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In Clubs of Four or more  
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There is a handwriting on the wall, and the plutes are aware of what it means. Their henchmen are aware, and are doing their best to rub the warning out.

Rent, interest and profit are the natural results of the capitalist system. Do you think cannot get along without them? Study Socialism, and the way is open to you.

Scandal, scandal, scandal in the legislatures and parliament of Canada, yet the scandal-mongers return to their game of graft term after term. Surely we are a long suffering and dense sort of people.

The workers should glance over the roster of the politicians of Canada and try and pick out one who is a friend of labor outside of those who have openly avowed their labor principles and were elected on the labor ticket.

The reverence of riches is departing from the masses. The glance of aversion and sometimes hate is directed to the lazy luxurious class by the producers of all wealth. The parasites are recognized as what they are, not what they look like.

Why should a banker sit in his easy chair and take interest from the people? Because the foolish capitalist system demands it. A banker under Socialism will be an impossibility. He could not live, as there would be no interest for him to graft onto.

You elect lawyers to the parliaments of the country. Do you elect lawyers because they understand law? They understand law all right, and make the laws for their masters, laws which favor the masters in every particular and which sew the workers up solid and tight.

Let Ontario not forget that they do not have to put up an election deposit. Let the comrades take advantage of this and put up candidates at every opportunity, and at every sort of an election. Keep Socialism before the people, and the people will become interested in Socialism.

Miners dig and blast the earth and rocks hundreds of feet below the surface and sweat and suffocate and die to produce gold and silver, while the cultured class sit in the high places of the land and fatten on the profits of the workers. And they tell us the capitalist system is a fair one.

Comrades, do not find fault with your fellow workers in the Socialist movement. If you have any surplus energy to knock, use it against the common enemy. The other fellow's methods of fighting capitalism may not suit you, but he probably is making two Socialist votes to your one. Fight unitedly, and fight fair.

A boy scout and a rifle, with a muddleheaded officer urging him on are far more dangerous to the striking workers than the most seasoned soldier. No worker should ever allow his boy this infamous organization. They are organized for the sole purpose of subduing the striking workers, whether they think so or not.

For years and years the workers of Canada have sent the same old bunch of misfits to Ottawa to run the business of the country. Now this crowd are seasoned. They are professional politicians. To them the interests of the working class are not to be thought of. They have masters with money, and to obey those masters in thought and word and deed is the object of the professional politician.

Soon it will be time for the farmer to dig in and prepare the seasons crops for the benefit of the hundred and one parasites who are eagerly waiting for him and his loads of produce. Machine agents, mortgage grafters, loan sharks, and landlords will all stand in a row with their hands out. For all his slavery and toil the farmer will have barely enough left to skimp along on until the next crop, that is, if he is lucky.

There are many men who are lazy and won't work. Capitalists do not like such men, and have had laws passed to compel them to work. They must perform some useful toil, or be taken to prison and exploited there. You elect men to parliament to pass such laws against people who are not nearly so lazy as the men who cause these laws to be passed. If laws are to be passed to compel men to work, make the laws to fit all men who are fit to do a day's labor. Make laws to compel the luxurious class to work. You cannot do it under capitalism. You can do it under Socialism. Why do you uphold capitalism?

In the family stricken districts of Japan the people are selling their children. Rice is the national food of Japan. The rice crop for years has been bought up for the western markets, and the Japanese are too poor to buy their own rice. They are starving, and selling their children. This is one phase of capitalism. A few years ago the Japs were falling pell mell over each other to go to the front and fight Russia, for the benefit of the capitalist armament makers. Added to this there is a war debt of millions hanging over the heads of the people of Japan waiting until the country gets prosperous enough to have it enforced. Japs are adopting western methods, and are paying the price with misery and starvation.

"Socialism will break up the home," say the enemies of Socialism. What home? There are really no homes under the capitalist system to break up. A rented house is not a home. A mortgaged house and furniture is not a home. A house and furniture purchased on the installment plan is not a home. A family scattered over the country from one end to the other hunting for jobs is not a home. A man working ten hours a day, and his wife working longer hours still does not make a home. It is only a place in which to eat and sleep. A son forced to leave his native town in order to get wages, a daughter slaving in a sweat shop or mill, and a bunch of half dressed children does not tend to make the father and mother think that they are blessed with much of a home. These are the kind of homes that anti-Socialists claim Socialism will break up. Socialism will certainly break up these "homes" and allow the parents the wealth they create, and the result will be a real home, minus the trouble and care the average householder is facing to-day under the foolish capitalist system.

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Roy Winn, Associate Editor

## Shall Socialists Join the Militia?

An Ottawa Comrade writes:—"In reading over your issue of March 19th, I ran across the article, 'Capture the Militia,' by a patriot. Now I have four boys and have always been hollering that not one of them would ever join the militia with my consent. But the last while back I have read quite a few articles expressing the same views as 'Patriot' and I am commencing to quite agree with them. Socialists are hoping that the change will come by ballots instead of bullets. Now my opinion is that if we all had military training there would be a greater chance of us winning by peaceful methods. And in the case of strikes we could shoot the scabs instead of the strikers. You made no comment on the letter and that is my reason for writing you to see if you would express your ideas on the subject in the next issue."

The Comrade who wrote the article, 'Capture the Militia' wanted my opinion on his article. This question seems to be agitating quite a few minds. In my opinion, violence gets us nowhere. We cannot win by force. We must win by reason.

This does not mean that reason alone will win. But we have got to persuade the majority that Socialists aims are right. When we have persuaded the majority, the majority will decide for Socialism, and if the majority decide for Socialism, the appeal to force by the minority will readily be overcome.

### CAPTURING THE MILITIA.

The idea of capturing the militia is good. But let us capture it in proper manner. They who control the purserstrings control the militia.

Canada is spending \$18,000,000 a year on the militia and permanent force and the remnants of her navy.

This sum is voted annually, at Ottawa by the Parliament of Canada. When the money is voted, the people have agreed to pay. The revenues of the people are then spent to feed the officers and men, furnish them clothes and ammunition, provide horses and equipment, and shelter for man and beast.

If we capture parliament we control the militia.

For we can refuse to provide the funds to pay the soldiers and officers.

The officers and men will have to take up some other work. For the government pay being cut off, they will starve at soldiering.

To get the funds to keep themselves going they cannot loot the banks, or pillage stores or plunder farms.

If we want to, we can pass the army estimates providing that the moment the troops do not do as the Socialist government says, their revenues will be cut off.

The ballot is a very powerful weapon. We can capture the power through the ballot. It is too late for governments to disfranchise great masses of people.

### ACTION AND REACTION.

To Socialists who want to be in a hurry, the idea of appealing to arms and training Socialists to shoot seems good.

But violence provokes counter-violence. We are apt to be carried away by our own enthusiasms. We will think the time to use force is ripe, and it will not be ripe.

The capitalist class are looking for violence. We appeal to violence, the whole power of finance of the capitalist state will be flung against us.

Wars are fought by finances, more than by arms. As long as the masters control the state, they will have power to finance their soldiers, and we will be overwhelmed. The Paris Commune would be repeated.

Moreover, we must not forget that to action, there is reaction. After the French re-

volution came the restoration of the Bourbons.

After Cromwell came the restoration of the Stuarts.

If we capture the political power on a wave of enthusiasm, there is likely to come a period of reaction.

If we appeal to arms our opponents will appeal to arms. The period of action and reaction will be written in terms of blood instead of in terms of ballots.

Agitation, education, organization are our watchwords. Armed aggression or resistance has not yet become a watchword of the working class revolutionary movement. In my opinion it would be a wolf in sheep's clothing when we turn from peace to force.

### THE BLOOD OF THE MARTYRS.

The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church.

This is a well-known Christian saying. It is also true of other movements.

When the militia shoots working men on strike, sympathy is won for the workingmen.

Should workingmen or the militia shoot scabs, sympathy would turn to the scabs.

On Vancouver Island the militia was called out, strikers were arrested and jailed. Col. Hall threatened to turn the guns upon the miners peacefully assembled in a union meeting.

To-day the strike is on the point of being won. The Minister of Justice has released twenty-two of the convicted miners. Col. Hall has been relieved of his command. Many British Columbia politicians have become glad to have seen more riots.

In South Africa the government abused the strikers, deported the leaders, declared martial law, enforced tyrannical decrees. A provincial election has just been held in the Transvaal. The Labor Party has captured the provincial council.

A shot striker renders the working class more united. An assassinated capitalist strengthens the political hold of the master class.

### LOW CREATURES.

Soldiers are low creatures. They are degraded by their profession.

A shot soldier is useful. They are trained to shoot men and women.

Such a training renders these creatures contemptible. It blunts their finer qualities.

Because their training is brutish, because their lower natures are carefully cultivated by the capitalist class for purely selfish motives, the soldier is recognized as a very dangerous person.

He is not allowed civil rights. He is put in a class apart. He is treated like a criminal whom the masters allow a certain amount of activity to exercise his criminal instincts.

The soldier cannot come and go when he likes. He is trained to march and counter-march, to rise at the sound of a bugle, to go to bed when ordered, and to obey without question the orders of the officers whose whole duty is to make the soldier as efficient a murderer as possible.

The soldier is under martial law. If he disobeys the command of his superior officer it is mutiny. If he refuses to shoot when told, the soldier himself can be shot on the order of the officers whose duty is to have men shot.

By having Socialists join the militia, you do not raise the standard of the militia. You degrade the character of the Socialist.

To have Socialists join the militia to learn how to shoot capitalists is merely the application of the old fallacy, do evil that good may come.

A man does not fight the white slave traffic by taking up his abode in a house of prostitution. A man does not fight the booze traffic by becoming a barroom loafer. Neither should a man fight the capitalist system and militarism by filling his mind with barrack-room muck and having his hands taught to murder.

### THREE FALLACIES.

There are three fallacies wrapped up in the proposition to have Socialists join the militia.

The first is, do evil that good may come. When a movement sinks a principle for the sake of expediency, that movement is rotten enough to be buried.

The second fallacy is the fallacy of conspiracy. The great fight of Marx and Bakunin was on the relative value of conspiratorial method. Marx opposed conspiracy.

We cannot seize the militia by conspiracy methods. We can only win a few men. And once we admit that we should work in secret, we lay the movement open to spies, informers, traitors.

When we admit that a Socialist can join the militia because his motive is pure in so doing, we will have a host of low, butcher-spirited thugs who will claim to be Socialists and are in the army only to disrupt it. We will not be able to tell the capitalist thug from the Socialist thug.

The third fallacy is the fallacy of direct action.

The man who pursues wealth directly gets locked up as a thief. The man who pursues wealth indirectly becomes a convicted fool.

The Socialist who pursues freedom directly gets locked up as a vagrant.

Attacking the system of capitalist exploitation directly, attacking the army directly, shooting the scabs directly, these methods do not overthrow the system. The political power must be won. The majority of the people must be persuaded.

You strike. The militia is called out. You are shot down directly. This may appear to be direct action to you as you feel the bullet directly.

But it is not direct action. You are shot down because you are ceasing to work and interfering with the profits of your masters. Your masters have the power to shoot you down because they have the political power and have had the laws made in that manner.

If you capture the political power, you render your masters powerless.

LET THE CAPITALIST HENCHMEN FIGHT.

If you join the militia, the capitalist rivals of two countries may force a war, and the troops are ordered to the front to kill and be killed.

In a war you have to go forward and be killed. You cannot go back.

The front ranks are ordered to advance on both sides. Supporting lines are behind.

If the front rank of either side refuses to face the bullets and begin to retreat, the supporting ranks of their own side OPEN FIRE, the retreating front rank.

You have either got to face being killed by the enemy or get killed by your own fellow butchers.

Socialist brains are valuable. There are enough boneheads who cannot see the horrors of the present system.

Is it not better to stay at home and use your brains to awaken your fellow slaves in the industrial slave pens and let the boneheads go and get killed, than for you to go and get killed and leave the boneheads at home to propagate their boneheadedness in a whole raft of little boneheads?

### ARMY SHOWN UP

Uster does not want Home Rule for Ireland.

To prevent home rule, Uster capitalists and landowners have been training a private army to fight against the government.

When the government troops were ordered to be in readiness to proceed to Uster, many officers resigned.

The army has been used to awe strikers, to act as scabbers, to shoot and kill striking workers.

When the army was to be used to coerce a section of the capitalist class to obey the laws of the land, the army officers resigned.

This is having a tremendous effect on the working class. Many workers have been loyal to the army and the empire. The deeds of heroism performed by the soldiers in India, Egypt, the Crimea and in other countries fired the imaginations of many slaves.

But now the army is revealed in its weakness. It is shown to be an instrument which is not used impartially.

Asquith and the capitalist homerulers see the danger. T. P. O'Connor writing for the Canadian press, on the sedition in the army, says, "Everybody knows that this most dangerous gospel is being preached at a time when there is more serious unrest among the working classes than at any period in living history. I have some reason for believing that even before this year is out, there may be a great strike, the dimensions and affiliations of which it is impossible to measure."

The British army is losing the respect of the British worker. The day of emancipation draws near.

Many workers are burning the midnight oil in attempts to invent something which will put them on easy streets. If you will take particular notice, when an invention is put on the market and makes good, the inventor comes at the little end of the horn, if he comes in at all. The marketed commodity is inevitably backed by men of cash, and they get the cream of the inventor's efforts. He gets just enough to incite him to greater efforts, when the vulture hovering near will alight when the time is ripe.

Some corporations and companies claim that widows and orphans are unable to get a living through dividends paid by their companies. How many widows and orphans are forced to slave in poverty that these dividends may be paid?

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

21,000

With the abolishment of rent, interest and capital, the incentive for most of the crime in the world will have disappeared, and prisons will not be a necessity.

Everyone is welcome in the Socialist movement who is a worker and is willing to help spike the guns of capitalism. There is room for everybody who is class conscious and has no yellow streak.

The workers toil and slave and fill the warehouses of the country with clothing, boots and shoes, etc., while the masters do not give the slaves enough money to allow them to clothe their children.

War is a silly game. They go out and murderously shoot up each other, then send the red cross ambulance over the field and pick up the wounded and give them the best possible attention and care to make them well again.

Revolute, revolute. Contentment will get you nothing but poverty and misery. Cows are generally contented, and are exploited for every dollar's worth of profits that can be squeezed out of their hides. Be not a cow. Revolute, revolute!

How cunningly are the laws of the land arranged to feed the capitalists. How cunningly the capitalists arranged that the workers should elect men who would make those laws tighter and stronger for the class who toil not, neither do they spin.

The inventive genius of many a man has filled the pockets and bellies of luxurious parasites, while he himself went to his poor garret bed with an empty stomach striving to perfect another invention, which in all probability and according to the laws of the land would be stolen from him as soon as it was ready.

When the landlords learn to build bridges, when the bankers learn to run lathes and design machinery, when the merchants learn how to distribute goods without profit, then the workers will be able to cut hours and hours of their daily toil. The horde of parasites all doing something useful will lessen the labor of all.

Workers, look around you. Gaze at the multitude of men who do nothing useful for the benefit of the whole people. These parasites fatten on the excess labor you are forced to perform. A large portion of the results of your toil is taken as toll to keep the carrion dressed in the best and leading a life of luxury. Who are the goats?

Turn your class conscious battery of arguments on your fellow worker, and put him wise to how he is robbed and the way out of the jungle. This is your life work, comrades. If it does not help you in your lifetimes, it will help those who come after you. They will be thankful that men with red blood in their veins have lived before them.

Oh, for Socialism! Oh, for the time when the rule of grab and greed, and slaughter and bloodshed, and jealousy and strife is no more! When men will act as men, and women will act as women, and children will not work in sweatshops, but attend school, and will have decent clothes to go to school in. The glory of capitalism is all for the few, and the misery of capitalism is all for the many.

"Necessity knows no law," is an old axiom. It would not work to-day. Necessity dare not take a loaf of bread to keep from starving, necessity dare not take a lump of coal from the coal littered railway tracks of the masters, to keep from freezing, necessity dare not ride on the railways or boats of the masters without a ticket, necessity dare not do anything contrary to the capitalist law which makes necessity a necessity.

"There is no sentiment in business," is a remark often passed. No, there is no sentiment in it; there is no sense in it; there is no reason in it. It is a wholly unnecessary mudle wherein the strong force the weak to the wall of ruin with a merciless hand. Business supports a horde of parasites who fatten on the results of the toil and labor of the workers. Doing nothing useful they will pass with the rest of the useless carrion of the capitalist system.

"The public be damned," used to be a favorite expression of the plutocrats in high, and (to them) safe places. The expression is not used so much now, as there is possibly no safe place for the parasite. Other parasites of his own class are feeding on him. He must continue the bitter struggle of capitalism to the end. Capitalists are turning on each other in their greed of wealth, and the biggest and fiercest wolf will continue to win as long as the system lasts. The injured wolf will meet the fate of the weak.

A while ago a mechanic designed a voting machine, and spoke of it to a man who knows something of inventions and politicians. The machine was claimed to be such that it was impossible to manipulate it in any crooked manner. A vote once cast, then, could be no chance to change it, or stuff the machine with fake ballots. In fact, the machine was crook proof. He explained it to the man spoken of above, who informed him that the machine could be of no use. The government were not looking for such a machine; they were looking for something which would appear to act straight, but which in reality would act crooked. They would laugh at such a machine as the inventor proposed. No government would adopt it. The machine was that much lost labor. The would-be inventor woke up and went away a sadder and a wiser man.

Take a look at the cabinet ministers of the Dominion. Are they not a sweet looking bunch? Do they look very friendly to the cause of labor? Does any one man of them openly recognize that labor and nothing but labor puts them where they are? In a clash between labor and capital, where would you expect to find the cabinet lined up? On the side of capitalism, on the side of their masters. They are not of the ranks of labor. They sit in their high places through the workings of big business, big profits, big grafts, and to hold their jobs they must be prepared to fight to a finish for those who have placed them where they are. They are no friends of labor, and are making that fact manifest every day. Out with them, and put in men from your own ranks who will not obey the call of money, but who will chase the capitalist system off the map.

### ADVERTISING WASTE

Toronto is the place chosen for the tenth annual convention of the Advertising Clubs of America, to be held June 21-25.

From six to seven thousand advertising agents will be present.

It is estimated that advertising in the U. S. costs SIX HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS a year.

Advertising is one of the wastes of the competitive system. It is an expense the capitalist class bear in order to advertise their tooth paste, grape nuts, carpets, hands wanted, hair vigor, corsets, railway scenery, and the like.

Socialists point out the tremendous amount of wealth produced by the workers which goes to the capitalist class and their parasites, defenders of the capitalists say that the profits, pocketed by the masters are far less than the Socialists say.

These apologists deduct from the profits of the masters the expense of advertising, of competitive travellers, of lawsuits, of brokerage costs, etc.

Such expenses would not be necessary under a sane system where the workers produce for use and not for profit.

You get a dollar or two a day in wages. Your masters live at ease in luxury, and they spend six hundred millions a year to advertise for buyers of the wealth you create. They spent billions in other useless ways.

If you want the tremendous waste of modern methods of distribution to continue, vote for Laurier or Borden or any old line politician or befuddled reformer.

If you want to be a sensible person, vote and agitate to have your class, the producing class, control and enjoy the wealth they create.

There is strife and trouble with labor the world over. Socialists are anxiously watching the outcome, to see whether the workers will foolishly take to the rifle and bayonet or use the more effective weapon, the ballot.

If the workers choose the rifle, they will face the machine gun. If they choose the ballot, they will face consternation in the ranks of the masters.

Many, many Canadians' bones are resting in the veldts of South Africa. Honest, now, how many can you name off hand who lost their lives in the war, and who left Canada?

Death, under the cursed capitalist system, is an angel in disguise.

### THE EIGHT HOUR DAY

The miners of Ontario fought for the eight hour day, and won it, with limitations. The Legislature at Toronto enacted a law granting this demand.

But reformers and capitalist henchmen hailed this as showing the kindly nature of the capitalist politicians.

But no reforms are granted benefiting the workers, unless the capitalists are benefited also, and unless the capitalists are willing.

The following three paragraphs are from a capitalist sheet of Toronto.

"The Moose Mountain, Helen, and Magpie iron mines of Northern Ontario have escaped the eight hour day provisions of the Mines Act. The government has decided, upon the report of Hon. W. H. Hearst, that the section of the Act providing for an eight-hour day for mine workers be suspended in the case of these three mines."

"When the investigation into working conditions in mines was made it was found that the reasons of health and comfort for the workers that made an eight-hour day a necessity in many mines did not apply with equal force to iron mines, and in framing the eight-hour day clauses provision was made for the suspension of the section with regard to iron mines when it was shown beyond doubt that the management of any mine had made thorough arrangements to safeguard the health and comfort of its workmen."

"Three mines covered by the order-in-Council applied for exemption under the Act, and the inspector of mines, after visiting the workings, reported that he had found conditions as regards precautions, safeguards and arrangements for protecting the comfort, safety and health of the miners to reach a high standard as compared with other mines in the provinces."

The ten hour day was killing the miners off. It was making them sickly and reducing their power to labor.

So the henchmen of the masterclass passed a law reducing the hours of labor so the miners could still live and be robbed by the mine-owners.

And in those mines which did not make the miners unhealthy by working ten hours, the slaves were still made to work long hours.

Any slave who votes for Whitney or Rowell because these politicians are good to the slaves, ought to be examined for lunacy.

Contented slaves and Simon Legree foremen spell profits for the masters.