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CLEAR THE WAY FOR THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH

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THE PASSING OF HARRIMAN

Capitalists try to persuade the people that the individual is responsible for the greatness of a country. Take out the strong men and where would the country be? The individualist theory holds that the mass of men are good for nothing until they are set to work by some strong man with the brain of a god. It follows as a corollary that the strong man should get millions while the great mass of people suffer hardship. The capitalists know this to be a lie even as they preach it.

Harriman has been held up as the strong man of the railroad situation in the States. The capitalist press has told how he has turned railroads into conduits for golden treasure. The workers on the road have done nothing. Harriman has done it all. The capitalist press would never intimate that Harriman was but the crest of the wave of the social and economic conditions of his time. Without Harriman the roads would have become amalgamated and rebuilt just the same.

It would not have done for the fool workers to be told that they created the wealth which Harriman and his plundering pals usurped. The fool workers might get fool notions of socialism into their heads and where would then be the wealth of the plunderbund?

It was intimated that when Harriman died stocks would smash and industry would become chaotic. When Harriman died the stocks went up. This proves that Harriman had little influence personally. It was the system that gave him his wealth and the same system will give other people the same wealth now that he is dead.

Morgan is being groomed for the great I. A. M. of individualism. It is being hinted that Morgan will be a safer man although less spectacular. He will be represented as supporting commerce and industry and the workers will be told that Morgan feeds them instead of them feeding him. The old age gag will be worked that the industry of the States will become chaotic and the stocks will smash when Morgan dies. Just as long as the workers will stand for that sort of guff, that sort of guff will be palmed off on them. Just as soon as the workers get a little sense beaten into their noddles, just that soon will the robbery of the toilers by the plundering idlers cease. It is up to you men and women who want to see injustice and extortion cease and to have this old world become a paradise of healthy work and leisure for all, to get a hustle on for socialism.

PATRIOTISM

A great howl is going up throughout the length and breadth of Canada for patriotism. The newspapers are howling for soldiers and guns and battle-ships and all under the pretense of patriotism.

Why should Canadian workmen and farmers want to tax themselves with an army. Patriotism on the lips of our government officials means protection for the plunderbund. On all sides, we see the formation of the trusts and the machinery for plundering the people. Foreign plunderers are rushing to the feast. Canadian labor is being plucked. The men who are howling for guns and ships and soldiers care nothing for the welfare of the Canadian people. Our farmers pile mortgages against their little farms and the plunderers rejoice. The men whose strong arms build the railroads and dig the mines can starve and the financiers and their government assistants do not mind.

But the men are being plundered object. And the men who are plundering must devise schemes in order that their revenues may be protected against the indignation of the plundered. These plunderers are glad when a war breaks out. Of course the labor thieves dare not admit their real sentiments. So they talk of patriotism and endeavor to inveigle the plundered into the belief that some foreign country is about to fall upon poor little Canada and eat her up. And the poor little fools who serve as meat to the plunderers listened open mouthed to the bogey stories told them. They do not realize that the financiers and their government assistants do not mind.

out Canadian industries to the foreigners. Of twelve million dollars paid by the C. P. R., in dividends ten millions have gone abroad. The Dominion Iron & Steel Company is owned by Americans. The capitalist newspapers chortle with joy whenever another Canadian industry is bound and mortgaged to foreign money lords.

Then will you yaps who do the work and get skinned learn that the patriots who suck your blood are hypocrites. When will you learn that this talk of patriotism is merely a blind to keep you fellows stirred up against Germany while the capitalists of Canada are stealing you blind. As long as you can be made to burrah for an army of men who plunder you will be glad. But just as soon as you stop hurrahing and begin to ask where the wealth you produce is going, the capitalists will find out that you are getting wise to the skin game being played upon you. Never fear, the trust magnates and railroad barons and cheap Ottawa politicians have their eyes on you. And they are all scared to death lest you fellows should begin to think.

HYPOCRISY

This is the age of hypocrisy. Churches are reared to the Prince of Peace and nations are crushed with armaments of hate. The capitalists are full of lip sympathy for the workmen and bleed them to death. Capitalists talk of the civilization they have reared and the slums are full of rotting wretches produced by the immorality and money hunger of the capitalist class. There is no christianity in the churches. There is no truth in the sentiments put forth by the capitalist class for public consumption.

Let a newspaper begin to tell the truth and it will be put out of business by the post-office authorities as obscene literature. Our whole age is an age of decadence. Our governments move to outworn maxims. Our cities are filled with misery. Our whole social system shows that a great change is about to take place.

How long will you who suffer stand for the hypocrisy of the present system? There are parasites that batten on decaying material, and there are parasites on labor who batten and grow corrupt by sucking a livelihood from the present rotting system.

You men and women whose life blood is being worked out of you to support the parasite financiers, industrial magnates and politicians, how long will you stand for the old system? When will you wake and begin to work for the coming of the co-operative commonwealth when labor shall have its due reward? You will have to work out your own salvation. You cannot depend upon the churches to do it. The churches have forsaken christianity and have gone the way of the world. You cannot depend upon the politicians. They are parasites of the parasites of labor. You cannot depend upon the respectable labor thieves. They are making too good a livelihood out of what they steal from you. You cannot depend upon the capitalist newspapers. They are paid to lie and are the special organs for deceiving you into the belief that the men who plunder you through rent, interest and profit are your friends. You can depend only upon yourself and your comrades who are awake to the thieving system of exploitation.

Do not believe the lies of the politicians, nor the lies of the capitalist press, nor the lies of so-called Christian churches, nor the lies of the business interests. You are in bondage to the lords of theft. You must unite and work hard if you wish to escape the galling fetters in which you are bound. When will you get a move on and escape?

The Chicago Daily Socialist is exposing the criminal attacks on women committed by the Chicago police. Chicago is one of the most corrupt cities in the world. Its corruption is due to the development of the capitalist system.

sweating their women workers and are therefore yawning about the inalienable right of a woman to work herself to death if she wants to.

MONTREAL BOODLE

The lid is partially off of Montreal and a mass of corruption is revealed. Aldermen put themselves up for sale to the highest bidder. The police have been bribed to allow crimes to go unpunished. The whole city government has proved to be one mass of nauseating filth. The legalized labor thieves are provoked that labor thieving, unauthorized by law, should be tolerated. A campaign is on to put respectable labor thieves in control to prevent the disreputable labor thieves from sharing the plunder. Montreal is a priest ridden city and the working men are obedient to the voices of their masters. Hence, it is likely that Montreal will be governed by commission as the legalized labor thieves desire.

But good government according to capitalist standards will remedy none of the evils which afflict the men and women who carry on the work of the city. The street car employees will not get a raise in wages. The employees of the city will have no more in their pay envelopes. Rents will not be reduced, nor will the competition for jobs be any the less keen.

The workers of the world must work out their own salvation. The capitalists and the landlords have no interest in the workers except in so far as they can rob them of what they have produced. Let the workmen of Montreal wake up. Montreal is considered to be the wealthiest city of Canada. This means that the greatest number of labor thieves are concentrated in Montreal. This means that the Montreal workers are among the worst exploited of Canada.

As long as you men of Montreal will allow the capitalists to pick your pockets and then turn around and ask you to help them fight the lesser thieves which are grafting upon them, just that long will the capitalists continue to kick and cuff you from job to job. When will you easy marks get wise?

REFORMS

There are any number of reform societies seeking to improve the moral condition of the inhabitants of Canada.

These reform societies advocate all kinds of reform except the one that would render all other reforms unnecessary. These reform societies want to build churches in order to teach the people to be good. But the people cannot be good so long as the present corrupt system of trafficking in the necessities of life continues. Temperance societies are trying to do away with the liquor traffic and the saloon. But they do not try to give every man an opportunity to earn a living by honest methods.

The respectable labor thieves are the ones who take up these reforms. But these labor thieves never stop to think about the real remedy. Let the labor thieves stop plundering the workers, let the capitalists get off the backs of the workers, and the vast majority of problems at which the reformers tinker away will disappear completely.

Every man, woman and child needs good food, good clothing, good shelter, instruction and amusement. These are the necessities of life. These are the things which should belong to every individual in his right as a human being. But our system of providing these necessities is based upon sale and profit. No man can enter upon land to cultivate it unless he pays to the parasite land owner. No one has a right to a home unless he pays toll to the parasites. No man can get food or clothing without being robbed somewhere along the line.

Let the reformers get busy on the economic question. Let them lift up their voices against the robbery and extortion by which men and women are kept from working or from getting the full results of their toil.

Will the reformers do this? Reformers are not that brand of being. Reformers are like the rich man who came to Christ and asked him what he could do to help the old world along. Christ's answer was practically for the rich man to get off the backs of the workers. The rich man wouldn't, neither will the reformers.

Capitalism is a system under which a man must either stick or be stuck.

THE COUNTRY STORE

Every little village in Canada possesses half a dozen or a dozen little retail stores. These little retail stores employ little retail clerks and buy small orders of retail goods. A dozen little retail stores will order a dozen little lots of retail goods and will pay a dozen express bills. The dozen little stores will carry a dozen little insurance policies and will pay a dozen little commissions to a dozen little insurance agents. The trade of each of these little stores will be small and each of the dozen storekeepers will be continually living on the verge of failure. All these stores will soon be wiped out. There is too much waste of money and waste of goods and waste of time for the little retail businesses to live. The big departmental stores will wipe the little country store out of business. The big departmental stores in turn will be absorbed by the manufacturing trust.

When the little store keeper goes broke, he will have a hard time of it. He is thrown on the world in middle age and without a skilled trade. He falls into the ranks of the unemployed and suffers the torments of the damned. The only hope of the little storekeepers is the coming of socialism when the necessities of life will be produced by all for the benefit of all.

You little retail merchants may fight against socialism and may think that you are not interested. But you are interested, vitally interested. Your means of livelihood is being swept from under you. Industry is being organized and you are not wanted by the big capitalists. The money lords are out to pile millions upon millions. Your only hope is in the socialist party and the triumph of socialism. Until that time comes you will suffer and your children will suffer. Can't you see that your only hope is to be allowed to work at something useful and be allowed to get the full return of your labor? Can't you see that your finish as a retail merchant is just about due? If you have never thought before it is up to you to think now.

THE FARMER'S POSITION

In England, Victor Grayson was elected from a farming country. The most radical socialist in the British House of Commons was returned by men who were supposed to be the most conservative. In the United States the greatest socialist gains of the last elections were in farming regions. The farmers are ripe for socialism.

The little farmers are finding it mighty hard scratching to make a living. Let his crops be bad for one season and he has to slap a mortgage on his little home. Let his cattle take tuberculosis and he is down and out for good.

The farmer is a man who lives a lonely life. He is out in the fields or in the woods or among his cattle. He has plenty of time to think as he goes about his daily work. He cannot get with the crowd very often to discuss matters. But he thinks by himself.

When protection was brought up the farmers were led astray and voted to cut their own throats. Then the farmers voted for the Liberals and found that the Liberal government had been bought by the trusts. They know that their department of agriculture is only a bluff. They know that they are being plundered by the bankers and by the harvest trust. They know that they sell wool cheap and buy cloth dear. They know that they have to sell cattle cheap and buy beef at exorbitant prices.

Did you ever try to get a living from a hillside farm? Did you ever know what it is to fight with thistles and weeds and poor land? Did you ever know what it is to get up before daylight and work all day and go to bed dog tired after dark? Did you ever know what it is to work year in and year out and find yourself growing old with failing strength and your battle with the debt no nearer being won? Did you ever know what it is to pay toll to the banks year in and years out, to wear cheap clothing, and eat rough food, while you send all the best you raise, the best apples, the best pork, the good wheat to market to get a little ready cash which with which to

meet your bank payment? If you have done this then you know what it is to live the farmer's life.

Then there is sickness and doctor's bills. They may be a disastrous fire to burn your buildings or hog cholera to kill your pigs. Ever the fear of being wiped out hangs over the farmer.

The farmers know what it is to lead a hard life. They have to work without whimpering, but they are coming to see a way of escape. The smooth politician will soon no longer be able to win the farmer's vote by a glad handshake and a gift of five dollars. The farmers when they have studied a little the economics of socialism will swarm into the socialist ranks.

As socialism aims at giving the workers the full reward of their labor and as the farmers are among the hardest workers of the Dominion, it follows that the farmers will be tremendously benefited by the advent of socialism. It will be a sad day for the glad hand grafting politician when the farmers of the Dominion are awake to socialism.

THE CAPITALISTS

The capitalists will last just as long as you let them last. The capitalists will continue to make you keep on the jump for a bare living wage just as long as you let them control the machinery of production at which you must work to get a living. Just as soon as you men and women on the lonely farm, in the small village, in the big workshop, in the sweated fever den, out in the forest, or down in the mine, wake up to the robbery that you suffer, just that soon will the power of the labor thieves be broken.

The capitalists are wise and crafty. They keep themselves posted as to the progress of your unions and of the socialist movement in Canada. They know that just as soon as you let yourselves do a little thinking it will be all up with their game of robbing you.

It is nice to be the owner of a mill and have a revenue of a hundred thousand dollars a year. It is pleasant to own a street of houses and have money rolled in for nothing. But it's hell for the man who works in the mill and for the man who pays rent. The fear of eviction ever hangs over the workingman who pays rent. Let him lose his job or let him fall sick and he and his family will be turned homeless upon the street. But the capitalists will not let him live on the streets. He and his family will be hustled to jail as vagrants.

You workingmen who build the railroads and walk the ties hunting a job, you men who build palaces for labor thieves and live in hovels, you farmers who send your cream to the city and live on skimmed milk and johnny-cake, what do you take yourselves for anyway? How long are you going to read in the plate papers of the vast riches of Canada and remain poor? Just as long as you can be got to vote the Liberal or Conservative ticket, just that long will you be plundered by the labor thieves. The capitalists are out to get all they can from you and you are cheap thugs in standing for their robbery.

Five hundred miners of Enterprise, Iowa, are on strike. The coal company of that town owns the coal mines, the stores and the shacks in which the miners live. Last May the company put on some garbage waggons to clean up the alleys of the town. The company then deducted from fifty cents to three dollars from the pay envelopes of the miners to pay for the service. The miners kicked as some of them were working only two days a week. The company last August thereupon stopped deducting the money from the envelopes and raised the rent of the shacks fifty cents a month per room. The miners therefore have gone on strike. They can get no land on which to build their homes and consequently are in a hard position. Their only hope is to get under the banner of socialism and fight for a condition of things in which the land and coal will not be held for the profit but for use.

One thousand weavers employed at the Fall River Iron works and cotton mills have gone on strike for higher wages.

CANADIAN POSTAL UNIONS

Canadians have read with astonishment of the postal strike in France. They have read with mild surprise of partial strikes of post-office employees in London and Liverpool. It will no doubt come as a surprise to Canadians to learn that conditions are shaping themselves in this country for the same kind of struggle on the part of the post-office employees to get a share of the wealth stolen from them by the people of Canada.

Recently The Ontario Post-Master's Association held its annual convention at the Temple in Toronto. The post-masters resented the charge that they sweat their employees whom they hire to help them to do the work of delivering letters. The secretary, H. E. Proctor, of Aurora, declared that the post-masters desired to employ the best help available, but they could not do so unless the government provided them with the means. Many post-masters had to do the work of two persons simply because they could not afford to employ help out of the small remuneration they got for doing such important work. In many cases post-masters have to work thirteen and fourteen hours a day and never get a holiday from one year to another.

This shows how the Canadian government sweats its employees. The business men of Canada want to get as cheap postal facilities as possible and they egg on their henchmen at Ottawa to sweat the post-masters. This is practically the charge made by Proctor. As the members of the Ontario Association now number one thousand three hundred, there is a good start made towards a Post-master's Union of Canada.

Besides the Post-masters there are the letter carriers. This branch of the postal service has also its union. The Federated Association of Letter Carriers of Canada have met this week in Montreal to discuss the affairs of their Union. The meeting is more social than industrial in its nature. Nevertheless the solidarity of labor necessitates the affiliation of the government employees with the employees of private employers. This will come. Under socialism the post-office employees will have as much say in the management of the business of transmitting and delivering correspondence and periodicals as anybody else. The post-offices will not only be publicly owned, but will also be democratically managed and controlled by the workers themselves. At present the postal associations do not realize the solidarity of labor, nor the struggle with the politicians at Ottawa which is ahead of them. They have their organizations, but those organizations will have to become revolutionized. The revolutionary spirit will come to them when the post-masters and letter carriers become a little harder pinched in the coming economic struggles.

The Christian Guardian, the organ of the Methodist church, publishes a full page photograph of Butcher Beresford. The Guardian declares that "Canada has been delighted with the visit of the bluff and hearty Englishman, Lord Beresford, whose long and signal service to the Empire has made his name honored and beloved wherever the map of the earth is painted red." This is fulsome flattery from a paper published in the interests of the doctrine of the Man of Peace. But the Methodist Church as well as the rest of them is sunk in sycoophany to the powers of the world. It will flatter and it will lie. The name of all Britain's official butchers is despised in India by the Indian patriots. The Chinese do not love the butchers. The Egyptians hate the English. But all this does not bother the "Christian Guardian." After the above article let the name be changed to "The Butcher's Flatterer."

In Lincoln county, Ontario, a group of farmers attacked the workmen who were laying the transmission line of the Provincial Government's scheme. The workmen attacked did not fight back and the farmers are being sued for damages. The farmers were foolish to start a row. That way never lies ordered advance. Let the farmers study where they are robbed and fight for control at the ballot box.