I say free because we workmen are slaves. We are free to work but we are not free to hold our jobs. Socialism alone will regenerate humanity. Socialists are the only true teachers of the maxims of the Man of Nazareth. Among political parties the Socialist Party is the only party that truly preaches that "thou shalt not kill," and is against war and militarism.

Listen, Mr. Editor, to what Spencer says about your regeneration, "Of God, who should be a hope, they have made a monster, always ready to devour his children."

Now, Mr. Editor, the next time you come out on socialism, for or against, kindly argue politically and scientifically, and according to knowledge.

JULES LAVENNE.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

To the Workers of the Dominion of Canada.

Ferid Pasha, Minister of the Interior Turkey, recently declared that trade unions are a hindrance to the economic development of Turkey. As a protest six thousand Turkish workers held a meeting in Constantinople to denounce the position taken by the Pasha.

Several New York banks will be made defendants in separate actions, which will be brought against them by the Ottoman government, for the recovery of certain sums of money deposited to the credit of Abdul Hamid, the deposed Turkish ruler. Abdul Hamid has more than \$50,000,000 deposited in his own name in German, French, English and American banks.

Fraternal organizations, building and loan associations operated exclusively for the mutual benefit of their members, labor organizations, or any corporations operated exclusively for religious, charitable, or educational purposes will be exempt from taxation provided in the recently adopted U. S. corporation tax. An amendment to the effect was adopted by the Senate, after considerable discussion pro and con.

Insisting that the Presbyterian Church is confronting a situation which means a disintegration of the present institution, a group of ministers of the New York Presbytery have inaugurated a movement of protest against the admission of the "higher criticism" of the Bible into the teachings of the church. The movement was brought about by the ordination of George Ashmore Fitch by the Presbytery despite a protest filed by the conservative ministers.

## U. S. A. NOTES

From Weekly Bulletin issued from National Headquarters of Socialist Party.

The Socialists of Virginia held a very successful State Convention on July 4th at Richmond, Alonzo H. Dennett of Ware Neck, being chosen as a candidate for Governor.

The new Social-Democratic members of the Milwaukee School Board, Meta L. Berger (wife of Victor L. Berger) and Frederic Heath, editor of the Social-Democratic Herald, took their seats last Wednesday. With one Social-Democrat holding over, and one re-elected, this makes four Socialist school directors in Milwaukee. Mrs. Berger has the high honor of being the first Socialist woman official in America.

Secretary of Navy Myers has been for sometime prosecuting an inquiry as to the spread of Socialism among the navy force and gathering facts as to the amount of Socialist literature being circulated in that quarter. Here is an item that should engage his attention: The Socialists of Maine held a State Field Day at Oakland Park, Rockland, on July 5th. The Board of Trade of Rockland had requested and secured from the Navy Department the visit of three battle ships for a counter-attraction. The blue jackets having shore leave to attend the Board of Trade celebration, virtually boycotted it and swarmed to the Socialist picnic, took part in the games and dances and listened with interest to the oratory by Comrades John W. Brown, National Organizer, Grace V. Silver and Robert V. Hunter, member of the National Committee for Maine. They took back to their ships great quantities of literature, some of which was given to them free and some of which they purchased. Altogether the middies were responsible for the financial success of the Socialist picnic and the state treasury has been increased by a big sum.

## TALE OF A TOUR

SEVENTH INSTALLMENT

Since last writing meetings have been held at Sydney, Sydney Mines and Caledonia. Sydney and Sydney Mines always provide good crowds. At Sydney I met Comrade Matthews, late of Bellevue, Alberta, with a card paid up three months in advance. An enthusiastic comrade, he has come just when he is wanted and is an acquisition to Sydney Local.

I am leaving for the Western part of the province on Friday the 16th July.

The big strike in the mines of the Dominion Coal Company has started. The majority of the miners are in a state of fatuous confidence as to their success and are just now unfitted to some extent for listening to the real thing. It will not be long before many of them will be disillusioned however and then will be the chance of the Maritime comrades to see that the only hope of the workers is again expounded to them.

On the third day of the strike five hundred of the regulars arrived and it surely was a pretty sight to see the patrols marching through the streets with fixed bayonets and ball ammunition, and all because a few women had scratched the face of Manager Duggan and a strike-breaker or two. The soldiers were sent against the protest of Mayor Douglas, who is making a grand stand play as being in favour of the strikers in order to get the Conservative nomination at the next election and the dodge is to get the miners vote in order to oust the setting Liberal member. A lot of the strikers are saying what a "good man" Douglas is; how he must laugh in his sleeve. And the majority of them will probably vote for him at the next election, too, if they are here to vote for him.

The strike is just started, and before it is finished a lot of the strikers will have gone elsewhere in search of fodder and they won't be able to vote for the "good man" then. Oh, they are confident, but by and by when they see crowds of strikebreakers brought in as they look between the fixed bayonets of the soldiers, when they find themselves being turned out of their homes, (you should see most of the homes) which are owned by the Company, when they find themselves being crushed, when they see the hopelessness of fighting dollars with cents, their confidence will become despair or resentment, and it is the ones who feel the latter sentiment that the comrades must be on the look out for and as the local comrades recognize these facts as clearly as the writer they will look out. The fool workers will not learn except through bitter experience and the sum total of that kind of experience will be added to very considerably before this strike is over. It is evidently going to be a desperate struggle on the part of the men, who are in a fighting mood, all credit to them, but they are fighting where they are weakest, and it is my personal opinion that they are in for a horrible trouncing.

I have warned them time and again that the soldiers would be used against them, that the henchmen of the Company would manufacture bomb outrages and try to fix it on them that the Company could certainly beat them if they choose. The first two predictions have already come true and I have no doubt about the last. It is pitiable to see the jaunty air with which most of the bally slaves walk about and to know that before long these slaves will be going about with hanging heads and hopeless faces.

But out of the buried hopes of many of these men will spring the sure and certain hope of a joyful revolution, and they will come in with us and help work out their own industrial salvation not in fear and trembling but in hope and confidence.

Tonight I speak at Dominion No 6, to-morrow at the regular Sunday meeting of Glace Bay Local; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday I campaign in Sydney and Sydney Mines; returning here on Thursday for a farewell meeting and am off on Friday to fill the bill arranged by Comrade Fillmore, who has been doing some organizing on his own account, more power to him. I shall consider it a treat to see him again, for he is one of the best, as he will give great proofs before long and I have no fear of placing myself on record to that effect.

WILFRID GRIBBLE.

## GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD

I would add to the above prayer, "Under better conditions." The Editor gave me strict injunctions to back up any report I might make with facts; legal facts were the words

he used. Not being able to distinguish between facts and legal facts at the time that I heard of the impending strike amongst the Jewish bakers in Montreal, what could I do? To write the evidence in the raw was like bearding the Cotton in his den, "and to refrain from reporting would involve a wealth of 'Webbian wrath,' (a word like that deserves a circulation of two million). In my dilemma I went to the Secretary of the Montreal Branch of the Jewish Bakers' union, Mr. A. Sufirin. That worthy leader of a great cause was at home, and with one fell diplomatic swoop I threw the responsibility of proving the case onto his shoulders. I greeted him and said, "You are in trouble." There was no need for the statement; a glance at the features of my friend—if he will permit me—affirmed it.

"Speak for thy servant heareth," I said, and I know that when the gospel according to Wayman is written, that these words will become famous and prophetic.

"Well, you must know," said Mr. Sufirin, "that there are about fifty or sixty Jewish bakers employed in Montreal. Their lives are spent under the most horrifying conditions. The bakehouses are generally in basements or cellars and the air is around too degenerate. Thousands of loaves a day are being put in and taken out of the ovens while the city man in the air outside that we are longing for, says, 'Hellish hot in the streets today.' We say not a word about the heat, yet I think you will agree that we get too much of a good thing, sometimes thirty-six hours at a stretch; always from twelve to twenty hours a day, or is it night? And such queer times too. We can't make arrangements for a night's enjoyment like other men. Sometimes we have to start work at midnight or at three in the morning. In fact any old time the boss thinks fit to have us. And our wages are only averaging eight dollars a week."

"Now look here," I burst in, "Were I to repeat this it is more than likely the boss would never again buy me an ice cream soda. You say that here, in free Canada, you work all hours God sends in a hokey pokey cellar, slaving in a hellish hole, for eight dollars a week. Why do you stand for it?"

"I would like to show you some of the bakehouses," he answered, and you shall judge for yourself. We have determined that something must be done. We applied for a charter and started a union and the masters formed a union and the result was that those who were prominent in forming the trade union were sacked. There were nine of us."

"Ha, Ha," I said, "That's where you have the pull. No good living Jew will buy bread made by a gentile and the Rabbi won't bless the shew bread if it is not made by the Chosen People's own coreligionists."

"That's how it used to be," said my informant. "Tis not so today. Our places were filled immediately by French Canadians. And today the bosses went around and asked the men whether they belonged to the union or not. If they answered in the affirmative they were sacked. And so we are going to strike."

Or is it a lockout?

M. WAYMAN.

## CIRCULATION STATEMENT

The new subs are not coming in fast enough to offset the expiring short trial subs. Instead of over 3,500, where we should be, we are only 3,364, barely holding our own. Remember there is a \$5 cash prize for the comrade landing the most subs during July.

Nova Scotia.....	389
Prince Edward Island.....	2
New Brunswick.....	56
Prov. of Quebec.....	861
Ontario.....	1195
Manitoba.....	110
Alberta.....	207
Saskatchewan.....	209
British Columbia.....	267
Yukon Territory.....	4
Elsewhere.....	64
Total.....	3364

The total number of this issue is 3,600 copies.

## Stamps Acknowledged

The following have sent in stamps for the unfortunate comrade whose case we mentioned some time ago:

Nick Stevens, Ladner, B. C.; Mayor Libson, Montreal; John Wright, Brussels, Ont.; Frank Richer, Winnipeg; Mrs. L. M. Richter, Halifax; Mrs. Nelson, Markerville, Alta.; F. Glennie, Ottawa.

## IF

By WILLIAM RESTELLE SNIER

If as much money and effort were put into pushing the circulation of socialist literature as into holding hall lectures and open air meetings, Socialism would be a greater force in Canada and the United States than it is to-day.

If the comrades would argue with people less and get them reading more, they would have more to show for their work.

If street corner meetings were held for the sole purpose of selling pamphlets and papers, less prejudice against socialism would be found throughout the community and solid educational work would be carried on.

If every socialist lecturer would conclude his address by urging people to read socialist books and pamphlets, to subscribe for socialist papers, to circulate socialist literature, he would be accomplishing something worth while.

If the comrades who attend propa-

ganda meetings would peddle pamphlets among the auditors and canvass subscriptions for socialist papers instead of loafing around the door or smoking cigarettes in the hall, they would not be wasting their time.

If each party member carried a supply of pamphlets in his pockets and sold them as opportunity offered to their acquaintances, they would be hastening the triumph of the working class.

If instead of going to the great expense of employing outside speakers, paying their railway fare, hotel expenses, and three dollars a day as salary, locals would send some good socialist paper for a period of three months to a select list of names, they would soon capture their town for Socialism.

If comrades everywhere would only study propaganda and organization methods, if locals would only plan their work in a more systematic and efficient manner than at present, if all effort were spent upon wisely circulating socialist leaflets, papers and pamphlets, our propaganda would bear more fruit.

## BOOKS FOR Sub Hustlers

## THIS OFFER CLOSES JULY 31st

We have decided to close out this Book Offer which has been running for some months on July 31st. We are giving for every

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARLY SUBS

Sent into COTTON'S WEEKLY, Volume I. II. or III. of CAPITAL, by Marx, valued at \$2.00, or the same value in any other books or pamphlets, as found in our list.

## For 15 Yearly Subs we Offer Books to the Value of \$1.00

All these Books are well printed and bound in a substantial manner. They are the New and Standard Works on International Socialism from the co-operative house of Chas. H. Kerr & Co, Chicago.

Comrades wanting to get books immediately, can do so by ordering 15 or 25 Postal Sub Cards. Each card is worth 50c and good for a yearly sub

Subs can be sent in as obtained, and we will keep check and issue books when due.

## SEND IN FOR SUB BLANKS AND PRINTED ENVELOPES OR POSTAL SUB CARDS

## POCKET LIBRARY of SOCIALISM

1. Women and the Social Problem, May Wood Simon.
2. The Evolution of the Class Struggle, W. H. Royce.
3. Inherent Marriage, Robert Blackford.
4. Pichington, A. M. Simon.
5. Russian Literature and Art, Clarence S. Darrow.
6. Single Tax vs. Socialism, A. M. Simon.
7. Wage Labor and Capital, Karl Marx.
8. The Man Under the Machine, A. M. Simon.
9. The History of the Working Class, Charles H. Kerr.
10. Marx on Communism, translated by H. H. Wilson.
11. National Prohibition, Walter L. Young.
12. Socialism and Democracy, A. M. Simon.
13. How I Acquired My Millions, W. A. Corey.
14. A Christian View of Socialism, G. H. Strobel.
15. Ten Billion Men, Eugene V. Debs.
16. Possible of the Water Tank, Edward Bellamy.
17. The Road to Socialism, Wm. Thurston Brown.
18. Why I Am a Socialist, George D. Herron.
19. The Trust Question, Charles H. Kerr.
20. The Socialists Would Do, A. M. Simon.
21. The Age of the Race, William Thurston Brown.
22. What the Socialists Would Do, A. M. Simon.
23. The Policy of Being "Good," Charles H. Kerr.
24. Interdependence and Poverty, T. Twining.
25. The Industrial Revolution, Charles H. Kerr.
26. Socialism and the Home, May Walden.
27. Social and Industrial Revolution, Charles H. Kerr.
28. Social Revolution, W. H. Royce.
29. Socialism vs. Democracy, Lewis J. Denman.
30. Socialism and Slavery, H. M. Hyndman.
31. Economic Evolution, Paul Lafargue.
32. Socialism and the Future, Charles H. Kerr.
33. Socialism and the Future, Charles H. Kerr.
34. Socialism and the Future, Charles H. Kerr.
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39. Socialism and the Future, Charles H. Kerr.
40. Socialism and the Future, Charles H. Kerr.

From COTTON'S BOOK DEPARTMENT