

THE FIRING LINE

Always On Duty

THE TOP NOTCHERS

C. J. Bishop, Toronto... 27
Wm. Henley, Box Grove, Ont... 8
J. McKiernan, Cobalt, Ont... 8
I. Faulkner, Princeport, N. S... 8
B. Wing, Brockville, Ont... 7

Com. Elen Jickling, Carman, Man., becomes a subscriber.

Com. M. Ashkins, Weymouth, N. S. wants Cotton's for a year.

Com. J. W. Dargie, Medicine Hat, Alta., becomes a subscriber.

Comrade Ogilvie of Ottawa captured a halfer. They all help.

Comrade H. E. Hatch, Kelowna, B. C., forwards three halfers.

Com. C. L. Kellogg, Peterboro, Ont., renews for a year and captures a new yearly.

Comrade M. Broaderip, Montreal, captures a yearly and hastens with him to the wigwam.

Com. Frank C. Erickson, Winnipeg, Man., captures two readers for six months each.

Com. R. D. Harris, Wetaskiwin, Alta., takes a hundred copies of the Workers' Issue and a year's renewal.

Com. W. H. Taylor, Calgary, increases the yearlies going to Alberta by one.

Com. J. A. Somerville, Moose Jaw, Sask., becomes a reader of Cotton's for a year.

Com. E. W. Dalton, Matsqui, B. C. is responsible for two new yearlies from the woolly west.

Comrade W. W. Barnes, Naramata, B. C. is responsible for five trials being added towards that ten thousand.

Com. Jules Lavigne, Springhill, N. S., takes a bundle of one hundred for three weeks and also forwards a trial.

Com. A. Oberg, Daysland, Alta., has persuaded another victim of the system to try and find the remedy through Cotton's.

The postal cards are very handy for hustlers. Fill out and mail. Yearly cards, 50 cents. Six months cards, 25 cents. On tap at Cotton's.

Com. E. V. Erierson, Tompkins, Sask., takes the paper for six months to see whether it has the right ring or not.

Comrade J. Lawrence, Winnipeg, Man., sold six sub cards and forwards the cash and the names of the sub-card purchasers.

Comrade W. W. Jones, Alameda, Sask., forwards four yearlies and a dollar for the Agitation Battery. Also orders some literature on Socialism.

These new hustlers come in every week. Comrade W. Pickard, Pickardville, Alta., starts off with a yearly and two halfers.

A new hustler takes the fever. Com. Isaac Faulkner, Princeport, N. S., adds eight trials to the growing list of readers.

Com. C. S. dit Blondin, Harris, Sask., is responsible for two yearlies putting themselves in the way of acquiring a mental thirst for the dope.

Com. W. H. Cammack, Lamont, Alta., forwards the price of six half-yearlies and says he will be on the spot again shortly with some more.

Lists of mechanics, union men, and farmers are wanted by Cotton's. Give complete address. Comrades who cannot help otherwise, can help in this regard.

Will hustlers sending in subs from Cobalt, give complete address for all subs, either box number, or other address. This is necessary to ensure delivery.

Comrade F. Reynolds, Beaver Point, B. C., noticed that the sub list was dropping. So he hustled round and sent four halfers just to keep us cheered up.

Comrade Thos. Karpinen, New Finland, Sask., takes a hundred copies of the Workers' Issue and sends in three yearlies just to keep the lists and the Socialist movement growing.

Com. J. M. Staples, Cloverdale, B. C., wants to help waken the sleeping thoughtless workers throughout his section. So takes a hundred copies of the Workers' Issue.

A hustler wants to know what we do about refusals. All subs refused are sent on to someone else. There is always a waiting list, in the hands of the Agitation Battery. Every sub paid for is made to count.

Comrade H. G. Ross, is heard from again from Glace Bay, N. S. This time it is a string of three halfers and two trials. The Glace Bay boys know what it is to be up against capitalism and its enginy of war.

Comrade Mrs. M. A. Owen, West Fernie, B. C., is welcomed by the old guard as a new comrade to the army. Takes one hundred copies of the Workers' Issue and puts five trials on the sick list for treatment.

Comrade John McKiernan, Cobalt, Ont., comes rushing into the wigwam with seven yearlies, a halfer and a dollar and a quarter for the Agitation Battery. Wants the big guns turned on the citidels of entrenched labor thieving.

Comrade Byron Wing, Brockville, Ont., shoots in five trials and two halfers. "I sincerely hope," says Comrade Wing, "that the great unrest among the workers caused by the meat-strike, will waken the great, big sleeping giant, Labor."

A Comrade sends in six halfers and wants his name kept dark. Says there are a lot of that kind of voters round where he lives who claim to be Socialists but who keep right on voting the old party ticket, and he is disgusted with them.

A B. C. gentleman wants us to stop sending him our nasty paper. Declares this is an age of liberty and light, not of anarchy and revolution. As this gentleman's sub has expired before we got his letter his paper has stopped going to him.

Com. Wm. Henley sends along two yearlies and six halfers. Declares he

has been a socialist for years and intends to be one till the last. "You can count on me every time." This is his closing words. That is the spirit that is getting subs for Cotton's at Box Grove, Ont.

Com. W. C. Ewing, Kindersley, Sask., forwards the price of six half-yearlies. Com. Ewing is in a place without a post-office and where Cotton's arrives from three weeks to three months behind time. Yet Com. Ewing keeps on hustling just the same.

Three trials and a halfer drop in from Com. W. J. Carter. Reports in local papers declare that Eugene V. Debs will tour Canada. He wants to know if this is correct. I have seen nothing of this tour in the Socialist press. I think Debs will be busy enough in the thick of the U. S. movement that is gaining such mighty proportions just now.

Comrade C. J. Bishop, Toronto, Ont., writes thusly. "Please find enclosed twenty-five trials and two halfers. This is the outcome of an address that I gave at the People's Forum on 'The Inadequacy of Reform' where we captured twelve subs as the outcome of our efforts in that direction. Once getting the Sub Hustler's Fever, we were compelled to keep on until the fever was temporarily alleviated at twelve o'clock Monday noon, with the above total. Hoping to get more subs later, Yours for the Revolution."

The Agitation Battery

The funds of the Agitation Battery go up a peg this week. The Battery has a Big Job on hand and requires at least \$375.00. This is for general Canadian propaganda work in the interest of Socialism.

The work of the Battery is carried on by contributions from readers of Cotton's. The money is used to cover the bare cost of printing and mailing sample copies to selected lists, and to cover special subscriptions.

Here are two of the latest contributions: J. H. McKiernan, Cobalt, Ont. \$1.25 W. W. Jones, Alameda, Sask. 1.00 Previously reported 5.25

Total on hand \$7.50 Amount needed \$375.00

THE MANUFACTURER'S LOBBY

A letter written by the secretary of the Manufacturers Association of Toronto to the various members of the organization in which credit is claimed for the killing of the Eight Hour Day Bill has fallen into the hands of the labor papers, and hair-raising denunciations are being published in reply. The letter admits the maintenance of a systematic lobby at Ottawa and other parliamentary centres conducted by regularly paid agents, and its writer bubbles over with enthusiasm in describing the tact and skill with which the numerous influences of the Association are brought into play. "The killing of the Eight Hour Day Bill," the secretary says, "is but one of a long list which goes to make up a splendid record of Parliamentary achievement."

A labor paper called "Cotton's Weekly," published at Cowansville, P. Q. reproduces the Manufacturers' letter in full, under the heading "An Eye-opener for Workers," and in its reply relieves its feelings in extravagant language about robbers, thieves, and slave-drivers. Too high talk, of course, does a cause no particular good, but leaving this aside for the moment, is it not a fact that the Manufacturers' paid lobby at Ottawa is getting that class of enterprise an altogether disproportionate share of favor and attention?

The Manufacturing industry is of very secondary importance in Canada as compared with the tremendous business of farming, and yet the farmers are yearly taxed for large amounts in order to contribute towards the profits of the Manufacturers. The mining industry here in Cobalt and elsewhere receives not one dollar in benefit from the protective tariff, and yet it pays an advance of thirty-five per cent. on the plant it installs in order to make the way smooth for some few Manufacturers of mining machinery.

The Manufacturers' Association has, by its years of persistent lobbying, certainly succeeded in boosting the prices of its products on the one hand, and it has done wonders towards resisting all movements for the increase of wages and the shortening of the hours of labor on the other hand. Do not particularly blame them. They honestly believe, seemingly, that Canada was made for their special benefit, and with them it is a matter of just dollars and cents, but just the same it is not about time that the farmers, the miners and the workers joined hands in an opposition lobby?—Cobalt Citizen.

The Bundle Boosters

Better get into the Bundle Boosters in view of the coming Special Issues of Cotton's. You can reach people who can be approached in no other way. You can put a sample copy in the way of the people who will not be seen listening to a street speaker, and who refuse to be drawn into discussion. Subscribing for a weekly bundle is one of the best ways of securing future agitators. Here is the latest recruit:

J. Lavigne, Springhill... 100 copies. Below are the Bundle Prices.—Be a Booster.

Table with 2 columns: Quantity (10 copies per week, 25 copies per week, etc.) and Price (\$1.00, \$2.50, etc.)

World-Wide Socialism

The French Confederation General du Travail has issued a manifesto, which is posted in the streets, declaring the Old Age Insurance Bill at present under the consideration of the Senate to be a swindle and a deception of the working classes.

A patrol from the cruiser Fox, in conjunction with a detachment of Jask, destroyed 1,350 rifles and 160,000 rounds of ammunition on January 16, off the coast of Persia. There has been considerable smuggling of arms into India lately.

The beef trust probe, it is now learned, is not the result of Taft's initiative. Taft is against it, Judge K.M. Landis, who fined Standard Oil \$29,000,000 is responsible for the probe. Taft is doing his best to stop the Beef Trust from being worried.

Many American union men are boycotting meat because of the high prices the beef trust is exacting. The Kansas farmers, as a counter move, are organizing to boycott union made goods. The capitalists are glad of the action of the union men as it sets worker against worker.

A manifesto of the Social-Democrats of Prussia points out that while 212 deputies were elected (indirectly) by 418,000 Conservative electors, 598,000 Social-Democratic electors were only able to elect seven deputies. These figures are characteristic of the three-class suffrage of Prussia.

Over 600 Socialists are in prison in the Argentine Republic. Martial law prevails. Newspapers and meetings have been suppressed. Our daily no longer appears. The editors and writers are sent to the prison of Los Sante. The headquarters of the Socialist Party have been closed, and are under police supervision. The state of affairs is truly awful.

All the St. Petersburg papers announce that the Czar has ordered the liberation of two members of the Union of the Russian People who were condemned by Finnish tribunals to several years' imprisonment for participation in the murder of M. Herzstein. It would be impossible for the despot to show more cynicism in his complicity with the handiwork of the Union of the Russian People.

Will Thorne is the only straight Socialist to be returned to the British Parliament. Although H. M. Hyndman was defeated in Burnley again, nevertheless Burnley turned down its former M. P., Maddison, who was a notorious Socialist-hater. Hyndman's vote has been as follows, 1895, 1498; 1906, 4932; 1910, 4948.

The United Mine Workers will reorganize Alabama, where Governor Comer's troops crushed the union. The Alabama miners learned all the iniquities of the capitalist courts during the strike of the miners in Alabama about 18 months ago, when 2,000 miners were put under arrest without any evidence being presented against any one of them. At the same time the capitalist newspapers of Birmingham openly advocated the assassination of their officials without the least action being taken against them by the capitalist hirelings in the official positions of the city and state.

CANADIAN NOTES

Comrade Jules Lavigne, Springhill Mines, N. S., telegraphs Cotton's as follows, "Victory. Two Councilors elected out of three at Springhill Mines." The revolutionary movement has a great hold on this centre.

Comrade B. Wajdek of New York, will lecture in Jewish under the auspices of Local No. 2 in the Labor Temple, Montreal, Friday evening, 11th inst., on Unionism and Socialism, and on the evening of the 12th, on Nature and Men.

Comrade Albert St. Martin polled 1071 votes as Candidate for Board of Control while Comrade E. Western polled 771. Jos. Ainey who ran as a labor candidate on a capital-labor ticket polled over thirty thousand votes. The workers of Montreal are evidently uniting but the mass of them have not yet realized the necessity of Socialism.

A Comrade from North Battleford, Sask., writes, "We have two locals in the North Battleford District. The second was organized a few days ago and started with twelve charter members. Bumper crops and general prosperity are driving the farmers into the Socialist camp. The Comrades of the new local are devising means to put up a hall 40 by 26 feet to hold meetings in. The plutes are not going to have things all their own way in this part during the next election time."

At the Cape Breton, N. S., elections, Mayor Graham Fraser has been re-elected by a majority of twelve votes. Mayor Fraser is in full sympathy with the striking United Mine Workers and the Coal Company did its best to accomplish his defeat. Three thousand voters were arbitrarily removed from the voters' lists on the ground that they had not paid their taxes. Most of these were striking workmen. The reelection of Fraser against such odds show which way sympathy runs in Cape Breton.

ALL MUST WORK

Socialism demands that each shall work or starve, since he must buy with the evidence of labor performed. (Of course, we refer here solely to the able-bodied. Those in any way incapacitated for labor must always live, as they always have lived, from the labor of others.) As there will be no means for exploiting the labor of others each is left absolutely self-dependent. This condition is, of course, fundamental to the collective ownership and operation of the means of production. Under private ownership the labor-

er is dependent upon the capitalist—the owner of the means whereby he lives—for an opportunity to make a living. And the only motive that actuates the capitalist—the only inducement for him to provide the laborer with a chance to live—lies in the prospect presented to the capitalist of successfully exploiting the laborer. When this prospect fails or becomes precarious the laborer is locked out. He must look elsewhere for the means of living. He may find it or he may not; that is no concern of anyone except himself and those dependent upon him. The collective body is under no obligation whatever to provide him an opportunity to live, and the capitalist is empowered to deprive him of that opportunity.

Under Socialism the state, that is, the people collectively, demands that a laborer shall work or starve. Hence we recognize the right of the laborer to demand of the state an opportunity to work. Socialism would accomplish for the laborer, and for every human being, two things which we deem essential to his social and economic being. First, it would free him from the exploiter in every form—free him from dependence upon incorporated greed for a chance to live. Second, it would give to everyone an equal opportunity, not only in the field of labor, not only "to make a living," but to develop himself along any line where ambition might lead. Socialism can never remove the burden of discipline necessary to superiority in any field of human activity, but it can and must give to each an equal opportunity for development. Given the opportunity, if there are in a man or woman possibilities of superiority in any calling, development follows. Without the opportunity, the grave must put to rest many a "mute, inglorious Milton."

Lord Salisbury is quoted as saying that the son of a street sweeper has an equal chance with any other man to become England's premier. In reply, it is but necessary to ask Lord Salisbury (as does Comrade Blatchford) if he thinks he would have been premier had his father been a street sweeper. Socialism, nor any otherism, can never make people equal, mentally, morally or physically, but it can and will give a chance to develop the best there is in each and all.

—N. A. Richardson in Introduction to Socialism.

"The cheapness of commodities depends, 'coetris paribus,' on the productivity of labor, and this again on the scale of production. Therefore, the larger capitals beat the smaller. It will further be remembered that with the development of the capitalist mode of production, there is an increase in the minimum amount of capital necessary to carry on a business under its normal conditions. The smaller capitals, therefore, crowd into spheres of production which Modern Industry has only sporadically or incompletely got hold of. Here competition rages in direct proportion to the number, and in inverse proportion to the magnitudes of the small antagonistic capitals. It always ends in the ruin of many small capitalists, whose capitals partly pass into the hands of their conquerors, partly vanish."—Karl Marx.

SOCIALIST SONGS.

With music by Wm. Morris and others. This is the only American song collection written in the spirit of revolutionary Socialism. The tunes are for the most part old and familiar. Trashy music and sentimental words have been carefully excluded. In paper, strongly bound, 45 pages, just 10 cents from Cotton's Book Department.

Short-sighted persons are unable to see that divorces are due to misfit marriages, and that misfit marriages are due to capitalism.

WANTED.

Lists of farmers all over Canada for propaganda work. Will comrades try to get copies of municipal reports, etc., giving names of farmers in their districts, and send to Cotton's. This is urgent.

U. S. A. RATES.

Single subscriptions, per year \$1.00 In clubs of 4 and over to same postoffice... 75 Five copies in one wrapper to one address... \$2.50

Socialism will give every working woman her full earnings; it will give every woman short hours of labor, it will wipe out the wretched tenements, and it will give every woman who desires to work an opportunity to do so.

TITLE DEEDS TO LAND.

Any comrade wanting copies of this issue, No. 74, can obtain same by sending in at once. We will hold several hundred copies for ten days. Fifty cents per hundred. Smaller bundles one cent per copy.

The wage slave thinks he is a far superior creature to the chattel slave. He thinks he is a free man. That is where his boss has him hypnotized.

Socialism will take the children out of the mills, mines, stores and factories and put them in schools.

Graft is a product of present environment.

FLEEING THE FARMER

Every Socialist should ponder well the following article by Comrade Crandell. It is the best and most convincing article I have seen for a long time as to the necessity of the social ownership of the land for the prevention of the exploitation of the farmers.—Ed.

ALMOST all of the farmers know they are undergoing a beautiful fleecing. They realize today that there is a very high price attached to nearly everything they have to buy. While, on the other hand there are in a few cases seemingly fair prices paid for the farmers' product; they are after all nothing to be compared to the out of sight figures he is compelled to pay for such things as he finds necessary in his business. Farm machinery is out of sight entirely. Coal is high; lumber is higher; groceries and provisions such as products of the canning and packing companies, are high and still going up.

Almost every farmer knows that private ownership of the various industries is responsible for the high prices he is forced to pay. Most farmers believe in public ownership of the mines, the railroads, the elevators, the express companies, the banks, etc. You start and talk to a farmer about public ownership of all these things and he is for it from the word go. He would like to borrow money at one or two per cent. He would like to buy his coal for two or three dollars per ton, and a railway ticket for one cent per mile. But if you want to get a birds eye view of a farmer's back, just say "public ownership of land."

Now I wish to say to the dear farmers that I happen to be a turf trapper myself. And I am like the rest. I stand ready to support any party that will agree to look for the interest of the farmer and the common people in general, and bring about the public ownership of the mills, the mines, the banks, elevators and steamship lines.

The Standard Oil Company, the International Harvester works, the telegraph companies and many others, we would like to see owned and operated in the interests of the public after the same manner as our post-office, our public schools, our parks, our roads, bridges, fire departments, experimental farms, libraries and light houses. All these things are today owned by the public, in other words they are socialized lines of industry. Every farmer sees that the socializing of these are good for him and good for the public in general. We also see that the socializing of many lines of industry would be a fine thing for us all. But few farmers are able to see where the socializing of the land would be of any advantage to the farmer. Yet the truth is that it would be the first thing in the world that would benefit the tillers of the soil. The most common, most ignorant and blinded of the farmers will have sense enough to see this if they will only stop for a moment to think.

The price of land is steadily advancing, the homesteads and free lands will soon be a thing forever passed away. The march of progress is compelling the farmer to invest in modern machinery such as binders, drills, disks, mowing machines etc. All these things have a high price attached to them and require the investment of considerable capital. With all these things necessary on the smallest of the small farms in the middle west, the farmer finds himself in need of another quarter section in order to use them to good advantage. Of course to get the other quarter section will cost him from \$16 to \$40 per acre which means several thousand dollars.

Here we find that the private ownership of land with the high prices is a great hindrance in the farmers road to success and happiness. Many boys reared to manhood on the eastern farms are forced by the high prices of land in the East to abandon the hope of ever owning a farm in the land of their childhood. The plucky ones come west only to find that the extensive manner in which farming is carried on here closes the door of opportunity. Some of the boys give up hope and turn to different lines of employment while others invest their scanty savings in the land. While others of the more honest and neighborly class go down to defeat in a few months or years.

All this, you very well know, would be different if the land was all held by the government or the public and each farmer allowed to settle on any unused track of land and work it as long as he liked without the payment of a dollar to any one and also allowed to move off any time he liked without turning the land over to some real estate company.

I am a young farmer located right here in the great wheat growing belt of Southern Saskatchewan. The real estate men will tell you this is the place where a farmer can't go wrong. But each year I see a number of farms

pass into the hands of some loan company or thrashing machine company. I see farms bought today, broken up and improved by some poor Easterner, only to fall back into the hands of the real estate company.

Private ownership of the land closes the door of opportunity to thousands. It keeps other thousands struggling all their lives to pay for a small farm only to lose it again in old age or die and leave it to a dozen children. The children dispose of it to a land man or speculator who in turn deals it off on some poor fool like myself at a handsome profit to his business.

Public ownership of land is just what the farmer needs. He needs it as much or more than public ownership or any other one thing. But the speculator don't need it. You may bet your bottom dollar on that. What would it do to him? It would just say, "Come out of your office. Come off your perch. Come out and get in the shafts of this old plough. Come out on the rich productive fields and soil your soft little hands, dirty your fine silk gloves and be a useful producer, and pay your way in the world."

But suppose we go along and take over the railroads, banks, steamship lines, mines, elevators and such like and make them all public property, and still the land remains private property, what would happen? The result would be all these millionaires would start to buy out the small farmers, and the ones that wouldn't or couldn't be bought out could be mighty soon frozen out. And then what? A nation of paupers and more pitiful than anything you ever dreamed of.

Read Socialist papers, study Socialist books, and the light that will dawn on you will be the surprise of your life.

E. N. CRANDELL.

Because a man owns farm land and derives revenue therefrom he is not necessarily a farmer. There are twenty-three titled men in Great Britain who own one-fourteenth of the land. The following are their holdings:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Acres. Includes Duke of Sutherland (1,358,545), Duke of Buccleuch (469,108), Marquis of Breadalbane (438,358), Earl of Seafield (305,930), Duke of Richmond (280,409), Duke of Fife (249,220), Duke of Devonshire (198,572), Duke of Northumberland (186,397), Duke of Portland (183,189), Duke of Argyll (175,114), Marquis of Conyngham (166,610), Marquis of Donegal (162,996), Duke of Hamilton (157,396), Marquis of Lansdowne (142,916), Earl of Dalhousie (138,022), Marquis of Sligo (122,902), Marquis of Devonshire (120,189), Marquis of Bute (116,668), Earl Fitzwilliam (115,742), Earl of Stair (110,370), Baron of Leonfield (109,935), Duke of Montrose (108,447), Earl of Cawdor (101,657).

To say that Socialism would increase the revenue of these landholders would be absurd. In the same way there are men in Canada who derive revenues from farm lands who cannot be considered farmers. Socialism will benefit the working farmers. It will also benefit many persons who now derive revenues from farm lands but whose revenues are small. These persons will be given a chance to perform some useful work at a remuneration that will make their present rentier incomes look small.

"As soon as capitalist production takes possession of agriculture, and in proportion to the extent to which it does so, the demand for an agricultural laboring population falls absolutely, while the accumulation of the capital employed in agriculture advances, without this repulsion being, as in non-agricultural industries, compensated by a greater attraction. Part of the agricultural population is therefore constantly on the point of passing over into an urban or manufacturing proletariat, and on the look-out for circumstances favorable to this transformation. (Manufacture is used here in the sense of all non-agricultural industries.) This source of relative surplus-population is thus constantly flowing. But the constant flow towards the towns presupposes, in the country itself, a constant latent surplus-population, the extent of which becomes evident only when its channels of outlets open to exceptional width. The agricultural laborer is therefore reduced to the minimum of wages, and always stands with one foot in the swamp of pauperism."—Karl Marx.

Socialism means a fair deal for everybody.