

COMING ELECTIONS

There will be two provincial elections this fall. In Manitoba Premier Roblin will probably appeal to the country on the general policy of his government. He has slung out a bait on the shape of government owned elevators for the farmers. But the Manitoba farmers have their eyes open and are not afraid to look a gift horse in the mouth when the horse comes from a capitalist government whose members are seeking reelection. The Manitoba Socialists are working hard to capture some of the constituencies. Speakers are in the field and great work is being done.

The other province where elections will be held is Nova Scotia. Premier Murray is using the prohibition bait to capture the workers. He has suddenly grown righteous and is going to have prohibition in the Province, with the exception of Halifax, if the dear people will only return him to power again. Nova Scotia is nearly all under no license at the present moment. Murray will simply go to the country on an antiquated issue in Nova Scotia specially resurrected for the purpose. Were Nova Scotia threatened with alcoholism, or were it plastered with saloons, there might be some enthusiasms raised for Murray as a righteous knight going forth to do battle with the demon rum. But when Nova Scotia has conquered the liquor traffic all except in Halifax, the spectacle of Murray going forth to fight the traffic in Nova Scotia, except in Halifax where he will allow the demon rum to work its will, is ridiculous in the extreme and shows what sham platforms capitalist politicians can stand on without breaking through.

In Cumberland County, N. S., the Socialists are going to run a straight Red for the Provincial House. Glace Bay will probably do the same, and there may be other candidates under the Socialist banner.

There may be elections shortly in Alberta also. Premier Rutherford pulled off a capitalist deal that was altogether too raw even for the stomachs of his capitalist supporters. Under Rutherford the Province of Alberta guaranteed the bonds of a bonus hunting railway company for three hundred and fifty miles to the tune of thirty thousand dollars a mile. Millions of dollars of Provincial bonds bearing five per cent interest were sold in New York at par over the deal and the American buyers turned round immediately and sold the bonds in London cleaning up three quarters of a million in a day. The road, although bonded for three hundred and fifty miles, is to be only two hundred and forty miles in length. No guarantees were exacted as to the weight of rails to be used nor as to the quality of the ballasting nor as to the width apart of the ties. The road can be built for twelve thousand dollars a mile.

There is likely to be a Provincial election soon, therefore, in Alberta. These three provinces are the ones in which the Socialists will have a chance to test their strength.

The following is a statement of the circulation of Cotton's Weekly in the various constituencies of the three provinces, together with the name of the Member of Parliament for the Dominion House, a statement of the Liberal or Conservative majority in that constituency, and the total number of votes polled for all candidates in the Dominion elections of October 26th, 1908. The most likely constituencies for the success of Socialist candidates are those in which a Socialist newspaper is most widely read.

ALBERTA

Calgary, M. S. McCarthy, Con. Majority, 687. Votes cast, 8,266. Cotton's subs, 79.

Edmonton, Frank Oliver, Lib. Maj. 2,317. Votes cast, 8,107. Cotton's subs, 110.

McLeod, John Herron, Con. Maj. 293. Votes cast, 6,239. Cotton's subs, 104.

Medicine Hat, C. A. McGrath, Con. Maj. 352. Votes cast, 5,492. Cotton's subs, 81.

Rod Deer, M. Clark, Lib. Maj. 260. Votes cast, 6,702. Cotton's subs, 202.

Strathcona, J. M. Douglas, Lib. Maj. 1,052. Votes cast, 6,242. Cotton's subs, 115.

Victoria, W. H. White, Lib. Maj. 370. Votes cast, 4,924. Cotton's subs, 58.

MANITOBA

Brandon, Clifford Sifton, Lib. Maj. 69. Votes cast, 8,616. Cotton's subs, 60.

Dauphin, G. Campbell, Con. Maj. 217. Votes cast, 6,195. Cotton's subs, 74.

Lisgar, W. H. Sharpe, Con. Maj. 105. Votes cast, 3,425. Cotton's subs, 33.

Macdonald, W. D. Staples, Con.

Maj. 576. Votes cast, 5,404. Cotton's subs, 24.

Marquette, W. J. Roche, Con. Maj. 570. Votes cast, 6,000. Cotton's subs, 22.

Portage la Prairie, A. Meighen, Con. Maj. 250. Votes cast, 6,038. Cotton's subs, 79.

Provencher, J. P. Molloy, Lib. Maj. 460. Votes cast, 4,978. Cotton's subs, 3.

Selkirk, G. H. Bradbury, Con. Maj. 98. Votes cast, 5,650. Cotton's subs, 39.

Souris, F. L. Shaffner, Con. Maj. 851. Votes cast, 5,739. Cotton's subs, 29.

Winnipeg, John Haggart, Con. Maj. 2,018. Votes cast, 17,453. Cotton's subs, 357.

NOVA SCOTIA

Annapolis, S. W. Pickup, Lib. Maj. 211. Votes cast, 4,031. Cotton's subs, 7.

Antigonish, Wm. Chisholm, Lib. Maj. 20. Votes cast, 2,562. Cotton's subs, 4.

Cape Breton and North Victoria, D. D. McKenzie, Lib. Maj. 17. Votes cast, 5,681. Cotton's subs, 54.

Cape Breton South, J. W. Madden, Con. Maj. 225. Votes cast, 9,871. Cotton's subs, 122.

Colchester, John Stanfield, Lib. Maj. 115. Votes cast, 5,357. Cotton's subs, 16.

Cumberland, E. N. Rhodes, Con. Maj. 490. Votes cast, 9,110. Cotton's subs, 186.

Digby, C. Jameson, Con. Maj. 131. Votes cast, 3,411. Cotton's subs, 6.

Guysboro, J. H. Sinclair, Lib. Maj. 205. Votes cast, 3,797. Cotton's subs, 3.

Halifax, R. L. Borden and A. B. Crosby, Con. Maj. 751. Votes cast, 13,780. Cotton's subs, 77.

Hants, J. B. Black, Lib. Maj. 133. Votes cast, 4,149. Cotton's subs, 3.

Inverness, A. W. Chisholm, Lib. Maj. 1,544. Votes cast, 5,925. Cotton's subs, 11.

Kings, F. W. Borden, Lib. Maj. 491. Votes cast, 4,473. Cotton's subs, 21.

Lunenburg, J. D. Sperry, Lib. Maj. 267. Votes cast, 6,475. Cotton's subs, 4.

Pictou, E. M. Macdonald, Lib. Maj. 299. Votes cast, 8,373. Cotton's subs, 13.

Richmond, J. W. Kyle, Lib. Maj. 240. Votes cast, 2,318. Cotton's subs, 2.

Shelbourne and Queens, W. S. Fielding, Lib. Maj. 342. Votes cast, 4,632. Cotton's subs, 1.

Yarmouth, B. B. Law, Lib. Maj. 839. Votes cast, 3,731. Cotton's subs, 2.

The sub hustlers of Cotton's Weekly can see just where Cotton's Weekly is going, and what Members are most likely to find annoying. It is said by some that what we do not know does not hurt us. Assuredly capitalist Members of Parliament are not hurt by what their electors do not know about Socialism. It is what their electors do not know about Socialism that worries the M. Ps.

In every electoral district in these three Provinces Cotton's Weekly circulates. But the ignorance to overcome is enormous and the sub hustlers have done well to spread Cotton's so widely, and they are but beginning their work.

G. G. Bell, a member of the British Institute of Electrical Engineers, has invented a method of storing heat that will revolutionize electrical development. By his method heat derived from electricity can be stored for twenty-four hours or more with but little loss. His perfected apparatus will consume an equal amount of electric current during the whole twenty-four hours, thus more than quadrupling the efficiency of the machinery in the power-house. The difficulty, heretofore, has been that power-houses had to be equipped for hours the larger part of the machinery was idle because of lack of current demanded. Owing to the invention the price of electric light in Great Britain, according to the New York Times, is less than a quarter of what was charged three months ago. This invention will invade the field of production and will not let go its hold until the method of production has been revolutionized. We are in the grip of economic forces which have seized upon the capitalist and worker alike and will not lose their power until their work is accomplished and society itself is revolutionized.

ENGLISH SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The yearly subscription to the British Isles is two shillings. Comrades having friends among the agitators in the Motherland would do well to send copies of Cotton's travelling in that direction.

"I submit to you that not a cent should be extracted from the pockets of the people except every cent goes into the treasury of the people and not into the pockets of anybody else." Thus spoke Laurier before he came to power. After he came to power he hugged Sifton to his bosom. He hugged the Grand Trunk Pacific to his bosom. He is now hugging Pugsley in a fond financial embrace. But what else can be expected from a capitalist politician?

Socialism never made such giant strides before in its history as it is now. International capitalism has seized upon the workers and the workers are in international revolt.

BY the Cotton Dresses of our Wives, by the Wet Feet of our Children, and Our Scanty Spread Breakfast Tables, we will be damned if we keep the Idle Rich Much Longer with us."

(The following has been received by Cotton's Weekly direct from Glace Bay. Not one word has been altered. To some it may seem irreligious. But the language comes from the heart and there needs must be John the Baptists, of the Social revolution with fiery hearts and indignant tongues.)

SERMON TO THE WORKING CLASS

A Sermon preached by a humble preacher of the Glorious Gospel of Discontent to the Working Class, Church of Man, Glace Bay, April 3rd, 1910.

Brethren: you will find the text upon which I intend to found the few remarks I will address to you this morning in the 31st chapter of Proverbs and the 9th verse, and which reads as follows:—

"Open thy mouth, judge righteously and plead the cause of the poor and needy."

The poor spoken of in my text, are here right in Glace Bay, working in and around the fourteen coal mines of the Dominion Coal Company. During the year 1908, according to our Provincial Government report, in these mines were employed 5,486 of our brethren. They, according to the same report, produced during that year 3,816,958 tons of coal. The price received by the Dominion Coal Company for each ton of coal was \$2.33 at the mine mouth. The average wage paid to our brethren, according to this bulletin issued by the Dominion Government, is \$381.45 per year, plus ten per cent increase. Now, my brethren, let us figure a little and see if we cannot find why so many of us are in such a hell of a fix at the "Pluck-me" company stores.

5,486 men and boys produced 3,816,958 tons of coal, or roughly speaking, 695 tons each. Each ton was worth \$2.33, or the product of each of our brethren was worth that year \$1,629.35. The Dominion Coal Company paid back in wages to each of our brethren something like \$419.60, leaving a balance of unpaid labor in the hands of the Dominion Coal Company, for each producer of \$1,209.75. This amount is appropriated by the do-nothing profit takers, who also own the jobs and hand them out when they like, where they like, to whom they like, and just so long as they please. Hence, our life is edged on one side by poverty and on the other by anxiety to hold our job.

Oh! generation of vampires! who shall save you from the wrath of the blood baptized sacramental army of the social revolution, we are organizing for your extermination?

The average earned by our brethren is \$419.60 per year. Let us see how our women folks manage to make that amount. cover the expenses of say a family of seven. There is the husband, the wife and five children. We will particularize the absolutely necessary things they must have if they are to live at all:

Rent for hovel or shack per year	\$44.00
Coal and light per year	16.90
Taxes for a man with no property per year	4.00
Doctors fees per year	4.60
Soap & washing soda	8.00
Boots for husband	3.50
" " wife	1.50
" " five children	7.50
Outside clothes for husband per year	8.00
Outside clothes for wife per year	8.00
Outside clothes for five children per year	15.00
Underwear for husband per year	1.40
" " wife	1.40
" " five children per year	5.00
School books per year	4.00
Insurance on family (lowest possible)	18.16
General Household wear per year	1.10
Total	\$152.06

There is a boom at present in Canada. The capitalist exploiters of Canada are preparing enormous additional machinery of production for the enormous additional exploitation of the wage slaves. So at present the wage slaves of Canada are busy preparing the machinery for their further enslavement. The condition would be hopeless were it not that within capitalism lay wrapped the future Socialist state and that the machinery now being built for the capitalist mode of production will be captured by the workers and be utilized for the Socialist mode of production.

After providing these, there is left for food for the year \$267.54, or to each member of the family per year for food \$38.22, or per week for each 73c, or per day for each 10c, or per meal for each 34c. They spend nothing on church, theatre, trade union, car or railroad fare, newspapers, postage, stationery, rum, nor tobacco. A lonely, joyless, laughterless life that is one long tragic struggle with fear and want. How often in our unregenerated days have we meekly listened to the Reverend Gillis Whalemouth, High Priest in Mammon Joss House, as he looked down on our toil distorted bodies and the care furrowed brows of our wives and simpered out to us:—

Oh! weary heart, there is a home, Beyond this scene of toil and care; A home where sorrow never comes, Who would not fain be welcome there. Wait; meekly wait and murmur not, Oh; wait, Oh; wait and murmur not.

Brethren we'll be damned if we are going to wait meekly or any other way. We are going to murmur good and hard.

Every poor man longs for Heaven, Underneath the skies, Not when he is in the grave-yard, But before he dies. Every poor man knows that idlers Ought to work somehow, He knows eternal life is here. The judgement day is now.

With womanish locks and effeminate voice, the priests of Mammon whimper out "The poor you will always have with you." And that may be true, but by the cotton dresses of our wives, by the wet feet of our children, and by our scanty spread breakfast tables, we will be damned if we are going to keep the idle rich much longer with us. We are heartily tired of 34c meals and snobs.

The Gospel of Discontent, Brethren, is spreading in every industrial country on earth. It is being accepted with a warmth and a universality that no other religion ever received. Courage brethren! the day of our emancipation draweth near, soon shall go forth, louder than the Atlantic thunders breaking on an affrighted shore, the triumphant working-class shout, "The idle rich man dieth and in hell he lifted up his eyes." Rent, interest and profit will have passed away and the working man will have received the social value of his labor. May the Good Lord bless his Word to the inspiration of discontent with present conditions. Amen.

The Montreal Street Railway wants to carry freight. The municipal authorities forbid it to carry freight. It is declared that the railway is transporting quarried stone at night and that it is carrying freight of other kinds. The Board of Control is closely watching the company to see if it is doing other than passenger transportation. Heavy traffic is now done by horses and wagons. It is an expensive method compared with the electric line. Yet it must be continued because the carting companies want their profits. And the carters want their jobs and the hostlers and all the other workers employed by the expensive and cumbersome business want their jobs too. The fight is for control of transportation and the profits that arise therefrom. Would it not be much more sensible did the people who work arise and abolish the private ownership of transportation? Then the people would benefit themselves by doing away with the cumbersome system and adopting the more effective one. Then the workers could be released from the care of useless horses and carts and be transferred to some other department of activity and either produce more wealth or else assist other workers in the work now done and by so doing reduce the number of hours the workers now undergo. The private control of the means of production and distribution results in waste, high prices and small incomes for the workers.

MATERIALISM

The scientists of the Victorian era were declared to be materialists. But the scientists of that day declared that they were deciding nothing as to the real causes of anything. They were simply tracing the unfolding of processes. In the same way the newer scientists are blamed for being materialists. Yet they are no more materialists than any other set of investigators into the realm of nature. When Galileo wanted the wise men of the seventeenth century to look through his telescope they laughed at his foolishness and refused to look. Then later they confounded him, to the satisfaction of the wise men of their day at least, by drawing arguments from past writers. The wise men did the same with Darwin's theories. And today the same cry goes up that modern scientists in the realm of economic determination are materialists, fools, and filled with all unclean notions. Yet the economic determinists are winning out. Prisons are being remodelled and society itself is being transformed according to the newer sciences. Let not the tremulous be afraid of the new ideas. Many materialists are also spiritualists. For material determinism does not necessarily conflict with the concept of a spirit world, any more than Galileo's telescope did. Material or economic determinism simply traces the unfolding of a process.

In India when the plague strikes a village the British start to clean up and disinfect. This is fought by the Indians as pollution on the part of the English and against the will of the gods. Yet the English clean up the village and the plague disappears. The protestant doctrines of individual conscience was fought by the Roman Catholic church as being against the will of God; yet the protestant doctrines grew in strength and the countries under the control of the protestant idea did not seem to be any worse off than the catholic countries. Evolution was fought as being dangerous to religion and yet evolution is now accepted by many religious leaders. And the doctrine of economic determinism is accepted by a growing body of Christian ministers who are uniting themselves in the Christian Socialist Fellowship.

The doctrine of economic determinism, that the actions of the vast majority of human beings are necessarily determined by the hunt for the primitive needs of life, food, clothing, and shelter, is finding more and more favor with the thinkers and doers. On this ground crimes are explained, and bodily weakness and vice are founded. On this ground the guiding motives of life of the vast majority of both rich and poor are explained. In the light of the doctrines of economic determinism the history of the world is being reinterpreted in a far more satisfactory manner.

The doctrine of economic determinism will explain many things, chief among which is the method of its own abolishment. If the competitive hunt for food, clothing, shelter, instruction and amusement is now the guiding motive in the vast majority of individuals, then let us abolish the competitive hunt by cooperation. Let the means of life be socialized and let the struggle for the necessities of material existence be abolished. Then, with the cooperative production of the things whereby man must live, and the certainty to each man of the means of life for himself and family; with, moreover, the cornering of the means of life for the sake of private profit abolished; then men will no longer struggle competitively for the means or the control of the means of life. Then economic determinism will cease to exist as a law of civilized life; because the struggle for the means of life which gives rise to the doctrine, will have been abolished, and the doctrine no longer applies. A new social order will have arisen in which the governing motives of the old will have passed away.

The dream of the Socialist state is wrapped up in the passing away of the competitive struggle for the means of life. Because they see this state, the Socialists are sometimes called dreamers of visions, sometimes called the harbingers of love. But Socialists are also called the preachers of hate and discontent and discord. The non-Socialist finds it difficult to unravel the mystery and discover just what the Socialists are. The mystery is easily solved. We are not living in the Socialist state of co-operation. We are living in the capitalist hell of competition. We are subject to the struggle for the means of life. We must govern ourselves accordingly. The coming of the Socialist state will only be through the abolition of private control of the means of life, that is by the abolition of the capitalist class and the rising of the working class to power. Therefore there is a class struggle on and the Socialists must

take part in it. There is the capitalist class and the working class. The working class is in revolt against the capitalist class. Now according to the doctrine of economic determinism, the actions of both classes are governed by the way in which they get their living. The working class gets its living by the labor of its hands. The capitalist class gets its living by the robbery of the working class through rent, interest, and profit. The workers are the ones who do the work now and who will eventually do the work in the co-operative commonwealth when parasitism has been abolished. The capitalist class members are the parasites and their parasite positions will have to be abolished before the coming of the Socialist state.

Therefore the Socialists take part in the class struggle. They wake the workers to their position as wage slaves. They strike for higher wages. They will not vote for capitalist henchmen. They are out to take away the revenues of the capitalists absolutely and utterly. Did they have their way the capitalists would get no revenues at all and would need work at something useful either with head or hand. The Socialists are first, last and always on the side of the workingmen against their capitalist exploiters. They are in a capitalist state and must act accordingly. They do act accordingly and earn a great reputation among the members of the exploiting class, as stirrers up of discord, strife and hatred. And this reputation is again explained by the doctrine of economic determinism. The capitalist class regards any person or set of persons who take away their revenues, which they fight to still enjoy, as stirrers up of strife and discord.

But material or economic determinism does not decide anything as to ultimate causes of the world's existence. It simply explains why men do many things which are evil and how to do away with those evil actions by abolishing the causes that produce them.

Wyclif translated the Bible into English and was murdered by the organized society of his day. But he established an order of monks clothed in brown robes, selected from among the common people, and after his death these brown monks continued his work. The Bible was read with avidity by the common people and after that peasants of England for a couple of centuries were in continual revolt. Where did they get their inspiration? Read the bible and you will find out. From the time Pharaoh was sickened of the Israelites until they were carried away into Babylon, after their return down to the destruction of Jerusalem, and after that in the propaganda of primitive Christianity among the slaves of the Roman Empire, the Israelites and the Jew were in continual revolt against rulers and exploiters. That history of the turbulent Jew injected into the minds of the English peasant made him a revolter against his rulers. No wonder the rulers of Wyclif's day got rid of him as an incendiary and pestiferous fellow. Today there is a spirit of revolt abroad among workers. So today the Rev. Gillis Whalemouths are employed to interpret the Jewish history to the satisfaction of the master class. There are good men in the ministry. But there are numerous Gillis Whalemouths also in the ministry and because they are there the churches are losing their hold on the working classes. If you investigate you will find more true religion and passionate desire for the betterment of humanity among the Socialists than in many expensive churches.

Socialism is a movement of the working classes. Socialism depends for its success on the working classes. Socialism will gain because it is the hope and inspiration of the men who toil. It promises them liberty and life. It holds out to them health and strength and leisure for their wives and children. Is it any wonder that the empty words of capitalist politicians no longer please the workers? The workers see the chance of their emancipation under the red flag of Socialism and refuse to be led into slavery by the words of politicians who want to rise to power on the votes of the workers.

A special telegram from England to the District Ledger, Fernie, B. C. reads as follows, "The Dominion Coal Company of Nova Scotia is using every effort obtain thousands of strikebreakers, so far understand meetings with poor success. Am taking up matter with Kier Hardie who will bring before House of Commons. Law in England compels informing men when engaged to take place of men on strike.—James Douglas, 4 Park Rd., Aspatia, England." The international nature of capitalism is compelling international solidarity of workers.