

THE FIRING LINE

A trial sub comes in from Comrade Hanson, Raven, Alta.

Com. Chadwell to hand from Kakabeka Falls, with a trial sub.

Another copy to Harris, Sask. Com. Reddick is the lucky individual.

Com. Arbuckle, of Estevan, Sask., kindly drops in one yearly since last issue.

Moosejaw, Sask., is to receive economic treatment. Comrade Madge sends in two yearlies.

Com. Honens sends in his trial sub from Calgary. Corron's can stand trial with any of them.

Com. G. W. Wrigley, of Toronto, sends in his well wishes, accompanied by the price of a sub.

We get an occasional reminder from Com. Prager. This time it is four trials. Berlin list is growing.

Com. Quimbach adds two more yearlies to the bundle going to Berlin, Ont. Two scalps in Indian language.

B. C. is absorbing Cotton's in good shape. Comrade Eastman is one of the latest to send in his sub. Hails from Kitimaat.

Comrade Crandell still keeps busy at Weyburn. His latest trip netted two. He has the knack, and Saskatchewan is richer for his efforts.

We acknowledge with pleasure the receipt of a two-year sub and pleasant letter from Comrade Bertha M. Buras, of Vancouver, B. C.

We would respectfully ask comrades to write the names and addresses plainly. Sub blanks sent anywhere at the slightest provocation.

That old economic fiend at Amherst, is to hand with another sub. Lots of room down there for Corron's. Labor omnia vincit.

Ever hear tell of Price, at St. Thomas, Ont. Well, he's a worker. His envelope carries good advice for all. Two yearly subs for Corron's this trip.

Our old friend Com. Dawson, has been getting busy around Daysland again. Sends in a yearly and five trials. Our Alberta list is creeping up. Encouraging.

Saskatchewan list increasing at a lively rate. Our experienced friend, Com. Wilkes, of Cypress, has again been doing a few stunts. Comes in with fourteen trials.

That old reliable from Brantford is still on the warpath. In again this week with a string of ten trials. Com. Davenport is on the warpath all the time.

Toronto local have placed an order for seventy-five copies per week. We hope this is only a starter. We could spare a few more.

Our friend with the economic turn of mind, from Hamilton, propounds the query: "Why is a dollar worth 17 cents." Enclosed with it was an order for ten trials. Comrade Grader's query must be attended to.

He could hardly believe it. The impossible has happened. But he immediately got busy. Result, four full subs. Corron's was a glad surprise to Com. Gordon of Lachine, P. Q.

Here we are. Two subs for Meeting Creek, Alta., and Com. S. Hanson says: "I may add that the comrades all like your paper, and there will be more subs from this locality." The more the merrier say we.

We did not expect to hear from Com. Kyo again for some time, after his deluge of thirty-two last week. Yet here he is again with two more. A good thing is worth pushing. Cotton's has many friends in Port Arthur.

Old Halifax by the sea possesses a hustler for the cause. Com. Brison is in with the second list. The first was ten. This one is for eight yearlies, two halves and six trials. A total of twenty-six. Comrade Brison is a lady, and the ladies all like Cotton's.

It's funny how Cotton's seems to make that favorable impression.

Here's another comrade that got a copy and immediately got busy. Sends in eight trials and two half subs. Comrade Watts also throws out some good hints about going after the farmer. His address was Keewatin, Ont., but will be Winnipeg.

We will again remind you that sub cards are a very convenient way of remitting subs. Fifty cents a card, and every card good for a sub. All you have to do is to fill out and mail.

PARTY NOTES

The secretaries of all Canadian locals are requested to send in items about what their locals are doing. There should be at least a column each week of this news. When you come to think of it, it's good propaganda.

The Socialists of Woodstock, Ont., are going to start a local, and will shortly send in an application for a charter.

Comrade Gribble, of Toronto, Dominion organizer S. P. of C., will attend the May Day demonstration in Montreal.

A movement is on foot in Winnipeg to form a mock parliament for the purpose of training youthful comrades to become speakers.

Good organizing work is being done, and a committee appointed for each of the four districts of the city.

A strenuous open air campaign will be carried on during the coming summer. A bunch of young speakers will spout forth wise propaganda.

Ottawa Heard From

The following account is from the columns of the Ottawa Citizen.

"If there is no Socialist in the field to vote for, stay at home and don't vote at all," was the advice given to workmen by a member of the local Socialist body at its regular Sunday afternoon meeting yesterday.

"You are rent payers and not rate payers, consequently you have nothing to do with property," he continued. "The workingman is nothing more nor less than a victim of a rate-paying class who rob him at every turn." He thought this was conclusively shown by the fact that it was now necessary in many cases in Ottawa to have two instead of three families in a house in order to pay the rent of it. Even animals were treated with more respect than the working class, he stated. The latter had civic health inspectors to look after them. "Do they do that with the people?" Demanded the Socialist. "Tuberculosis he traced to its origin in poverty which in turn was due to present capitalistic conditions. 'Governments don't exist for the working class,' was another statement. Although there were 38,000 people out of work in Toronto, said the speaker, the matter had not been referred to in the house of commons at all; the government existed for the protection of property, not of life or limb.

On the 25th of the month the local Socialists will have George Edward, a speaker from Montreal, and shortly after another of French extraction named St. Martin who will speak both in French and English.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

To the Workers of the Dominion of Canada.

The C. P. R. will double-track between Montreal and Farnham.

The International Typographical union convention will be held in Winnipeg in 1912.

In Toronto the price of bricks has been raised a dollar a thousand due to the building boom.

Four quarts of quicksilver have been found in a pocket on the Saskatchewan near Lost River.

In the Yukon the potato crop was 200 tons last year, and the farmers and gardeners expect to double their potato acreage this year.

A new labor temple will be erected in Brandon as soon as building operations can be begun. It will be a three-story structure and will contain some of the finest halls in the city.

The Quebec Federated Trades council is busy preparing for the reception of the delegates to the annual meeting of the trades congress, which will be held in Quebec next September. It is expected that 300 or more delegates from all over Canada will attend.

A GOOD SUGGESTION

At a recent meeting of Montreal local, the following motion was put and carried: "Resolved that instead of having a street parade on May Day, we, the Socialists of Montreal will devote May Day to selling or giving away Cotton's Weekly, and will buy 1500 copies for this purpose, providing that the issue of April 29th is made a special May Day number."

This is a good suggestion for other Canadian Locals to act upon. Give May Day up to propaganda work. Sell and distribute Socialist papers and literature.

We are laying plans to get out a special issue, and would ask all comrades and locals to get busy. If you want copies, get your orders in by Monday, April 26th

CHILD LABOR AND PROFIT

GERALD O'C. DESMOND

Why does the factory, mine, mill or workshop employ child labor? Simply because child labor is profitable. It is more profitable than adult labor. It is more profitable than Chinese labor.

The endeavor of the capitalist is always to increase profit. In order to do this he must cut wages—reduce them to the very lowest possible level. The lowest paid, and therefore the most profitable labor, is child labor. Many individual employers are adverse to the employment of child labor. But the individual employer does not count much in the industrial system. The actions of the individual, in industry as elsewhere, are controlled, are swayed and guided, by the action of other individuals in like circumstances. The individual capitalist must perform order his industrial actions in accord with the actions and industrial life of his, the capitalist class. And this capitalist class as a class are, as their actions prove, utterly devoid of humanitarian feelings. Blinded by the dazzle of gold, they trample ruthlessly upon the workers. They are bound by the iron rules of the competitive system. Should one employer use child labor others perforce must follow suit.

A naval expert, speaking recently of war vessels, said that in a squadron of battleships the speed of the whole squadron was practically that of the slowest ship. In modern industry the exact reverse is the case. The degree of exploitation practiced by the whole capitalist class tends more and more towards the exploitation practiced by the most grasping, brutal and inhuman member of the capitalist class, that is towards almost universal child labor.

And it is useless to expect any change in the employers themselves. If their policy in this matter is to be changed at all it will only be done under compulsion. As a class they will never willingly sacrifice profits for humanity's sake, but will continue, as heretofore, to sacrifice humanity on the altar of profit.

To labor in a mine, mill, or factory, as many children do, is brutalizing and degrading. But what of that? In the world today the human is a mere nothing as compared to the dividend. The plutocracy of this age would rather draw an income of fifty per centum per annum from a child labor hell than an income of forty-nine per centum from an industrial heaven. But what can be done, you ask? For myself and for the socialists I answer you that, to bring about the total abolition of child labor, we must capture the power, both industrial and political, to bring into existence a new and better system both of industry and political life.

So long as we have private ownership of the means of production and distribution, manufacture for profit, and the plutocracy in power, so long will the exploitation of labor, of which child labor is the worst form, continue.

The complete abolition of child labor will come only with the public ownership of the means of production, manufacture for use and the overthrow of the capitalist class politically. When this, which is socialism, does come, humanity will come before profit and the child before the dividend.

The hope of the children, as of their parents, is in International Socialism.

CASTORIA.

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A REPLY TO SOCIOUS

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to reply briefly to "Socius." After reading your paper, he asks what is the fundamental aim of Socialism. None are so blind as those who will not see. No, Socius, you are mistaken in supposing that first and foremost the movement is to champion humanity's rights.

I cannot understand how you can accuse Socialists of being unbrotherly to those who are not Socialists. If you knew the first thing about the movement you will recognize the fact that Socialism does not wage war against men, but against conditions. If a capitalist were to fall into the ditch, a Socialist would hasten to help him out, even though he has scant respect for such a useless barnacle to society.

And as to Socialism becoming authoritative like the church, it is utterly impossible because the individual is sunk in co-operation.

I would advise you to read up a little brother; read "Merrie England" first. Cotton's will get it for you.

C. P. COLLIFORD.

FOR THE FINAL GOOD OF MEN.

The substitution of the capitalist with the co-operative or Socialist system of production is in the interest, not of the propertyless classes alone, but of all classes. The same as slavery was an injury to the slave-holders, and its abolition tended to promote their highest interests, so is the present system of private ownership in the implements of labour injurious, in the highest sense, even to the landlords and capitalists themselves, and its abolition would redound to these as well. They also suffer severely under the contradictions that typify the modern system of production; one set of them rots in idleness, another wears itself out in a neck-breaking hunt after profits, and over the heads of all hangs the Damocles sword of bankruptcy, of shipwreck, and of final downfall into the class of the proletariat, i. e., the class that has been stripped of all the things necessary for production, except its labour power, which, lest it perish outright, it is compelled to sell for starvation wages—happy if it succeed in doing that.

Karl Kautsky.

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Superior Court

PUBLIC NOTICE is by these presents given that on the Eighth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and nine, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, in the Court House, in the Village of Sweetsburg, in said District, James McIntosh, Senior, of the Township of Dunham, in said District, agricultural implement maker, will apply by petition to one of the Honorable Judges of the Superior Court, sitting in and for the District of Bedford, to obtain letters of Verification to establish who are the heirs of the late James McIntosh, Junior, in his lifetime of said Township of Dunham, from moulder.

BAKER & BAKER,
Attorneys for Petitioner
Sweetsburg, April 13th, 1909.

JOHN LAUDER
SURGEON-DEISTIST
Office on the ground floor of the
Reit Block, Cowansville.