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Cotton's Weekly

W. U. COTTON, B.A., B.C.A., Managing 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 sent the following number of copies

30,146

Immigration

For the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1913, 402,432 immigrants arrived in Canada.

The capitalist newspapers rejoice over these arrivals. They say these arrivals add wealth and prosperity to Canada.

By Canada the capitalist papers mean the capitalist class.

The capitalist class have been benefited by these arrivals. How much they have been benefited would surprise the average working-man.

If of the 400,000 immigrants we figure that 180,000 are male workers, this means that the master class have 180,000 more male slaves to rob.

If we figure that the average amount of robbery per year is \$500 for each of the 180,000, very simple arithmetic will show that the net profits flowing to the master class from this added army of slaves will be \$90,000,000 per year. These may be staggering figures, but the robbery by the capitalist class is something enormous.

\$90,000,000 added revenue per year, capitalized at ten per cent, means \$9,000,000 increased value for the owners of capital. The immigrants coming to Canada each year furnish enough surplus values to create nine hundred millionaires.

Carnegie declared that a worker added to the country increased the value of that country by \$5,000. Looked at through Carnegie's eyes, these 180,000 male workers add \$900,000,000 to the value of Canada, and Canada is owned by the owners of capital. Carnegie and Cotton's agree.

You hear of the bounding prosperity of Canada, yet your wages cannot purchase what they used to two or three years ago. You read of the prosperity of Canada owing to the vast numbers of new arrivals. You wonder how Canada can be prosperous when prosperity does not come your way.

You see, you are only a slave, bought from day to day by the masters. You produce and they consume. The more slaves they have producing for them, the richer they are. You feel the immigrant as a competitor for your job forcing down the purchasing value of your wages. Your masters feel the immigrant as a new slave to rob and as a new competitor for your job so he can make you work for less real wages.

The Socialists say that as long as you are content to let the masters own your means of life, your job, you will be exploited. They point to the only remedy possible. Let the workers collectively own the means they need to produce and distribute wealth. This can only be done by capturing the supreme political power, so the collective ownership may be vested in the collective working class.

Heroes of the Revolution

Jim Larkin, the heroic leader of the Dublin strikers, has been sentenced to seven months' imprisonment.

His crime has been taking his place with the striking workers of Dublin. Dublin has a population of 300,000. Of this population, 100,000 are starving, even in prosperous times.

Jim Larkin protested. He encouraged the strikers. He told the rulers and plunderers of Dublin what they really were. He did not mince matters.

He was arrested and has been sentenced. The Attorney-General, that lickspittal jackal of the British labor thieves, in his opening remarks, declared that Larkin was not being prosecuted because he was a labor leader, but because he was a "wicked and dangerous criminal."

In what was he criminal? He was criminal because he stood for the poor and oppressed. He stood for the revolution. He took his stand uncompromisingly for smashing the capitalist system and forcing the white-handed, hot-livered Irish and British plutocrats to go to work.

A wicked criminal, from the viewpoint of the master class, but a tried and true hero of the revolution.

In British Columbia the labor leaders who stood with the workers in the strike, have been sentenced to from six months to two years. They also are "wicked criminals" from the viewpoint of the master class. But they are tried and true comrades of the revolution, and so the master class sink their judicial fangs into them.

In honor of these comrades, these new martyrs of the revolution the Red Flag should be sung by every local and union in Canada.

With heads uncovered swear we all
To bear it onward till we fall;
Come dungeon dark or gallows grim,
This song shall be our parting hymn.

Then raise the scarlet standard high!
Within its shade we'll live and die.
Tho' cowardly flinch and traitors sneer,
We'll keep the red flag flying here.

Hard Times

Hard times are with us. Plants are shutting down. In Montreal the railways are sacking men. The tramp of the unemployed and of the hunger marchers resound through our cities.

What does your member of Parliament care? What does your Provincial or Dominion premier care?

You are nothing but slaves, no account to be trash. You are good only to wheedle and vote out of you. Then you are straight-forward forget!

O you of trusting nature. The political, financial and industrial thieves have filched your wealth from you. They are rich in what they have stolen from you. Then, having stripped you and having no further temporary use for you, they turn you adrift to die.

If you are men, you will let your politicians hear from you. Protest signed by tens of thousands of workmen should pour into Ottawa this winter, demanding that the politicians stop their piffing talk, that they cease from their mad conspiracy of handing the manhood and womanhood on a golden platter decked with diamonds to the profit lords, to gouge and rob and strip and leave to die.

You workingmen, step forward. Join your party, the Social-Democratic party, and take your place in the ranks of those who are fighting the war of civilization against the capitalist class who are throttling the working class of Canada.

Organize the working people.

Cucumbers

"I enjoy reading the articles on the land and machinery question. These ought to help the farmers. I wish I could get up an article dealing with this part of B.C., and show up the reason why I can get only twelve to fifteen cents a dozen for good sand cucumbers, wholesale, for shipping to the prairies and yet people from where they go tell me they have to pay twelve to fifteen cents each. I know, but my neighbors do not."—C.E. Weeks, Kelowna, B.C.

There is wonderful prosperity in Canada for owners of capital. The railroads make \$70,000,000 net profits a year. Those cucumbers furnish their share of the profit. Twelve cents a dozen to the producer and twelve cents each paid by the consumer make the railway barons of Canada exceedingly prosperous.

Land in the western cities has advanced marvelously in value. Large sums have been paid for what a short while ago was prairie land. The people needed that land to live on, to provide the needs of the people in the cities. As we are living under a system of rent, interest and profit, interest must be paid on the purchase of the land. That interest comes out of the difference between what the producer of cucumbers and other things get and what is paid for these articles.

Contractors in cities wax rich on municipal contracts. The contractor's rakeoff must come from somewhere. Cucumbers tell the story.

Rents, interests, profits go from the producing class to the non-producing class. That is why cucumbers advance so fast in price.

Socialists want production and distribution of the things the people need to be undertaken and carried on for the benefit of all the people, not for the benefit of those persons living by rent, interest or profit.

If we had Socialist principles applied, no toll would be paid by the producers to the railroad barons, to the banks, to the land sharks, to the profit seekers.

The producers would be the consumers and the rich consumers now would be forced to produce an equivalent to what they consume. Socialism will benefit every working person in the Dominion.

Employment Sharks

The employment shark is abroad in Canada. He has been in the habit of digging dollars out of the pockets of unemployed workers and sending them to far-off points on the promises of jobs which did not exist there.

He has been in the habit of charging big fees and fattening on the misery of those seeking work.

The Borden government last session passed a law restricting the operations of the lean shark.

Now he cannot send workers to non-existent jobs. He has to have a license and he must mind his p's and q's or his license will be taken away from him. The worker must have a job when he parts with his dollar to the employment shark.

Because the Borden government passed this legislation, is the Borden government therefore a friend of the workingmen?

No, not anyone would notice it.

The capitalist class get their unearned revenues by setting the working class at work and making from eight to twelve hours a day. These workers produce from five to ten dollars worth of wealth each day they work. They get from one dollar to three dollars a day for producing the five or ten dollars worth. The difference goes to the master class.

The employment sharks have been hurting the legalized capitalist thieves. If the lean shark took three dollars from a slave and sent him to a place where the master class had no job for him, that slave was wasting time in unemployment. While going to the place and coming back from the place, he was engaged in no productive work.

The slave, it is true, was not getting his two dollars a day while on the wild goose chase, but at the same time, the masters were not robbing him of from three to eight dollars, while the worker was chasing round for a job.

Neither the master class, nor Borden, their obsequious servant, care a hang about whether the worker has work or not, starves or not. That is a matter of utter indifference to them.

But the master class are greatly interested in the wealth they rob from the workers. They want the workers to have jobs so the masters can rob them.

So Borden, at the command of the big skinners of labor, put the grand kibosh upon the employment sharks.

A question at once arises in the minds of many persons, "If Borden and his fellow politicians do not care for the welfare of the working class, why do they pretend to pass legislation in the interests of the working class? Why do they appear so solicitous for the worker?"

Their solicitation is a lie.

Their desire to benefit the worker is pure hypocrisy.

But the wage worker, the common working man, because his ancestors fought and died and died for political rights, has a vote.

He can use that vote and his vote says how the country shall be run.

That is the explanation.

Borden and Laurier and McBride and Whitney and Rowell and the other flimflaming agents of the legalized thieves serve their masters, faithfully—the invisible government of wealth. They lead the workers day by day, week by week, and year by year to slavery.

If the workers once got on to the rotten trick Borden plays upon them, Borden would be thrown into the political garbage barrel.

Borden does not want to go to the garbage barrel.

He does not want to lose his personal labor skinning revenues.

So he fools the working voters.

He fawns upon them to betray them.

The only wise gink among the working class voters is the class conscious Socialist.

Rich people are free—with the money they have stolen from others.

Read the appeal from the Vancouver miners on page one of this issue.

After the missionary comes the Maxim-gun.

Distribute Socialist literature.

Lloyd-George and Land

Lloyd George has begun his great land campaign.

He is pointing out the tyranny the landlords exercise over their tenants and over the agricultural laborers.

This is to be changed. The land is to be taken out of the control of the landlord. Peasants holding will be encouraged. Rents will be regulated. The disgrace of the eighteenth century land laws will be wiped out.

We are glad that the land question in Britain is to be raised, but we know that the capitalist class will be benefited as a whole by this agitation and reform or Lloyd George will not undertake it.

The master class needs a reserve army of unemployed. If there were no unemployed, wages could be forced up by the working class. The masters need men and women who are forced to act as scabs when certain sections of the working class strike.

Owing to the boggish nature of the British landowners, the farm laborers were paid beggarly wages. They were housed in dog-kennels with leaking roofs. Any improvements they might put upon the houses they lived in went to the landlord who raised the rent in consequence.

Towns were throttled and cooped up. The land wanted the cream of exploitation.

There are three reasons why the capitalist class as a whole want the land system to be altered.

First, high rents, and the drains of the landlords upon industry caused the employing capitalist to get less profits. The worker gets a living wage and that is all. The rest of the wealth produced goes to the capitalist class. If the British landlords get a couple of hundred million dollars a year out of their land ownership, and this income can be cut to one hundred million dollars, it follows that the employing capitalists will have a hundred million dollars a year added to their income.

Lloyd George says, "I will hammer the landlord and cut his revenues." "Hurrah," shout the Graggrinds and the industrial plutocracy. They know that they will get more profits.

Second, the exactions of the landlords have been causing the British agricultural worker to emigrate to Canada and Australia. At the beginning of this movement, the employing capitalist was indifferent. There were no workers offering themselves on the labor market that the emigration was felt. Now, however, the drain is being felt.

The industrial reserve army, that section of the working class which the masters keep clamoring at the gates for the jobs of their fellow slaves, is being depleted. The masters know that in a few years the demand for labor to the barren lands of Canada. This will cause the workers to win strike and force wages up. For this reason, then, the employing capitalist is glad to see George begin his land campaign. The Chancellor let slip an expression in one of his speeches which shows this.

He declared the British workers should be kept at home instead of having them emigrate to the barren lands of Canada. The capitalist papers on this side at once took the Chancellor to task for his remark. Canadian capitalists want immigrants to exploit and to form part of the unemployed army also. They were provoked when George called Canada barren. It might deter slaves from coming here.

Lloyd George receives loud applause from the British labor skimmers who are starting a campaign that will tend to keep British slaves where British labor skimmers can skin them.

Third, Socialism is growing strong in Britain. The demand for the nationalization of the mines, land, railways, and means of exploitation is rising insistently from the exploited working class. Unless something can be done to stop the growth of this idea, unless an opposing force in politics be created, the Socialists will win.

Lloyd George as the most astute of the politicians the ruling class of Britain has produced, is engaged in producing this opposing force.

The opposing force is to be a numerous group of peasant proprietors.

The capitalist politicians feel that with the landlords owning the land and the industrial capitalists owning the machinery of production and distribution there is no large body of voters who are interested in maintaining the institution of private property. If, however, the landed estates can be split up into small holdings owned by the laboring British peasants, it is hoped that these peasants will vote for private ownership as against national ownership. The big exploiting owners hope to hide behind the votes of the owning, hard-working peasant proprietors about to be created.

This accounts for the frantic acclaim the Chancellor is now getting from many multi-millionaires. It accounts for the financial support the Liberal party gets from the big labor thieves.

Socialism aims at the abolition of the commodity nature of labor power. We seek to make the working class collective owners. George aims at individual ownership of the land. We seek to make the working class supreme in industry. George aims at keeping the slaves in slavery by the votes of individualist, four-acre-owning peasants.

We as a Socialist party, will keep right on educating the worker to his slave position, in society and organizing him to break his chains. We will leave Lloyd George to his work—bolstering up the rotten capitalist system.

For your own sake and for the sake of those depending on you, join the Socialist party in the fight for economic liberty.

Capitalism grinds the bodies of children into dollars and turns the strong man of forty-five out to starve.

Private ownership of common necessities makes a few the economic lords of the many economic slaves.

The lady who weeps at imaginary woes in the theatre ignores the Mary Magdalen outside.

The janitor says that much reading of the daily press produces mental obesity.

Better be a Socialist live wire for five years than a vegetable for fifty.

Six feet of land is enough for anyone. The nation should own the rest.

Let your reason conquer prejudice.

Free Law

A society is being formed in Montreal to provide free law advice to poor people. Philanthropic ladies and gentlemen who realize that the poor have no show before the capitalist courts of Montreal, find their hearts moved with pity. Consequently they are preparing a way for the poor to go to a lawyer and fight out their rights.

This society looks as though Socialism was getting a great hold in Montreal. To the unthinking person, free law for the poor seems to be very socialistic.

As a matter of fact, free law for the poor has very little to do with Socialism. It is a capitalist device to bolster up the tottering capitalist system.

We attack the system whereby one class owns the means which another class require to produce wealth.

The working class have nothing to sell but themselves. They sell themselves, day by day, year by year, to the owners of capital, and they get a wage upon which they can barely exist. All the working class produce beyond a bare living wage goes to the owners of capital.

The whole system of laws now in force keep the working class poor.

Socialists say, "Let us waken the working class so they may see their own interest, vote for their interests, capture the legislative bodies of Canada, and change the whole system of laws so that the capitalist class will be able to own the means which the workers need to produce wealth with."

We attack the laws as fundamentally unjust. The new society in Montreal does not attack the laws at all. It simply provides means whereby poor people—the robbed producing class, can find out just what the law is without cost to them.

Socialists say the unjust laws should be abolished. The new Montreal society says it will be of great benefit to the poor robbed workers to be told just what unjust laws are in force.

The free law society of Montreal is as far from being Socialist as the devil who lets his subjects know what the rules of hell are is from being an angel of heaven.

When a preacher or a newspaper writer or a politician denies that the interests of capital and labor are antagonistic, he lies.

Capitalists hold the purse strings of the churches, and those purse strings connect with the preachers' tongues.

Socialism will make every man stand on his merits, instead of riding to the front on a stack of dollar bills.

If the workers were good at figures their average income in Canada would be more than \$418 per year.

Socialism will not prevent the survival of the fittest, but it will abolish the survival of the slickest.

A master class never voluntarily freed a slave class. The slaves had to free themselves.

Socialism is a political movement of the working class, and for the working class only.

Study Socialism and understand why it will give a fair deal to everybody.

The class struggle is a fact, not a theory.

The Unemployed

At a recent meeting of the Associated Boards of Trade of Eastern British Columbia, a resolution was put through advocating the formation of a government-controlled continent-wide system of public labor bureaus. The idea is that under such a system unemployed labor could be drafted to places where labor was wanted by employers.

This is the type of capitalist reform. The unemployed army, save enough to eat, and break against the employed workers demanding more pay, brings no profit to the employers. Hence the master class want the workers when hung out of work in one place, to be drafted as quickly as possible to some other place where the masters are ready to use them.

City License Inspector Frank Kerr, of Vancouver, was very outspoken in favor of free labor bureaus. He declared, "I don't think any man should have to pay for getting work."

Frank Kerr talks radical, but it is not radical. He supports the capitalist system under this system every worker has to surrender all the wealth he creates by bare living wage, to the capitalist class shape of rent, interest and profit.

Every man who believes that he should not have to pay to get work for a revolutionary Socialist and works to rid of the plundering.

Corruption and Capitalism

President Wilson fought corruption in New Jersey Legislature when he was governor of that state. In speaking of his fight against legislative corruption, he said, "It is not a party but a class. It is not even a great body of citizens, it is a few corrupt influences upon the political parties are only a small fraction business men of the country."

Wilson is an "honest" president. He fought corruption. But he does not fight the under which the great mass of American slaves.

The capitalist class rob the government of a state, the lawyers' take of a United States or of a would be nothing, is the executive committee of the capitalist class.

These capitalists want rent, interest and from the robbery of the workers the capitalist class want robbery from the capitalist government see to it that robbery is exacted.

Now if one group of capitalists sends the government to legislate whereby they get share of robbery, they will the other sections of the mass injured. Hence certain sectional interests to the detriment of the mass.

The honest capitalist legislator resists these corruptors and the capitalist class, save the disgraced and call him blessed.

As far as the workers are honest capitalist legislator is exactly the pound of profit for the workers.

The fight of the working class against capitalist politics is so as to be a capitalist labor skinner, but system whereby the working class is reduced to a parasite owning

Vancouver Island Defence

Cotton's Weekly has received the following appeal from the Defence Vancouver Island striking miners. A good plan for the comrades would be to appeal on a piece of paper, and tackle Socialists and union men for them forward to the Secretary of the Defence Fund.

FELOW WORKERS:—

We, as brothers of the two hundred miners at present in jail and Vancouver Island, at this time appeal to you as members of the working and financial help, that we may free from persecution and the brand of those chief offenders in their prominence and activity in the labor movement of the Pacific Coast.

The miners, in their dealings as individuals with the corporations, realized their utter helplessness. Time and again explosions occur with life. The mining laws provide for the appointment of a Gas Committee committee on examining the mine and reporting gas, was discharged, lining up with the mine owners, refused to enforce the laws. They are laborers of their own laws.

The men were thus forced to organize, and on the 1st of May last of this Island came out for recognition of their union.

The governments, Dominion and Provincial, in their eagerness for (profits for the master class), encourage a constant stream of imperial countries. With the aid of this reserve army of labor, whose wages are kept down by the threat of drastic criminal law, all the forces of the capitalist class involved.

Today the militia are in our streets, and bodies of the strikers patrol them, and act as a shield to hundreds of special police with strike-breakers.

The jails are crowded with our most active workers. With the bail has been refused.

Among the men in prison are many earnest and active workers, provincial and municipal office. Also J. Place, M.P.P., the working man of the Provincial Parliament. The workers of this district have attained political position of any in the Dominion. In the event of these men are deprived of all political rights for five years.

FELOW WORKERS:—

In this life and death struggle with the Master Class, help us to keep the Labor flying triumphant over what we have already attained. It is our turn to be your tomorrow. In the name of the solidarity of the working class, gently needed at this time. Do all you can, and aid us to hurl those from power who, in their greed would force us to the standard of Oriental, or to be less tramps.

Forward all monies to Defence Committee.

G. A. Moore, Secretary, Box 830, Nanaimo, B. C.

Donations will be acknowledged in Western Clarion, Cotton's Weekly, Appeal, and other Labor papers.

Trustees of 1325, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, Edmonton, Alta.	\$25.00	A. Milner
Local Union No. 322, I. W. W., Vancouver, B.C.	9.00	Raskin
D. Bowie, Sarnish, B.C.	3.00	Savinar Sisters
Collected at the Meeting of the Workmen's Circle, Br. 356, (Arbeiter Ring), Vancouver, Oct. 12.		J. Nard
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