THE FIRING LINE

Books for Hustlers

"POVERTY OF PHILOSOPHY," by Marx, one of Kerr's standard $1.00 books to the hustler who sends in the largest amount of subs between Friday, May 19th and Friday, May 26th.

"WORLD'S REVOLUTIONS" or "Socialism for Students" to the hustler sending in the second largest amount of subs between the same dates.

"ANCIENT SOCIETY" by Morgan to the hustler who sends the largest amount of subs between Friday, May 19th and Friday, June 2nd. This is a standard $1.50 book.

Watch out for the month of June. Bang-up chance for hustlers to stock up a library. Our week runs from Friday to Friday, and subs are computed on the half-yearly basis. Books are in addition to Facts or other premiums.

Four new halfers from Comrade A. Betzner, Toronto.

A yearly and two halfers from an Edmonton slave.

Have you read Bancome & Scrapp's this week? It's good.

Two halfers from Comrade John O'Hara, Prince Albert, Sask.

Five trials and a yearly from Comrade W. A. Rideout, Bawlf, Alta.

Comrade J. Cochrane, Cobden, Ont., adds a new leader.

A yearly from Comrade W. H. Mabee, Kronan, Sask.

Two yearlies and a halfer from Comrade A. J. Grant, Cayuga, Ont.

Four halfers from Comrade Rupert Lochhead, Port Arthur, Ont.

Comrade J. W. Hammell, Vancouver, B. C., lands from the Pacific province with five yearlies.

Comrade J. E. Switzer, Port Arthur, Ont., connects Cotton's with five yearlies.

Comrade Mrs. E. Bellemare, Sec. English Local, Toronto, remits $4.80 for subs and sub cards.

"I've got two halfers in the ring for Socialism." Comrade J. W. Morish, Berlin, Ont.

Sound the loud timbrel o'er Canada's land. The slaves are kicking like Texas mules.

Comrade E. M. Davenport, Sparta, Ont., makes four halfers discontented with capitalism.

Five more sub cards are hunting for thinking wage slaves per Comrade J. McNeish, Montreal.

Comrade Thos. Robinson, Coatsworth Station, Ont., makes the bulldog glad with a bone for five halfers.

Comrade T. T. Sydbo, Kingman, Alta., chucks Cotton's into the heads of eight slaves for a year.

Are you resolved to give Cotton's a circulation of twenty thousand in 1911? If you have not, why not?

"Enclosed find one dollar for subs. Best I can do now as I'm busy. Hope to send more next time." Comrade C. W. Thompson, Granum, Alta.

Comrade R. Brydson, Toronto, is after the capitalist system good and plenty. Three dollars worth of sub cards are now on their mission per his efforts.

"I like your talk of a hundred thousand subs better than the idea of quitting the paper," says Comrade C. Graham, Langley Prairie, B. C., with two yearlies and a trial.

Seven yearlies and fifteen halfers from Comrade Alain Burke, Montreal, who says he could not get more this week because he has been busy moving.

Two halfers from Comrade D. A. Buffet, North Bay, Ont., who says that the author of Buncome & Scrapp's must have seen much of the workingman's side of life to be able to picture it in the masterly way he has done.

"Enclosed find shin plaster for half yearly sub. Hard work getting the workers to take an interest in their own welfare; almost enough to disgust a man with a grain of sense." Comrade W. J. Hammond, Carleton Place, Ont.

"The papers I have been giving to the newsboy have been going fairly well, so I am enclosing an order for a three month's bundle. The May Day issue was excellent. I am sorry to see the sub list going back. It's a shame." Comrade W. E. Hardenburg, Red Deer, Alta.

"Times are too hard to take shares just now," says Comrade Grant Thompson, Kinsella, Alta., with three halfers. Subscriptions are just as necessary as stock taking, if not more so. Those who take stock furnish the sinews of war. But those who bring in subscribers furnish, not only cash to keep Cotton's going, but also brains and muscle and hearts to swell the army of the revolution.

"Please find enclosed the sum of twenty-five cents for my renewal. Some one, unknown to me, has been sending it to me for nearly six months and it has made a true Socialist of me. As I am a wage slave I am in sympathy with anything that will better the conditions of our fellow wage slaves. I hope to see the fight continue to a glorious end." Comrade Edgar Kerton, Strathroy, Ont.

Have you become a bundle booster? Have you not pitied the poor blokes on the benches beside you who think it is an honor to work like slaves? Have you not longed with a great pity to pry these wage slaves loose from their fool ideas? Why not take a bundle of five or ten copies of Cotton's a week for three months and be a benevolent missionary to the benighted and contented slaves?

"Your May Day issue was good, and the last number, Convention Number, was better still. I feel we are going along in good shape. Stick to your guns. Send me a dollar's worth of sub cards and tell the girl to put in some of your new souvenir post cards. I will try and dispose of a few sub cards every week." Comrade Gus Prager, Berlin, Ont.

"I took great pleasure in hunting you up a few subs for your paper and I got five to put up fifty cents each for it. I am sorry to say that we are having a commodity struggle with the coal barons just now and some of the old subscribers could not muster up four bits for the paper. But as soon as the strike is ended they will be glad to renew." Comrade Wm. Fraser, Coleman, Alta.

Cotton's finds it a good stunt to send the paper to every little weekly in Canada. These country editors talk to a few hundred people every week. Cotton's is educating them. They read Cotton's and get mad. They say it's a pack of lies. But in spite of themselves their brains feed on Cotton's and get colored with Socialism and they can't help giving to their readers the ideas they got from Cotton's. Don't you think it a good idea to contribute to the Agitation Battery to educate the editors of Canada? Next time you feel like taking a few drinks, don't but send the two or four bits to Cotton's. Your heads will be clearer and the heads of the Canadian editors will also be refreshed.

"Enclosed is one dollar for subs. Cotton's improves every week and you do well to leave heresy hunting and hair splitting wrangles to others. Your remarks on the New Party, the I. L. P., are good, but the time is past when reforms and fake labor parties can sidetrack the class struggle, and the I. L. P. will be just as revolutionary as its members. It can shirk no security short of the abolition of wage slavery, and it may be the party to lead the workers to victory. As you perhaps know, J. H. Hawthornthwait has resigned from the S. P. of C. for the same reason that others have found it impossible to remain in that organization. Socialism is growing rapidly but as yet the elements are not organized and they must unite before long. The tide of revolt is sweeping onward at a tremendous pace in Canada. Thousands of men and women from Europe are being lured here by the professional liars of the transportation companies and land sharks. In British Columbia they are being dumped into a wilderness or into cities already containing thousands of unemployed. The awakening of these thousands to the fact that they have been duped and robbed will be cruel. But it will make of them the right kind of rebels once the message of Socialism is presented and it is for us to present it. From now on we can look to the most rapid growth of Socialism in Canada and the U. S. In Europe thrones are tottering and rulers quaking. Within a year a Socialist republic may be declared in France, Germany, Belgium, Finland, and the most advanced parts of Europe would follow. What would follow? A panic so great that paralysis of capitalist production would result and the giant Labor would awake and shake the pigmy parasites from his back and be free to produce for use. Today ignorance alone stands between humanity and Socialism. Today the rulers retain their position through their intellectual prostitutes, through their press, platform and pulpits, and people drink lies, thinking they drink truth. The man with the normal brain, the average man seeing the world as it is today must be a revolutionist. Then Comrades to work! Tell the truth. The truth will make you free." Comrade W. J. Curry, Vancouver, B. C.

Attracting Much Attention

The serial story now running in Cotton's is pleasing a goodly number of our readers. This confirms our judgement in regard to "Buncome & Scrapp's." Follow the story closely, as the coming chapters are fine, and the author has big surprises in store for you.

The following opinions are typical of many now reaching Cotton's:

Jas. Stapley, Lindsay, Ont.—"I think Buncome & Scrapp's is O. K. I find it is read with interest by a good many both young and old."

I. M. Sutherland, Woodstock, Ont.—"I consider Buncome & Scrapp's a cracker-jack of a story."

A. Sherbrooke, P. Q., comrade—"I am much pleased with Buncome & Scrapp's, and I think it gives the true light on the way things are done. Hope to see you grow to 20,000 in 1911."

What do you pay taxes for. Aside from the public schools and a few old bridges, what do you get for your tax money? Isn't it a case of collecting taxes to pay the public officials who eat them up? You pay taxes to pay your officials and elect officials to eat up the taxes. It is much easier and much better paid to sit in a comfortable chair, smoke cigars and draw a good salary than to do something useful for a living. I wonder why the farmers and wage earners as they work in broiling sun and winter's blast do not see how easily they have the wool pulled over their eyes by the fellows with the glad hand about election time. Any other time the officials do not know them. And why should they? What good would it do the voters if they did? Voters who are so easy don't need any attention.

Issuing Stock Certificates

The Stock Certificates are being issued as fast as possible to those subscribers who have paid up in full. The sooner subscribers for stock pay up their shares, the sooner they will have their title deeds as full-fledged stock-holders in Cotton's Co-operative Publishing Company, Inc.

The Stock Subscription List remains open till the first of June, in response to urgent requests. Shares can be taken on payment of 25 per cent down, balance in three monthly payments.

New subscribers for stock are: J. Robb, Hardisty, Alta.; W. G. Ewing, Gorefield, Sask.

Watch for Next Issue

There are so many things to hit that I don't know just what I'll hit next week. There is a good big biff due Mayor Guerin of Montreal for refusing to allow the red flag on the streets. The M. P's ought to be biffed every week. But I think that in next week's issue I will deal with political activity. We Socialists are philosophers and as Walter Thomas Mills says, we suffer from the fault of philosophers. We prefer to tell what we ought to do instead of explaining how to do what ought to be done. So next week I think I will deal with the question of how to make the M. P's sit up and take notice. If you will follow out the plan to be laid down in next week's issue, Socialism will be a real live issue in Canada from now on. Prepare yourselves for action.

The Montreal Street Railway Company is after a longer franchise. The Board of Control is willing to give it the extension if the Company will grant lower fares. The Company is willing and the new franchise will be given when the details have been arranged. The Montreal Street Railway Company is one of the richest companies in Canada. It is being merged in the Montreal Tramways Company and the whole island of Montreal will be under the monopoly of this company. It clears in profits a sum equal to the total wage bill of its employes. It will not allow the employes to form a union. It sacked twenty-five motormen and conductors for agitating for a union among the slaves. It works its employes long hours. It discharges its employes without warning. All this does not matter to the Controllers nor to Mayor Guerin who declares the red flag shall not be tolerated in Montreal. As long as the brokers and lawyers and capitalist exploiters can ride cheaper that is all that matters to the rulers of Montreal. These rulers were elected by the votes of the slaves of Montreal, and these rulers see to it that the slaves shall be slaves. When the workers of Montreal begin to use their brains they will put into power at Ottawa, at Quebec and in Montreal, revolutionary workingmen who will see to it that the capitalist class shall be abolished and that the workers shall control the machinery of production and distribution. Then the workers will have full control of the conditions under which they are to labor.

ASK A CLERGYMAN:

If St. Basil said, "The rich man is a thief?"

If St. Chrysostom said, "The rich are robbers: better all things in common?"

If St. Clement said, "Iniquity alone has created private property?"

If St. Paul said, "If any will not work, neither let him eat?"

If St. Ambrose said, "It is the bread of the hungry thou keepest; it is the clothing of the naked thou lockest up; the money thou hast buried is the redemption of the poor?"

If St. Ambrose said, "Nature created community; private property is the offspring of usurpation?"

If Isiah said, "Woe unto them that turn aside the needy from judgment, and take away the right from the poor people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless?"

If Job said, "Yet he (the rich robber) shall perish like his own dung: they who have seen him shall say, 'Where is he?' He shall fly away as a dream and not be found: yea, he shall be chased away as a vision of the night?"

If Isiah said, "Woe unto them that join house to house, and lay field to field, till there is no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth?"

If St. Jerome said, "Opulence is always the product of theft committed, if not by the actual possessor, then by his ancestors."

If he will preach from these texts for the next few Sundays.—Social Democrat, Australia.

Cotton's will not issue any more sub cards on credit. It has proved too costly in book-keeping and postage. Cash must accompany all orders.

It is men who fear ideas who try to suppress them.

There can be no real democracy until the people rule industrially.

Socialism is constructive. Capitalism is destructive.

The more the combines make the less the common people have.

All those workers who like to be robbed of three-fourths of what they produce, will you kindly vote against Socialists?

Many a preacher there is who believes in interest or usury and yet pretends to instruct the people as to how they should conduct themselves in this world.

Thomas Edison prophesies that within a few years Great Britain will tremble at the word of one man and that one man will be a workingman. Edison sees dimly the triumph of the social revolution.

The Toronto Star of April 22nd prints an article from a correspondent, entitled, "If I were health officer." If this correspondent were health officer he would compel every grocer to keep his eatables kept for sale from street dust. He would instruct the police to arrest any person found in a public place or on a street car from whose body came a filthy odor due to lack of bathing. He would compel houseowners to keep their houses sanitary. He would prevent the erection of houses without a side entrance and on lots less than fifty feet by a hundred feet. He would compel all houses to have proper facilities for bathing. This shows how much the individual is being forced to become social and do away with his individuality that is injurious to the general health. Even capitalist papers realize that we are entering on a new stage of existence, and that that stage will be one in which the hunt for profits will be eliminated where it conflicts with the good of the general public. The capitalist papers, however, will not see that the rise of the working class to power will not only give sanitary dwellings, but will also abolish rent, interest and profit.

"As a condition of the Toronto Carpet Mfg. Co.; Limited, taking me into their employ; I agree to abide by the Company's rules, regulations, a copy of which has been received by me; and I hereby pledge myself not to belong to any union or organization, whose rules govern my conduct while in their employ." That is the document which the Toronto Carpet company wanted the employes to sign. The employes refused point blank to sign the agreement and the company locked the men out. The Carpet company owns the machinery and plant at which the men have to work to produce carpets. That ownership allows the company to say whether workers shall work in its mills and under what conditions. These men who were locked out feel indignant. But many of them laugh at Socialism which would hand over to the working class the machinery at which they must work to produce wealth. They vote for the capitalist politicians who make laws to enforce wage slavery. Just as soon as the slaves of Canada wake up to what revolutionary political activity can do for them and their class, strikes and lockouts will no longer be possible. For the workers will own the machines and will not be able to strike against themselves.

World Growing Better

The world is growing better. It has been growing better through many centuries. Wrong and destructive as capitalism is, it is better than that which preceded it. It was necessary that it come. It did a work, and without it the world would not have been ripened for Socialism. Socialists are not mere pessimists who mope over the idea that things are always growing worse, but they are optimists who see in history a constant climb, and who, because of the climb in the past, believe in advancement in the future. Capitalism has done a work. But it has already accomplished its work. On it and over it the world has arisen to a point where it can advance beyond it. And it must and will advance.

Stock Subscription List will be Kept Open till Further Notice. 70 More Shares will Complete the Issue

STOCK SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

COTTON'S CO-OPERATIVE PUBLISHING CO., INC.
COWANSVILLE, P. Q.

I HEREBY SUBSCRIBE to.....Shares of Stock in Cotton's Co-operative Publishing Co., Inc., par value $10.00, and herewith enclose $.....being .....payment on said stock.

Signed .....

Street or Box .....

City..... Province.....

Twenty-five per cent of the amount of Stock subscribed for must accompany Subscription Blank. Balance is payable in three equal payments of 25 per cent, at thirty, sixty, and ninety days.

THOU SHALT NOT KILL

D. McK. Sutherland.

When one person kills another, with the deliberate motive of gain or revenge, the law calls the act murder and inflicts a penalty accordingly. If one individual causes the death of another through culpable carelessness, the law calls the crime manslaughter, and imposes a corresponding penelty.

When a corporation, a company or an individual, catering to a popular demand or in the performance of a public sevice, so conducts its affairs as to cause the PREVENTABLE death of one, a hundred or a thousand of its patrons or employees—wage slaves—we collect statistics of the dead and crippled, tabulate them beautifully, and speculate as to whether the ensuing year will show an increase or a decrease in the slaughter. So we consider our whole duty done if occasionally we arrest, prosecute and convict the employee who was unfortunately in charge of the death dealing device (providing the device has spared the life of said employee)—then write up fine editorials denouncing the carelessness of the wage slave, and expressing sorrow for the great expense the corporation has been put to.

"Thou shalt not kill," is the chief command of the capitalist but it is made to read "Thou shalt not kill the PROFIT SYSTEM." "Thou shalt zealously guard the interests of the great Triune God RENT, INTEREST AND PROFIT." This is the first and greatest capitalist commandment.

Ninety per cent of the great accidents and catastrophes which sicken with horror, and which then are forgotten by all save those whose dead lie in unnumbered resting places—ninety per cent of these are directly traceable to the CRIMINAL GREED and MURDEROUS AVARICE of profit seekers. The possession of the dollar is exalted above the sacredness of human life.

The slaughter of railway employees alone is something appalling, while the coal mines and all our great manufacturing plants supply their lists of killed and maimed horrible to contemplate.

Then we have drug concerns who do not hesitate to send out deadly poisons in the place of standard remedies. "Thou shalt not kill" the profit system, again is the great command obeyed. Despite all the LAW wills or PRETENDS to do, the country is deluged with adulterated foods and thousands of persons are killed annually in consequence of their sale. Does it cost more to protect than to kill?

Yea verily, much more. There are excellent devices for the protection of the machine hand, for the protection of the miners, railway protection devices etc., but the cost, in money would be much greater than the money cost of human lives sacrificed. Greed of gain must not be tempered with.

We are supposed to have pure food laws but our "noble" lawmakers will not enforce them. They bow down and worship the Triune God Rent, Interest, and Profit, otherwise called Mammon.

It is a fact transparent to all sane, justice loving people that under the present economic system justice is an impossibility. The God of Rent, Interest and Profit must first be abolished.

Our government, capitalists, courts of law, as well as ninety-nine per cent of our priests and churches are so smothered in golden swaddling clothes, that their very souls are gold cankered and shrivelled. No hope, no hope there. But my dear brother wage earner, there is a grand and noble movement now numbering within its ranks, over thirty thousand wage earning slaves. The purpose of this great organization is the emancipation of the human race from all fear of want, organization that will free all from the brutal, tyrannical, murderous, capitalist system. That organization is the Socialist Federation, or the Co-operative Commonwealth. It is the only organized movement for the oppression of, tyranny in every form, of vice, of industrial murder and starvation, of bribe givers and bribe takers, etc.

It means humane brotherhood and honest freedom.

It is the gospel of truth and Social saivation.

It will give a safe and sane environment to all coming generations.

It will abolish poverty and excessive wealth.

It will give justice instead of alms.

It will provide full opportunity for full development for all.

It will bring success to those seeking a better way and a better world.

It will bring the reign of the Prince of Peace.

My dear Brother toiler, of whatever race, creed or country, I implore you, I appeal to your intelligence. Familiarize yourself with this great movement. Secure your knowledge from the most reliable sources. Ask Cotton's to procure you the most reliable works on Socialism, that you may know exactly what it means, then study and thoroughly digest what you read and when you perceive the light on the Social mountain you will gladly do your part to usher in the brighter day, the better, the sane, the human way—a glad world, the brotherhood of man, where all, with all our hearts sing, Peace on earth, good will to men.

CUMBERLAND ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND.

The Socialists of Cumberland county, N. S., in which is situated the town of Springhill, desire to run candidates in the coming elections. There is a strike on and campaign funds are needed. Comrade Jules Lavenne declares that there is not nearly enough money sent in by the Comrades. The provincial elections will be on shortly and time is limited.

Will the Comrades who have admired the fight put up by Jules Lavenne and the local Socialists of Springhill, Help in a more tangible way by sending funds for the campaign to Comrade Jules Lavenne, Springhill?

THE SWING OF CAPITALISM.

The following advertisement appeared in a New Brunswick paper.

WANTED—Musicians that own their instruments, give service for position, 2 tailors, 2 painters, 3 shoemakers, 4 moulders; other tradesmen write; must be good at both; one good bass drummer. Eugene C. Crotty, Sackville, N. B., Bandmaster Citizens' Band.

You see how capitalism is progressing? It is getting so you can no longer sell your labor power alone. You have also got to sell anything you have. No. Not sell it. You have got to throw it in free.

We think that labor power sells at its cost. That is right. But there is so much labor power offering that the workers cannot sell. So the masters look over the bunch and pick out what they want.

Here are two tailors, two painters, wanted. It does not matter if you are a good tailor. That is not enough. You have to be a good musician. You must own your own instruments. And you must give your services.

If you are a union man and stick to your union you may get union pay. But you will have to scab on the musicians to hold down this job.

When will you wage plugs get wise? Are you always going to sleep on? How many more burdens will your masters have to pile on your backs before you will get sense, and fight back?

Now you cannot get jobs unless you can play music for nothing, amuse the people. Pretty soon your masters will be wanting you to make faces and tote their young round after your day's work is over. Advertisements will be appearing. Wanted, honest tailor, work ten hours a day and take care of his employers children at night. Must be good at making faces that will amuse children.

In the old Roman days the flute girls were not successful unless they were willing to surrender their sex favors to their employers.

If you have anything, you slaves, trot it out and exhibit it to your masters. If you want a job learn to scab on your fellow workers of another craft. Sell your labor power as a shoemaker and give your power to produce music for nothing. Be willing to become nurse girl, clown, anything to hold your job down.

Oh you slaves, you sleepy, foolish slaves. You build the shops and mills and railroads and your masters own. You labor to produce clothing and your employers own the goods you produce. You sell your labor power against one another and your masters buy you from day to day as slaves.

Will you forever be slaves? Why not be men? Why not unite among yourselves and throw off your masters? Take the mills away from them. Take their railways away from them. Your class built them. Your class runs them. Your class does the work. Why should you be plundered by a class whose only labor is to fight among themselves for a share of the plunder stolen from you and to devise ways and schemes of plunging you deeper into slavery?

New Souvenir Post Cards

We have just printed two nice post cards, one showing Jules Lavenne and the Socialist Young Guard on a parade at Springhill, N. S., the other putting before the public, the Canadian Temple of the Revolution, the home of Cotton's Weekly. They will be sent to every hustler who sends in a dollar or more at one time. Ask for Souvenir Post Cards, so the girls will not forget.

KEEP IN MIND.

That your name and address should be signed to everything you write.

All money orders should be made payable to Cotton's Weekly.

Write book, bundle, card or sub orders on separate sheet of paper from letters on other matters.

Always give expiration number when renewing sub.