

## CLEAR THE WAY FOR THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH

THE WORKING CLASS AND THE EMPLOYING CLASS HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON. THERE CAN BE NO PEACE AS LONG AS HUNGER AND WANT ARE FOUND AMONG MILLIONS OF WORKING PEOPLE, AND THE FEW WHO MAKE UP THE EMPLOYING CLASS HAVE ALL THE GOOD THINGS OF LIFE.

## Cotton's Weekly

A CANADIAN SOCIALIST PAPER

Is published every THURSDAY at Cowansville, P.Q., for the broad field of Canada

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WM. U. COTTON, B.A., B.C.L., EDITOR AND PROP.  
H. A. WEBB, BUSINESS MANAGER

## CIRCULATION STATEMENT

Cotton's reports a gain of 16 this week. Last week it was only 12. Mighty slow work this on the part of the sub-hustlers. Cotton's cannot exist without the united efforts of all the army in getting subs. Cotton's is printed to be circulated. Get busy and circulate it.

Nova Scotia.....	412
Prince Edward Island.....	3
New Brunswick.....	138
Prov. of Quebec.....	815
Ontario.....	1017
Manitoba.....	165
Alberta.....	166
Saskatchewan.....	207
British Columbia.....	479
Yukon Territory.....	2
Elsewhere.....	65
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>3460</b>

Gain for week..... 16

The total number of this issue is 4,000 copies.

The Canadian government has named October 25th, as Thanksgiving Day. Now you fellows who are hitting the ties hunting for work, get down on your knees and be thankful to the Ottawa gang that they let you starve. You fellows who are slaving for the wealth of others and living in the dirty back streets of our cities take off your hat and be thankful to the boss that he hasn't taken your hide as well as your sweat and strength. You farmers who are on the jump to oep the boiled shirt gentlemen of the banks supplied with fine houses and champagne, be thankful that the banks have not taken away your parchment titles to the land—as yet. Has not the Ottawa gang appointed a day for you to be thankful on, and are they not wise? O ye fools.

The following from the Toronto World applies to Canada as well as to the United States.

Had Harriman turned his remarkable talents to the prosecution of the people's good, his name would have been synonymous with happiness for his fellow-countrymen. As it is, Harriman achieved what the United States calls success; a success that is measured in dollars. Some day, perhaps, by slow evolution, our neighbors across the line will realize the menace of the Harrimans, and by eternal vigilance wipe out conditions that make it easy for unscrupulous financiers to grasp colossal power and reign for a day.

In debt to the extent of \$2, and generally discouraged with his prospects, William Partlock is charged by the police with trying to commit suicide in a cell in the Delorimer Police Station of Montreal by throttling himself with his two hands. He was stopped in time, however, and then a charge of attempting to commit suicide was made against him. It is said that he previously tried to commit suicide in his room by hanging himself with his suspenders, but this attempt also failed. Capitalism drives men to suicide. How long are you going to stand by the system?

A man one day declared to a friend that he had made six hundred dollars by gambling on margins on the stock exchange. The friend boned the winner for a drink on the good news. Thereupon the man said, "Oh, I haven't got the money. They got it away from me again before I could get hold of it." Clouston, manager of the Bank of Montreal, has been telling how rich the farmers are with all their crops. Clouston and the officers of the labor thieving institutions will get the wealth away from the farmers before they can get hold of it.

The Scotland yard detectives are protecting Asquith, the labor thief, from being molested by suffragettes. Asquith, the little dear, should be sent home to his nurse and taught manners.

Ex-Judge Robert S. Lovett has succeeded Harriman as the chairman of the executive committee of the Union Pacific Railroad company. The establishment of an industrial despotism has been nearly completed.

The cast iron porcelain enamel manufacturers of Canada are forming a trust. The consolidation of industries cannot be stopped. Let them be consolidated and democratized and run for the benefit of all the people.

The French capitalists are frightened of a war with Germany. They do not want to see their easy jobs of plundering the French workers grabbed away from them by the German plutes.

The Liberal newspapers of Madrid have published a protest against the continuance of Government censorship and they threaten to strike unless this restriction is removed. The editors have decided to appeal to King Alfonso.

The Cleveland baseball grandstand is being built by non-union labor. The labor unions of that city have boycotted the games and the St. Louis Central Trades Union and Labor have notified the St. Louis baseball management that they will boycott all games played with Cleveland until the Cleveland boycott is lifted.

The Czar of Russia was to have gone to Moscow as the Little Father of the Poles. Instead of that he went to Moscow as "The Autocrat of All the Russians" and received the homage of the Moscow nobility on a silver tray. The Czar is trying to throw the bluff of being democratic and good, but it lies in the Romanoff blood to be cruel, crafty and tyrannical.

The "seatsless gown" is to be the new style of dress for women. The feverish activity on the part of the fashion makers to get out styles which will make women buy new dresses before the old have worn out show that our system of industry is decadent. Sweated dress makers at one end and overgrown parasite women at the other end of the economic process shows the degeneracy of the capitalist system.

The crop reports state that the farmers of Canada are sixty million dollars richer now than they have harvested their crops than they were last year. The crop statisticians know that this is a lie. The farmers are not sixty million dollars richer. The bankers and railroad owners and manufacturers are richer but the farmers are kept busy paying up their debts which the plunderbund have contrived to get piled up against them.

The strike of the 300 cloak button-hole makers which started last week in New York city and which threatened the closing of 1,000 cloak shops was settled within three days and all the men and women out returned to work victorious. The victory carries with it 15 per cent increase in wages, full recognition of the union and a fixed pay day on Saturday. All bosses signed agreements for one year and furnished bonds guaranteeing that they will observe union rules in their shops.

The Trades and Labor assembly at Boone, Iowa, have turned down State President A. L. Urlick of the Federation of Labor, who asked the local assembly to appoint a vice President to attend the function in honor of President Taft in Des Moines on Sept. 20. The Boone assembly held that labor was not entitled to do any honors to Taft and turned down Urlick by unanimous vote.

The employees in the cutting department of Haskin's glass works at Martins Ferry, Ohio, are on strike because the installation of the piece-work system has caused a reduction in wages.

According to a despatch to the Toronto World, Dan Macdougall, local president of the U. M. W., was kidnapped by private detectives at Sydney and hustled aboard a special car and railroaded to Montreal on the charge of having criminally libelled the Dominion Coal Co. The arrest as a direct slap at the strikers but the Dominion Coal company is only exercising its legal rights in thus hustling the leader of a strike out of the strike territory. You working guys are cheap mutes to stand for the capitalist laws of the country. They are made to keep you in slavery. When are you going to wake up and run the country in the interests of the laborer? You can overthrow the rule of the bosses just as soon as you are wakened to your own interests. If the arrest and deportation of Dan Macdougall will waken you fellows to the class legislation of capitalist laws he will not have suffered in vain.

That the working class of America is awakening to a sense of solidarity with the workers of the entire world is well demonstrated by the fact that John Sandgren, one of the delegates of the Swedish General Strike Committee, at New York, was able to announce yesterday that as a result of the appeal issued to the American workers, already more than \$40,000 had been sent by local unions and other liberal organizations directly to the strike committee in Sweden, while he had on hand \$10,000 more which would be transmitted at once to the Landssekretariat in Stockholm.

More than a thousand applications have been received for admission to the School of Speakers organized by the Anti-Socialist Union in London, England. A fortnight ago the union appealed through the newspapers for speakers capable of combatting Socialism in all parts of the country. Free training in the school is offered, and speakers who are engaged will have traveling expenses and maintenance paid. They will also be paid a fee. The school will open next week. Only 500 applicants will be taken. Many have offered their services without fee. The school will include a large number of women among its pupils.

The socialist press of Finland announces that the police authorities are determined on the wholesale expulsion of Jews from Finland. The Helsingin-Sanomat, the leading organ of the Finnish party, in two leading articles has urged the police to carry out the existing laws with the utmost vigor. The paper also violently attacks the foreign press for its expressions of sympathy with the Jews. The Senate is entirely composed of Old Finns, whose creed is anti-Semitism. Any relief from the supreme authority is not, therefore, to be expected.

The Socialist propaganda is taking such a strong hold on the working people and the patriots of the old land that the plundering financiers, manufacturers and landlords are frightened for fair and are taking desperate measures to combat it. The beauty of socialism is that the more its enemies try to show its fallacies the more the true hearted people see that it is the only thing that will save the human race from destruction.

Socialism is gaining ground not only in Macedonia, but also in Armenia, where its agrarian programme is rapidly superseding the old doctrines of the passing secret societies. To both countries it came from Russia, and is likely to prove a wholly unexpected factor in south-eastern Europe and the Levant.

## TO A WEARY COMRADE

Comrade I know you tried and true  
as steel,  
One of the first to do, last to complain;  
And yet, I wonder not sometimes  
you feel  
'Tis all in vain.

Sometimes your heart grows faint,  
weary your hands,  
With arduous duty at a lonesome post;  
But, though a lonely scout, behind  
you stands  
A mighty host.

Far in advance are you, you cannot see  
The swelling ranks, nor hear the  
growing cheers,  
Yet, where you stand shall big battalions be  
Ere many years.

## ORGANIZE

Scattered throughout Canada in isolated places are hundreds of Socialists who are anxious to see the Party become a great power in the land. It is to you earnest comrades that I wish to write. It is especially the younger men who are more vigorous, who must do the rustling, so here is the way to get about it. Be patient and get to work and read all the best Socialist literature in order that you may understand every side of the question before you begin to teach others. Send 25 cents for a copy of the By Laws and Constitution of the Socialist Party of Canada to D. G. McKenzie, box 836 Vancouver, B. C., and also become a member at large. If you drink do your best to cut it out. You will feel better and have more coin for other things.

The next step is to size up your neighbors. Make a list of them and send the most likely ones a trial sub of Cotton's Weekly which will give them good reading for three months at ten cents each. Spend ten cents a week in this way for your own good. In your own time approach these neighbors and in your own way begin to talk Socialism. As soon as you have one convert arrange to meet regularly and stick to it. As often as you can get a new adherent induce him to join you in your work and keep the steady bombardment of literature going.

Remember that Socialism has no more to do with religion than Liberalism or Conservatism and refuse to discuss it alongside of Socialism. Wherever you are get on the voters' list and if there is no Socialist candidate mark your ballot "Socialism."

By working quietly but strenuously in this way you can be laying the foundation for a local and when the time is ripe your community can be represented in the ever increasing number of organized Socialist Locals that are springing up all over Canada. In two years time the Local in the village where I live has grown steadily. Altogether about 53 have joined here. A great many have had to move away but we have at present 33 dues paying members and hold weekly meetings. We have seven members who are able to take the platform and preach the truths of Socialism. By our united efforts we are now able to present a front to the enemies of our class and so far we have won a victory in each election by increasing our vote.

There is no graft in the Socialist Party. There is no honor according to the present public opinion. But there is plenty of self denial and the satisfaction of doing what you believe to be right. Our forefathers have done great things. It is the duty and the privilege of their children to accomplish something far greater than man has ever done before. Socialism will free the world from the struggle for a mere brute existence and make possible comfort, refinement and culture for all humanity.

## Some Facts about New York's Unemployed

"Working men in England appear to be getting very dissatisfied with the state of trade and the condition of unemployment under Free Trade. Study these facts and figures which are admittedly conservative, called chiefly from the 'New York World,' and note how Protection benefits the working classes in America. Mr. Warner, secretary of the New York Immigration Commission, in a report filed at Albany says: 'As nearly as can be estimated 200,000 men and women have been out of work in New York for two years. More than this number live in Greater New York. This is a minimum estimate based on reports recently filed in the Department of Labour at Albany. Labour organizations report 80,000 union men unemployed in New York State, of whom more than one-half live in New York City. There is no record of the unemployed non-union men, but it is safe to assume there are at the very least as many more unemployed men looking for work. Last year there were 270,000 union men in New York State. This year there are 240,000 and this number is decreasing rapidly. The difference, 30,000 or 40,000, indicates that the falling off is due in large part to inability to meet their union dues. In 1908, 359,000,000 dollars were deposited in the savings banks of New York State. The withdrawals amount to 394,000,000 dollars, showing the great preponderance of withdrawals to be 34,542,000 dollars in one year, an amount without a parallel in the banking history of New York State."

"The full quota of enlisted men has been assured. Recruiting stations have been closed or temporarily abandoned, indicating that many of the unemployed are seeking the Army. Mr. W. York, superintendent of the municipal lodging houses in New York City, says that in the closing three months of last year 850 honest, willing working men presented themselves to magistrates and asked to be sent to the 'workhouse' (which is on a level with the prisons in England). They were guiltless of crime, but were ordered to be confined under the Vagrancy Act. And your readers will agree with me that trade must be pretty bad when men beg to be sent to gaol because they cannot get work and cannot get food. Mr. Fox, warden of the 'workhouse,' declared that 2,700 men had to be discharged before their sentences expired, in order to make room for other prisoners. Nine hundred heads of families in New York City, unable to secure work, though able-bodied and willing, were, in 1908, supported by the Association for the Improvement of the Poor."

"Mr. J. A. Henneberry, chief clerk of the district attorney's office, in a recently filed report, says that in 1908, 7,877 criminal cases were deposited in his office. The previous year the number was 6,237."—JUSTICE

## MILITARISM AND THE WORKING CLASS

By W. R. SHIER

Armies and navies are maintained for a double purpose by the master class, namely, to promote their commercial interests abroad and to keep their wage-slaves in subjection at home.

Wars are fought in the interests of the capitalist class, not in the interests of the working class. All the workers get out of them is cracked skulls and shattered homes.

Though it is the working class which fights all the world's battles, it is not the working class which profits in the spoils.

That armies are maintained for domestic as well as for foreign purposes is amply illustrated by the numerous cases in which the militia have been used to crush strikes, not only by preventing processions and mass meetings from being held, by shooting down strikers without provocation, by protecting scab labor and doing police service for the employers, but by using the soldiers to fill the places of the striking employees, as in the great postal strike in France. This the soldiers are forced to do under penalty of court-martial.

Nevertheless, from an economic standpoint, militarism is a good thing for the workers under capitalism. It relieves a congested labor market by withdrawing millions of men from productive industry. The barrack population of Europe alone is 3,800,000. If these men were not employed in the army, they would be competing with their brothers and sisters for the jobs, in consequence of which wages would tend to fall.

The problem is not militarism, or capitalism.

Karl Liebknecht, of Germany, a specialist on the subject of militarism, calculates the cost of the armies and navies of Europe alone for the present year at \$3,250,000,000, that of the entire world at about \$4,000,000,000, or more than twice the expenditure for 1906. That is a stupendous sum, but it comes out of the pockets of the capitalist class, not out of the pockets of the working class. True, the working class produced it, but that represents a portion of the surplus value extracted from labor by the masters. If militarism were abolished to-morrow, and capitalism still held sway, the workers would not gain materially

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"In every historical epoch, the prevailing mode of economic production and exchange, and the social organization necessarily following from it, form the basis upon which is built up, and from which alone can be explained, the political and intellectual history of that epoch."—Karl Marx.

thereby. Indeed, they might even be worse off, for those engaged in productive industry would have four million able-bodied soldiers competing with them for their jobs.

The genuine promoters of peace are the socialists and the labor organizations. Wars tend to prolong the life of capitalism. They divert public attention from economic to national questions. The Socialists of Germany and France, of Sweden and Norway, have done considerable to dispel the war clouds hovering over their countries at various times by decisive action.

The patriotism of the master class is amply shown up by the capitalists of one country lending money and selling arms to their enemies, by supplying the soldiers and sailors with embalmed beef and misfit clothing.

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WILFRID GRIBBLE