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**Cotton's Weekly**

W. H. COTTON, S.A., S.O.A., Managing Editor  
ROY WINN, Associate Editor

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This paper is not published for profit. It is published by co-operative effort as an advocate of the co-operative commonwealth. Last week we printed and posted the following number of copies—

**18,400**

**BLOWN TO GLORY**

One hundred and ninety-five miners, or thereabouts, have been blown to glory in an explosion in the Hillcrest Mine, at Hillcrest, Ont. Widows and orphans by the score have been made. On one street in Hillcrest there are thirteen widows.

The Hillcrest Mine Company employed between four and five hundred men. The company is capitalized at \$705,000 preferred stock and \$1,000,000 common stock. Its current earnings are over fifteen per cent on the preferred and over six on the common stock.

The net earnings of the company for 1913 were \$135,823. For every man employed the non-producing, absentee owners take over \$300 per year in profits.

The miners went down in the mine and toiled in the dark. They received in wages just enough to live. Their wives and children had to live in the class of houses so common and so well known in mining towns. The directors live in palaces in far cities.

When the explosion came it was the working class lives that were snuffed out. It was the working class who stood dry-eyed and tense at the mine mouth. The owners were enjoying themselves in Montreal and Ottawa elsewhere.

It is the wives and children of the producers who will suffer the poverty of widowhood and orphanhood. The owners will not suffer. If there is a crime upon the face of the earth that merits scorn and contempt, that should be wiped out, it is the crime of being a capitalist.

**THEY WHO ENJOY**

The Hillcrest Mine was a prolific one. The miners were producing about 1,300 tons of coal a day. This did not belong to the workers who did the work. The workers got but a slave's pay. The gentlemen owners in far cities owned the coal produced by the miners. And the widows and children of the miners face a cold and capitalist world.

Men high up in the game of robbery were at the head of the Hillcrest Mine Company. C. B. Gordon is president. He is also president of the Dominion Textile Company, a corporation which takes over a million dollars profit a year out of the sweated labor of the cotton slaves of Canada. He is also director of the Bank of Montreal.

He will not suffer by the explosion. None of his family will feel what the explosion wiped out the breadwinner. Gordon belongs to the capitalist class, and the capitalist class let the slaves do the working, the suffering and the weeping.

H. S. Holt, Montreal, is a director of the company. Holt is interested in the following labor skinning corporations: Kaministiquia Power Company, Montreal Gas, Montreal Light, Heat and Power, Imperial Writing Machine Co., Royal Bank, Canada Paper Co., Dominion Textile, Ogilvie, Flour Canadian General Electric, National Trust, Canada Car, and many others. If a few slaves blow up at Hillcrest, never mind. Holt has other slaves grinding out profits for him. He produces nothing, and the wealth of Canada is poured into his lap. Let the widows and children of the working class suffer. He suffers not.

G. H. Duggan is another director. He is interested also in the Dominion Coal Company. He has coal slaves toiling for him in Nova Scotia as well as in Alberta. If the slaves of Alberta get blown up, the slaves of Nova Scotia will still produce profits for him.

Will these gentlemen be arrested for the slaughter of the miners in Alberta? Of course not. They are of the capitalist class. They are above such things as being arrested for the death of slaves.

If a slave worker goes on strike against gas in the mine, as at Nanaimo, B.C., the military are called out, the workers are arrested and sentenced by capitalist judges to jail. A worker who dares picket a slave pen where the slaves have gone on strike is arrested for the horrible crime of hampering the profits flowing to the masters. If a couple of hundred of workers are blown to pieces in the mine of the master class, it is purely accident. The owners must not be troubled. It is the workers' lot to be killed. On with the same of rent, interest and profit. The masters must have wine, mistresses, automobiles, yachts. The poor widow of the worker will go out scrubbing. If she is fortunate, the mistress of the mineowner will give her a job combing a poodle dog.

**R. L. BORDEN, SIR.**

The same day that brings the message of death, brings the news that R. L. Borden, Premier, G. E. Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce, and J. A. M. Aikins, M.P., have been dubbed Sir by King George.

George is the puppet of the capitalists of the British Empire. He gives titles upon the recommendation of the British Cabinet. When these three politicians are given a Sir, it is proof conclusive that they have been satisfactory henchmen of the labor skinners, that the political power is wielded to benefit the masters.

The miners killed at Hillcrest will be buried and nothing done. No investigation, or an investigation that will be a whitewash, will be held. But should a worker blow up a capitalist with a bomb, the whole press of the country would froth and foam and the police forces in all cities would be strengthened.

How long, O workers of Canada, will you endure your lot? How long will you let your masters rob you and blow you up in their death traps?

Revolt! Raise the standard of revolution. Swear that you will not rest until your class becomes supreme, until the Socialist banner shall fly triumphant at Ottawa and the Gordons, Holts, and other labor skinning, murder-trap owning, profit seeking vultures shall be hurled from their ownership and control, and the working class shall at last own and control the means of wealth production, so that they may produce and enjoy, and if any peril comes to any worker, his wife and children shall be tenderly cared for out of the common wealth of the producing class.

How the plutocrats love to try and make the workers believe the Socialists are not workers. The Socialists are members of the working class and the most intelligent members thereof.

The capitalists are parasites upon the working class.

## Hughes Shows Temper of Canada's Rulers

The following resolution was passed by the Social-Democratic Local of Cobalt, Ont., Cobalt, Ont., May 22nd, 1914.—To the Citizens of the Temiskaming District.

Greeting:—Whereas—The present age tends altogether towards the abolition of militarism and the institution of world peace, it becoming more and more realized that warfare whether international or civil is barbarous, uncivilized and cruel and all friends of humanity and progress should lend their efforts to accomplish finally and for all time the abolition of militarism which can be productive of no good whatever to society, but only causes spilling of human blood, making widows, orphans, and cripples and leaving ruin, misery and desolation in its wake.

War in any form is but a legalized method of murder, and

Whereas—there is at present a movement on foot to organize a regiment in this district, with Headquarters in Halesbury, a hall in New Liskeard being at present filled with rifles to arm those willing to do the bidding of the "Master Class," and

Whereas—the general trend of events as far as the militia is concerned, has proven but too well that it is not used to protect the masses of the people, but is used to defeat all attempts on the part of the workers to establish better working conditions as the history of recent strikes, but too strongly bears evidence, and

Whereas—we have good reason to suspect that the motives behind the production of a military organization are actuated principally so as to be prepared for any move on the part of the organized workers in this vicinity to better or maintain decent working conditions;

Therefore be it resolved, that we go on record as being absolutely and unalterably opposed to the attempt to introduce military organization in this locality, and urge upon all fair minded, and liberty loving citizens to refrain from joining it, for reasons as herein set forth;

Be it further resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Hon. Col. Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia, also copies sent to the press, for publication.

The resolution was duly forwarded to the Minister of Militia, at Ottawa, who replied with the following:—

Ministers Office, Ottawa, May 30th, 1914.

J. G. Dean Esq., Box 46, Cobalt, Ont.

Sir:—A copy of your manifesto, attached to a letter from you, has reached me.

There is nothing new in the manifesto. It is brim full of the usual slop and the silly vaporing of minds ill-formed in the problem of human government.

The idea of an institution whose practices are, by many regarded as those of the thug, the assassin, the mid-night murderer, the hedge-fence artist, the dynamiter, the persecutor of innocent women and children, the destroyer of homes and business industries—talking of "humanity" and "progress" and deploring "bloodshed" would be laughable, were it not so serious.

The whole resolution stamps your society as dangerous to the best interests of humanity in general, and inimical to any advantage whatever to your own organization.

You talk of "Civil War". What, pray, do you induce in your attempts to thwart the even trend of the business of the country, not in miniature civil war? What knowledge have you of human government, or of anything else for that matter, that would justify anyone in paying the slightest attention to anything you might say in this regard.

However, "while the lamp holds out to burn," etc., so I have such faith in humanity unless it has fallen too low—and I hope you have not reached that sphere—as to justify the hope that if you were to honestly study the principles underlying my Militia and Cadet ideas, that you would turn from your past records and adopt the only policy that

ever yet has produced or ever will produce a proper system of human government; government by the people through the people and for the people, and not a government by cliques, rings and organizers such as yours and others equally dangerous to humanity.

Indeed I feel satisfied, unless you are too low and case hardened too depraved, that you could be greatly benefited by joining the militia and subjecting yourself to the essential principles of learning to obey and, also, of learning to command. You would then be a better workman, but perhaps you are merely a walking boss living on the labor of other men.

However, whether with or without your endorsement there will be a splendid Regiment in the old Temiskaming District, and law and order and human progress will continue when you have departed and are forgotten. Faithfully,—Sam Hughes.

**GET TO ACTION.**

The workers are in slavery. They are banded together in a political party to capture the reins of power in order to give the workers the product of their labor.

Everywhere they find the militia against them. Military taxes bow the workers of Europe to the ground. The military are used to crush strikes. At Ludlow, Colo., the military shot up the camp of the strikers killing women and children. In South Africa the troops were used to smash a perfectly peaceful strike and to deport the men the strikers had placed in charge of the union.

At Buckingham, Ont. a few years ago, the troops killed striking workers. At Nanaimo the troops were used to do the dirty work of Mackenzie and Mann of whom the Borden cabinet, including Hughes, are the lackeys.

The masters know the rising temper of the working class and fear. They want troops, murderers, and they want these MURDERERS TO BE UNDER THEIR CONTROL AND WITHOUT CIVIL RIGHTS.

The master class are drawing immense revenues from the mines of Northern Ontario. To guard their unearned revenues they want troops, and Sam Hughes hastens to do their bidding.

Soldier must do as he is told. When martial law is declared he is ordered out. He must do as he is told, or is court martialed by the puppet-whisper-snapper-officers drawn from the master class—AND IS SHOT WITH-OUT A JURY TRIAL.

O yes, Sam knows the military law, and Sam is organizing the official murders of the capitalist class to be on the job of murdering workingmen, their wives and children, when the capitalist class want the murdering done.

Cobalt workers protest. They know what troops are for. They tell the truth, and Sam Hughes, with a Swiss cheese brain, full of holes, just like Henry Dobb, gets mad, and vomits his spleen upon the world-producers who are men enough to demand justice.

Thugs, assassins, dynamiters, destroyers of homes are a few of the epithets he flings at the workers of the Social-Democratic party of Canada.

Comrades throughout Canada. Here is one of Borden's cabinet ministers, one of the inner ring of capitalist jackals, telling you that your masters think of you. Hughes has hobbled with the capitalist exploiters, your masters, he knows their thoughts, and he tells you. Borden and Laurier are not such fools. They think the same of you but keep mum. They give you soft words. But Sam tells right out in public. He wants you are thugs, assassins, destroyers of homes, and SAM IS THE HEAD OF THE TROOPS OF CANADA.

Do you know what that means? It means that Sam wants to shoot you down as enemies. He considers you to be pests. Give him a chance and your homes will be riddled with bullets by the rifles of the butchers of Canada.

Sam says you thwart the even trend of business. That is a crime in his eyes. Sam is now a millionaire if reports speak true. He is one of the grafters upon your sweated labor. And when you disturb the game of exploitation by striking, Sam grinds his teeth and rages—AND HE CONTROLS THE MEN WITH THE SHOOTING-IRONS—THE MEN WHO, IF THEY DO NOT OBEY, CAN BE COURT MARTIALED AND SHOT WITH-OUT A JURY TRIAL.

It is no crime for workers to assemble, to agitate politically, to strike, to try and get bigger pay for their wives and children can have a little less worry, a few more playthings. Section 498 of the Criminal Code defines what "Conspiracy is Restraint of Trade" is. At the close of the section is this paragraph: "Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to combinations of workmen or employees for their own reasonable protection as such workmen or employees."

The law, the Capitalist law of Canada, declares that it is no crime for workers to do what would otherwise be conspiracy in restraint of trade. Yet Sam Hughes says it is civil war for you to merely disturb the even trend of business.

Do you see how tyrannical, how brutal Sam Hughes is? To merely disturb the even trend of business to him is civil war, and do you know what they do to rebels? They hang them out of hand. They shoot them down.

Do you see the enormity of Sam Hughes. He would hang you, or shoot you offhand for merely disturbing business by striking. AND SAM HUGHES IS AT THE HEAD OF THE ORGANIZED BUTCHERS OF CANADA AND IS PLANTING THE MEN WITH SHOOTING IRONS IN EVERY PLACE WHERE WORKERS WORK AND MAY GO ON STRIKE.

Let us not attack Sam Hughes alone. He is only one of the capitalist class. In their hearts they feel like him. Only they have sense enough to keep their mouths shut and to hire lickspittle politicians to praise you and wheedle your votes out of you.

Sam Hughes is a fool. Otherwise he would not have been drawn by the bait flung to him by the Cobalt Socialists. He has let his heart out. He has told his real feelings, the feelings of himself and his class.

He speaks throughout Canada, study Sam Hughes' words well. Know that he speaks as a Cabinet Minister of Canada. You can now see why the government gives Mackenzie and Mann \$45,000,000 while troops patrol Nanaimo and strikers are railroaded to jail.

Let his words be as flames of fire in your hearts. Exhort your wives and children's sake, for humanity's sake, for the sake of your long suffering class, rise. Cease not availing day or night. Over you hangs the threat of being shot as traitors, as vermin.

Get to work. Make your work tell. First and foremost, get subscriptions for Cotton's Weekly. This is one of the most effective ways of opening the eyes of your class to the real temper of your masters. Spread Sam Hughes' letter broadcast. Let the workers see how Sam regards a striker.

Organize a local. Get out on the soap box and arouse such a spirit of political unrest as will presage speedy victory.

Your masters are dangerous, legalized criminals. They control the courts, the laws and the soldiers. And with feverish activity they are through Sam Hughes, building bigger barracks and getting more soldiers enrolled.

I want your response. I want you to fling your answer back to your masters by making your fighting paper, Cotton's Weekly, known throughout the land.

Sam Hughes is a fool. Thank kind nature for making him one. May he long be Minister of Militia where he can blab your masters' secret feelings to the working class so we may have documentary and inside information of their tiger, selfish, murderous hearts.

## THOU SHALT NOT KILL

"Thou shalt not steal." Every capitalist, every Socialist, every thief, will say, "That's right." They are all against stealing. They are all against stealing—but they all differ as to the definition of stealing consists of.

If you had the laws made by burglars, you would have laws according to which the profession of burglary would be acclaimed as an ancient and honorable profession, perfectly legitimate and righteous. And it would be declared a crime for any policeman detective to take his booty away from the burglar. For a policeman so to act would be declared the crime of theft and the burglar could arrest the policeman and jail him for so acting.

The capitalist class enact the laws now, and there are many laws against all kinds of stealing. There are laws against breaking into banks, there are laws against forging checks, against workmen taking from the factory the goods they have made. We have moralists in pulpits, in the press, on the stump who denounce stealing. And they all denounce stealing from the capitalist class.

The capitalists have made the laws and the laws make the capitalist out to be a great and noble man and financier, labor-employing, stock-owner, to be dignified, lawful and eminent occupations.

The Socialist also is against stealing, but he defines stealing in an altogether different way. He says that the social wealth should belong to the wealth producers and the class that live by taking from the workers the difference between the wealth the workers produce and the bare cost of living of the workers is a thieves class.

Socialists realize that as the capitalists have made the laws, the people must abide by them and be robbed. The Socialists therefore strive to awaken the people so that another class of legislators may be put in power. These legislators would change the laws making labor to be the standard of reward instead of mere ownership.

Thou shalt not steal will still be in force under Socialism, only the definition of what theft consists of will be very much changed.

## What Socialism Stands For

By W. S. Morgan.

Socialism stands for the uplift of the race. It stands for the highest civilization possible under a human government.

It seeks to universalize happiness by universalizing opportunities upon a human scale. It recognizes the universal brotherhood of man.

It stands for universal peace, because it not only contends that war is inhuman, but immoral and wasteful.

It has nothing to do with pligion, and bars no one from its ranks on account of his religious belief.

It is tolerant of the faults of humanity and would correct them by removing the cause.

In the establishment of universal happiness it would remove the cause of nearly all crime.

In the establishment of justice it would abolish poverty and misery.

It stands for a system where every useful toiler would secure the full fruits for his or her labor.

Socialism is opposed to violence; it stands for peaceable and educational methods and an honest and intelligent expression of the will of the people at the ballot box.

It opposes the dogma that one class of people was created to labor for the support of another class, and thus build up an aristocracy of wealthy idlers to prey upon the fruits of the toil of others.

It extends a helping hand to the thousands of children whose bodies are being dwarfed, whose opportunities for education are being taken away from them and whose hearts are shrivelled by the high cost of everlasting grinding toil, to the end that their plutocratic masters may increase their dividends and live in luxury.

It holds out the lamp of hope to the struggling women and girls who are working long hours under unsanitary conditions, and for wages that will barely keep body and soul together, and in many instances will not do that, and the victims are driven to lives of shame.

Socialism stands for a home for every toiler or wealth creator, and for the sanctity of that home based upon marriage for love, and not for convenience or for a property consideration. It stands for the family as the unit of society.

It is an economic philosophy, and not a scramble for spoils.

Its principles are based upon the humanitarianism of the Lowly Nazarene.

Its red flag is the symbol of universal brotherhood.

It is world wide in its character and labors for the uplift of the whole human race.

It regards the exploiting of the masses, through the seizure of the fruits of invention by a favored few, as the greatest crime of the age.

The owners of the machines are the masters of those who operate them, and thus the creators of wealth are the industrial slaves of the few who own the machines.

Socialism contends that the collective ownership of these machines would give to every toiler the full measure of wealth he or she created.

Its coming is being flashed in the face of predatory wealth—the spoilsmen of the working class.

It is an "irrepressible conflict."

There are no middle grounds.

Capitalism is making a desperate stand through bribery, corruption and the courts.

Its last resort will be the sword for which it is already preparing.

Socialists depend upon the education of the people and an impartial ballot.

Wherever blood is shed it is on the hands of capitalism.

Parker Williams, in a speech in Vancouver, showed how the Mackenzie and Mann crowd make money. They get huge government grants for building railways. They estimate if will cost \$1.40 per yard to excavate for the railway and give a contract to one of their subsidiary companies at \$1.20 per yard. The work is subcontracted all the way down to forty cents a yard and the men who actually do the work get 20 cents. There is profit in being a labor skinner. Sure there is.

The capitalists will not get off the backs of the working class without being shoved off.

## The Woman Who Knows

I read an article in your paper of June 4th by Mary Nicolaeff. I wish I could see her and pat her on the back for telling the truth about the marriage of today.

Very few women would have the courage to say the things she said, for women are terrible cowards, and can you wonder at it? I know women who are married to the men they hate. I have had women tell me that they despise their husbands and they would be glad to hear of their death, and yet they lived with them and bore children by them. One poor working woman said to me, "My husband expects me to work all day and all night too. I just hate him. I loved him when I married him, but I guess we were not suited to each other."

I often wonder whether Ella Wheeler Wilcox knows what the average working woman has to put up with.

Ella writes beautiful poems about the coming race, and she gives good advice to the wife and mother.

When I read such poems, I say, "Slush, go preach to the men and teach them how to control themselves. How can a woman be pure and undefiled when she lives with a bestial man?"

I wish the women of Canada would wake up and help abolish this rotten system. Socialism is our only salvation. Sisters, if you love your daughters, work for Socialism.

Do you want to see your daughters suffer as you have suffered? You cannot be sure they will fare any better than you have fared and maybe not so well.

Yours for Socialism and the emancipation of women.—Mrs. Jane V. Brown, Lethbridge, Alta.

Frank A. Vanderlip, president of the National City Bank, New York, in an address before the National Bankers, urged the business men to go into politics to exterminate the demagogues. The British labor skinners have been in politics since Britain started politics going. Still, the so-called demagogue flourishes over there as well as in America, and horrors, he is being superseded by Socialists.

## My Prayer

Oh Lord, find our preacher and his class useful work to do instead of begging day by day their stomachs to fill and to build a church and paragonage.

He comes to my house while I am at work with pointing that often makes me sick, and with my wife and children he prays for me. If I had shorter hours of work I could pray for he.

Sure we all know what is right and wrong. The ten commandments can be found. So what's the use keeping idle men to tell us any different.—W. K. Crosby, North Bend, B. C.

"I would like to call attention to an offence that calls for heroic treatment from official censors. How can we expect the young, shiftless and vicious to have any respect for the law and its representations if pictures are freely exhibited showing policemen to be both fools and crooks." This was part of the contribution of William A. Pinkerton at the convention of Police Chiefs recently held at Grand Rapids, Mich. He wants it made less majestic to exhibit police chiefs in picture shows in any way except in a dignified way. The workers who know what policemen and detectives are for, know that these creatures need all the protection they can get against having their veneer of respectability punctured.

When Sylvia Pankhurst resolved to place herself on the steps of the British parliament buildings and neither eat nor drink till the women had been granted an interview with Premier Asquith, Asquith caved in and granted the interview. He did not want to have a dead Pankhurst to rouse the fury of the British people against his Pecksniffian government. This does not sound like Great Britain. It sounds like some far off Eastern tale about a petitioner to a despot who would risk his life to appeal to the source of all power. Shows how far the British government has retrograded.

Eliminate rent, interest and profit and many a wellfed person would have to do useful work.

## The Two Classes

(The following poem is written by Master Frederick Hilliard Bull, of Hastings Coulee, Alta. He is twelve years of age, a devoted student of Socialism, and a constant waiter for next Cotton's Weekly. We welcome him to the body of the poets of the revolution.)

Down in the ground, working in the mine,  
While the worthless plutocrats are sipping at their wine,  
There the toiling miners, digging jewels bright,  
Work from early morning till very late at night.

Out in the forest, felling mighty trees,  
While old Mr. Grabitall is sitting at his ease,  
There the brawny lumbermen, working at the logs,  
Shape the useful timbers that shelter all the "hogs."

Working in the fields stirring up the ground,  
Where the greedy plutocrat never can be found,  
There the toiling farmers, working ever on,  
Are laughed at by the robbers, and then are walked upon.

And thus we find it always, wherever we may go:  
The workers toiling ever, while the rulers take the dough;  
But we know that there's a remedy that's coming bye and bye,  
When the masters will have fallen and the heartless system die.

The Miners, Railwaymen and Transport Workers' Unions, including 1,250,000 workers are now federated in Great Britain. The Railwaymen in session at Swansea, have resolved not to work with nonunion men. This would have raised a great outcry a few years ago. Now it is taken as a matter of course.

The self interest of the working class is against the self interest of the capitalist class. And the capitalist class control the law making bodies.

The greatest hope for international peace is the Socialist movement.