

IS PAST, THE TIME FOR VIGOROUS ACTION HAS
And Shareholders Vote Overwhelmingly To Move Paper And Plant To
Enthusiastic Comrade Mechanics Now Planning The Layout Of The Plant In
The Moving Suggested. Toronto Socialists Arranging Big Reception For The
Arrives. Union Label To Be On All Printing In The Future. There Are 18,000 Of Us
Everybody Is Invited To Chip In And Help According To Their Means.

Others interested
of this paper.

It was found that by publishing
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every advantage of being in a small
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IF No. 316 IS ON THE RED LABEL, RENEW AT ONCE AS YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES NEXT ISSUE

THIS IS No. 315

Cotton's Weekly

A. W. MANCE, Editor and Manager

Established Dec. 3rd, 1905

Published Every Week at Cowansville, P.Q., Canada.

Thursday, Nov. 26, 1914

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:—

18,007

TORONTO ATTENTION!

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A Letter from Ireland.

The following letter to "Cotton's Weekly," lately arrived from Ireland. It will give our readers some idea of the war as it is affecting the people of England, Ireland and Scotland. It sounds very different to the highly colored optimistic news you get in the capitalistic press, which is faking news daily to feed a gullible Canadian public.

Loughlin Island, County Down, Ireland.

"Cotton's Weekly"—They say this is an awful war. There are quite a lot of men from around here on the firing line. A soldier has just returned from the front and he does not know, but he thought the army of dying soldiers were pulling at him wildly. One moment before, one of his comrades was blown five yards into the air, and fell to the ground with his throat torn out. Another from the same town fell shot at his feet. He had a gold ring on his finger, and he stooped to take it off, so as to bring it home to his wife. The result was the commanding officer stormed at him and threatened to shoot him. That instant a German shot tore the officer's head from his body. He again stooped down, got the ring, and brought it home. The soldier was only twenty minutes in the fight.

I do not know what they are telling you in Canada about the popularity of this war. But they are having a lot of a time getting recruits from Ireland. Redmond and Asquith were in Dublin a short time ago urging Irishmen to enlist. But from all I can learn they got but a negligible few. Six is the number reported by the papers here.

JOHN CARLIN, late of Canada.

A Message from Debs.

DEAR COMRADE MANCE:—Your letter has reached me, as also copy of COTTON'S WEEKLY, announcing the change in its editorial management, which I have noted with special interest. COTTON'S WEEKLY has done a splendid work in the past, and there is every reason why the comrades should work with united energies to enlarge its capacity and power for the great struggle of the future.

Allow me to tender to you my hearty congratulations upon your selection as editor and to wish for you and the paper that full measure of success. I know you will work with all your splendid ability and untiring energy to achieve.

Having known you and your work these many years I have entire confidence in your capacity to meet the responsibilities of your new position during this trying period and to give COTTON'S WEEKLY, already so well established, a new and extended lease of power and usefulness.

Sincerely wishing for you and for COTTON'S WEEKLY the fulfillment of your most sanguine expectations and with all affectionate remembrances and personal regards I remain as ever,

Your comrade in the cause,

ROBERT V. DEBS.

SPECIAL NOTICE

After January 1st, 1915, the subscription price of "Cotton's Weekly" will be 50 cents a year or 25 cents for six months. All persons holding the 40 weeks for 25 cents subscription cards are requested to dispose of them by that date, as after that date they will only be honored for six month subscription.

CONTROLLER SIMPSON REPORTS ON WORK ACCOMPLISHED IN TORONTO CITY COUNCIL

Backed By Socialists And Union Men The Year's Record Makes Good Showing. Minimum Rate Of Wages For City Employees Of \$15.00 Per Week Secured. Great Steel Corporations Brought To Realize Toilers Have Power And Are Learning To Use It

The following is a synopsis of Controller Simpson's report of his work as representative of the working class of Toronto on the City Board of Control for the first ten months of the year. It tells of the things actually accomplished, attempted, and under way.

In the report, as written by Controller Simpson, he clearly points out that as a lone Socialist on the Board of Control and in the City Council he could only make measures in the interests of the class he was sent to represent, and in a long preface gives full credit to his non-Socialist colleagues on the Board of Control and in the City Council. In the complete report Controller Simpson also points out that much of the support he received from non-Socialist members of the Council was due, not so much to his power of persuasion, but because the other members realized that he had behind him the solid support of the Socialists and all the progressive members of the labor unions of Toronto.

The record of achievements the report presents only demonstrates what labor can accomplish in its own behalf where it once develops class consciousness enough to use its political power on its own behalf instead of trusting its interests to capitalist politicians as has generally been done in the past.

The full report as written by Controller Simpson will be printed in a later edition of "Cotton's Weekly," and also issued in leaflet form by the Toronto Social Democratic Campaign Committee.

A Synopsis of Controller Simpson's Report

1. Immediately after my election as Controller I called attention to the unemployed situation in Toronto and succeeded in getting an out-of-work registration established. The information thus gained as to the deplorable condition of the unemployed was the basis of the establishment of a Civic Registration Bureau under the direction of the City of Toronto.

2. I succeeded in getting a motion passed to push it through to appropriate \$25,000 to commence relief work for the unemployed, which work proceeded without delay. During the four months that the Registration and Employment Bureau was open, over 10,000 men and several hundred women registered. A number of clerical men stated before the Board of Control that they were fully five thousand more unemployed who had not registered. This information obtained successfully refuted the statement of the capitalist press that the unemployed situation in Toronto was exaggerated. The Bureau was the means of securing permanent positions for a large number of those who registered and systematically distributed thousands of the unemployed to the work provided by the city.

3. It was brought to my attention by one of the employees of the Sewer Department that some of the men had been deprived of the Saturday half-holiday at full pay, which had previously been an established practice in the department. I brought the matter before the Board of Control, and the department was instructed to restore the half-holiday with full pay to the employees.

4. An order was issued by the head of the Street Cleaning Department that employees should no longer be allowed full pay during illness, but would only receive half pay. The department claimed that this order was issued because a number of men had pleaded illness and it was later learned that they were not sick. I took this matter up with the committee of the Board of Control, the necessary action was taken, and the order was rescinded, where they stated their objections to the order, and as a result of this conference an arrangement was made for a proper visitation. Those who were re-

union organized, and that "prevailing" rate only apply when there was no union. The report was adopted by the Board of Control, but when it went to the Council the section giving the new interpretation regarding the "union" and "prevailing" rates was deleted by one vote. The bulk of the report was adopted, including the increase of the minimum rate from 18 to 25 cents an hour. This new rate affected all the men engaged by contractors on the city or roadway, sewer, water service and sidewalk work. It is estimated by the civic officials that this increase would add through the \$15 minimum will add over \$100,000 to the city employees' wages, exclusive of the work done by private contract. To fully enforce the fair wage clause in civic contracts it is necessary to have a fair wage officer appointed who can devote all his attention to the investigation of complaints from workmen not receiving the minimum. The Board of Control has asked the City Council to request the City Solicitor to recommend Mr. Ernest Webb, a member of the Typographical Union, as a competent man for the position. The appointment had not been made up to November 20th.

9. For many years there has been a determined effort on the part of a number of large steel corporations to defeat the purpose of the City Council in regulating the payment of "union" or "prevailing" rate of wages on all civic work, and they even had the effrontery to strike out the fair wage clause in the city contract. On my election I determined to bend my effort to compel these powerful corporations to respect the clause in the contract forms protecting the workmen.

10. During the past year we have frustrated all their efforts of evasion of the fair wage clause. I am now informed by union officials that some of these unfair firms have begun to show more respect for union men and their demands, and as evidence of this fact they did not neglect the fair wage clause when tendering upon the steel work for the new Floor Street Viaduct, which will cost approximately \$2,500,000. It is not to be expected that these large steel corporations will help to erect more working class representatives to a representative body.

11. To order the housing situation that I found in Toronto at the time of my election I turned my attention to the question of municipalization of land. To this end I moved in the Council that the Ontario Government be asked to give the city power to purchase land within a radius of five miles of the city limits and power to dispose of it under the best possible terms for the workmen who wished to build homes. I am pleased to report that the legislation was granted, and the city today has the right to purchase land, build houses within five miles of the city limits, and can finance the project through an issue of debentures approved by the rate payers of the city. This is the first city in Canada to obtain such powers.

12. Realizing that the legislation should be obtained to empower the city to tax unearned income in land values, a special committee of the City Council is now dealing with the matter, and I have laid before the members a scheme for the taxation of unearned income similar to the system now in operation in many European cities. The proposed tax is purely upon values created by industry, but enjoyed by those who have contributed nothing, or very little, to the creation of such values.

13. I secured the co-operation of the city legal department in defending actions for city employees injured while following their occupations.

14. I gave my support to a motion in Council which asked for the appointment of a member of the staff of the city legal department, whose duty it should be to defend citizens who appear in the City Police Court who were too poor to engage legal talent. This motion was defeated.

15. Early in the year I asked for a report from the Property Commissioner on the price of coal purchased by the city, and the possibility of reducing the price by other methods of purchase. After investigation the Board of Control au-

Labor Notes

At a recent meeting of the Toronto Trades and Labor Council the subject of the Trades Council nominating and endorsing candidates for the coming Toronto municipal elections brought out some spirited discussion between the Social Democrat delegates and non-Socialist members of the council. It was a communication from the Bricklayers' Union to the effect that they would support any labor man who might enter the field who had the endorsement of the Trades Council on account of the excellent work done for the laboring class by Controller Simpson during the past year. The Social-Democratic members of the council pointed out that the Social-Democratic party had already nominated their ticket for the coming municipal election. The non-Socialists argued that the Trades Council should nominate and support certain candidates without regard to party affiliation, and allow the vote to be cast for the party of the candidate who was nominated. They ridiculed the idea of a man's party. There are a few considered in the capitalist press as "labor" men, but they are not labor men.

Delegates who were asked to vote for both the Social Democrat and non-Socialist tickets for the coming municipal election, pointed out that the Social Democrat party had already nominated their ticket for the coming municipal election. The non-Socialists argued that the Trades Council should nominate and support certain candidates without regard to party affiliation, and allow the vote to be cast for the party of the candidate who was nominated. They ridiculed the idea of a man's party. There are a few considered in the capitalist press as "labor" men, but they are not labor men.

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