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W. U. COTTON, S.A., S.C.L., Editor

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Political Socialism

Political Socialism aims at the capture of the administrative and legislative bodies of Canada so that laws may be made by revolutionary Socialists replacing private ownership with public ownership, abolishing rent, interest and profit, and establishing the co-operative commonwealth.

To do this we must be able to elect the majority of the members of Parliament and of the provincial assemblies.

How far are we on our way to this end? The best test, I think, is the number of Cotton's Weekly going into each constituency.

Cotton's Weekly is more than a newspaper. It is first and foremost a political organ. Its subscriptions and circulation is the result of the voluntary, unpaid work of many men and women in their respective localities who work for the overthrow of the present system. Consequently a fair test of the strength of the revolutionary sentiment can be gained by the number of Cotton's Weekly going into each electoral district.

The following list gives the names of each constituency sending members to parliament with the number of Cotton's subs going into each district and the total number of voters therein. Prince Edward Island has no electoral lists. In the other districts where the total number of voters is not given, the member was returned by acclamation in the last Dominion elections.

Middlesex East	19	5,822
Middlesex North	2	4,529
Middlesex West	15	5,673
Muskoka	31	5,439
Nipissing	127	21,754
Norfolk	85	7,386
Northumberland	6	5,181
Northumberland West	7	3,583
Ontario North	16	4,799
Ontario South	16	7,785
Ottawa (2 seats)	235	20,388
Oxford	123	7,076
Oxford South	123	4,582
Perry Sound	29	7,632
Peel	15	6,821
Perth North	123	5,587
Perth South	21	5,587
Peterborough East	27	4,442
Peterborough West	196	8,186
Prescott	6	6,666
Prince Edward	43	5,536
Renfrew North	128	5,647
Renfrew South	69	6,996
Russell	7	9,412
Simcoe East	48	8,279
Simcoe North	10	6,947
Simcoe South	21	7,625
Stormont	48	5,536
Thunder Bay and Rainy	167	7,134
Toronto (2 seats)	111	10,342
Victoria	21	9,132
Waterloo North	272	9,565
Welland	163	6,824
Wellington North	38	8,970
Wellington South	181	7,584
Weston	43	7,012
York Centre	121	6,808
York North	41	14,552
York South	41	14,552

A warden of the New Westminster, B.C., penitentiary has been killed by an escaping prisoner. This news causes the blood of our masters to run cold. They exclaim that society must be protected. One of them takes particular pains to tell me we are living in the present and persists in asking, "What would you Socialists do with the wretch?" The problem is not for us to solve. We will solve it when we get into power. The capitalists have made a mighty rough bed and they are lying uneasy in it. It is true their beds are soft, but they know not when the knife of a desperate worker may not slip down from above and slit them open. Hence they fear exceedingly. This prisoner was the product of the system. Trace him back and we would probably find that capitalism has produced his criminal record. Vancouver last winter was overrun with slaves without a master. Burglaries, robberies, holdups were common. The masters lived without work and, by refusing the workers the chance to work, forced them to live without work. Once learning how easy it is to do this, the criminal is made, and the legalized criminals, the men who live without work on unearned revenues, have to have jails built, penitentiaries, judges, policemen. When we get into power, the majority of the prisoners will go free, for an opportunity to get a fine living by useful work being open to all, the criminal, unless he is insane, will forsake his criminal ways and be a brother producer.

FATHER OF WATERS

Silent Saskatchewan, softly art stealing,
Placid and peaceful, smoothly and slow;
Noiseless and swift on thy bosom of water,
Fain would I sail away! Where would I go?

Onward thro' prairies and golden glad
wheatfields,
Where the sweet kernels hang ripe in
the sun;
Traverse the valleys and circle the
mountains,
Follow thy windings with rod and with
spear.

Lo! daybreak hath dawned on thy
shimmering waters,
The wavelets rise gaily to welcome the
morn.
To catch the first kisses that gleam
from the sunbeams,
To laugh and rejoice in the day newly
born.

Onward thro' forests and shadow and
sunshine,
The green leaves droop lowly to catch
thy shadows fall;
The birch-bark canoe and the tall, silent
Red Man
Adrift on thy waters, O, Pride of the
West.

Awake past homesteads, where all solitary;
On the vast prairies the pioneers dwell,
Here no steam whistle hath broken the
silence,
Nor sounded at even the silver-toned
bell.

A surfeit of glass in the glimmering
moonlight,
The stars twinkle brightly when night
falls,
Now lovingly hovers a mist o'er the
waters,
Afar in the distance the prairie wolves
howl.

Silent Saskatchewan, wandering breezes
Ripple thy surface and dance on thy
breast,
Whisper and tell me, O "Father of Waters,"
Tell me the meaning of strife and unrest.

Far from the cities where greed rules
triumphant,
Fathers are toiling, babes sicken and die;
Mothers groan gray in the soul-weary
struggle,
Whisper a prayer to a God up on high.
Masters are watching the sign, grim and
potent,
Slaves are awaking and rattle their
chains,
Crying in agony, "Born but to Labor!
To labor for others who pocket our
gains!"

Far sounds the cry till the leaders of
nations
Shall cower and tremble, for MEN WILL
BE HEARD.

It ascends to the throne of the mighty
God,
From men, in His image, tho' broken
and blurred.

Broken by ages of labor and sorrow,
Blurred by the hand of his brother, you
member
Poverty, avarice, greed and oppression
Have brought him no lower than angels
may go.

Silent Saskatchewan, hast thou not
heard it?
Rising and falling and sounding afar:
The wailing of souls who are sighing for
freedom.

Over the prairies the summons to war.
Through the white mist hanging over
ears:
"Evil must cease and mankind must re-
member
That harvest must come, tho' of blood
and of tears,
When each one has learned that 'all
men are brothers,
And each set his standard for others to
see."
When sons of humanity love one another,
Shall Peace reign with Justice, and
Men will be Free."

Saskatoon, Oct. 19, '12. —"MARY."

WASTE

By F. J. FLATMAN
Hamilton, Ontario

The economic significance of waste seems to be entirely lost sight of by everyone but Socialists, who make a study of social matters. Those who abuse it the most are the very people who profit the most by its existence. By these people I mean those engaged in commercial pursuits, who, just as they boom the blessings of competition so long as it does not enter into their own particular concern, loudly sing the praises of thrift, just in so far as it is possible to confine this virtue to their own private affairs.

The capitalist has learned and has commenced to act upon this knowledge; that competition among capitalists is injurious, as it tends to keep down prices, but that competition among slaves is beneficial, as it tends to keep down wages. Hence he recognizes the right of the slave-class to compete, and does not love the wicked trade union. In the opposite sense he knows that the elimination of waste outside his own factory will be a disadvantage, while the elimination of waste inside his own factory will redound to his own advantage.

We all remember how in the early days of our youth we were taught by our "teachers" to practice thrift, to save and be careful. We perhaps remember Sunday sermons that have been preached to us and we recall perhaps the tedious reiteration of the simple, yet golden advice, "Waste not, want not." "See a pin and let it lie, and you'll want a pin before you die." "Many a mickle makes a muckle." "Take care of the cents, and the dollars will take care of themselves," etc.

Some of us before we were disillusioned by Socialism, conjured up visions of prospective affluence by practicing such simple virtues as may be associated with abstinence. Here and there may be found a few of us who, buoyed up with the possibilities of parsimony, "put a bit on one side for a rainy day," but happening upon a humid season, we found ourselves in a state of hopeless bankruptcy. And it is not very nice, to say the least, to be thus rudely shaken from what appears to be a most feasible faith after having studied its tenets with such care and diligence.

THE DOCTRINE OF THRIFT IS THE REFUGE OF A THIEF WHO, HAVING STOLEN FOUR-FIFTHS OF A PERSON'S PROPERTY, ENJOINS HIS VICTIM IN A GLORIOUS SERMON TO BE FRUGAL WITH THE FIFTH WHICH REMAINS.

It is, however, the easiest thing in the world to be led astray with this most plausible pretext. Take the case of Mr. Chiozza Money, an English M.P., who, first of all in an alarming array of figures, records the enormous toll demanded and extorted by the TOOL OWNERS from the TOOL-USERS, and then proceeds to justify this extortion; his only complaint against the extorting tool-owners being that they waste their ill-gotten gains in ridiculous luxuries. Instead of spending it wisely upon commodities of a beneficial and useful character. In relation to this my concern is not what steps can be taken to compel the tool-owners to have extorted from the tool-users, but rather what steps can be taken to prevent the tool-owner taking anything at all from the tool-user. This consummation I know can only be achieved by the tool-users becoming the tool-owners, and when this revolution has been accomplished, then I frankly admit that for the owners and the users of the tools to wantonly waste any of the wealth they have created will be foolishness of a very profound order. But this state of things would not be capitalism, and I am dealing with waste under capitalism, and do not wish to be misunderstood or charged with inconsistency. My position is briefly this:

WASTE UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES AND ALL CONDITIONS, is bad for the community.

Waste is a good thing for capitalism, therefore capitalism is bad for the community.

Let us first see why waste is a good thing for capitalism, and then let us enumerate a few of the countless methods whereby wealth is wasted under the present competitive system of wealth production.

Capitalism thrives upon waste, because as things are now arranged, or deranged, wealth cannot be consumed as rapidly as it can be produced, and this in spite of the fact that there are a large number of consumers who are non-producers. Waste, therefore, very conveniently functions in lubricating the wheels of commerce by relieving congested markets.

When the little boy who has just learned to toddle attempts to perform an acrobatic feat on the corner of the table-cloth in imitation of the clown he may have seen at Ringling's, and in doing so brings to the floor with a terrible crash mother's best tea-set, the father does more than attempt to shield the boy when he says in expiation: "Never mind, mother, it's good for trade"; he states an economic fact. It is good for trade, for, as has been pointed out, a financial crisis was arrested in the United States by the wholesale destruction caused by the earthquake at San Francisco by the earth-quake. The South African war gave a flip to British industry just as other wars have proved a happy hunting ground for

contractors and speculators. Waste, wilful, wanton, wasteful waste serves as a perpetual tonic to palsied capitalism.

We reach what is known as a trade crisis. We are then unwilling observers of this interesting social phenomena, this artificial, man-created plague. "Where wealth accumulates, and men decay." We are the reluctant witnesses of commercial congestion, and we see piled up high and wide, wealth, the PROOF and the PRODUCT of the workers' diligent INDUSTRY, and this wealth stands as a huge portentous barrier, withholding from the workers the goods which he needs, the goods which his energies alone created under capitalism. While this accumulation of wealth remains, until this has been destroyed by fire, war or earthquake, or dissipated, and our stores and warehouses are empty again, the would-be worker is condemned to a period of enforced idleness. He is unemployed, mark you, not because there is a scarcity of the things which he has produced, but because there is more of them than those who have produced them can buy.

Now let us imagine the lot of the worker. Let us suppose that it was possible to conserve high and dry, safe and wholesome, without resorting to any destruction or dissipation, the wealth freed from the worker. Suppose, too, that all waste, unnecessary expenses, etc., has been eliminated from all departments of industry and that the enormous store of wealth which betokens a trade crisis could only be absorbed by the consumption of the daily requirement of the non-producing tool-owners. In this case it is not very difficult to see that trade crises would appear at more frequent intervals and would be of longer duration, and that the workers' condition would be one of perpetual siege in the midst of plenty. Waste, then, the frustrating away into the modern system of bookkeeping, for the lack of which countless thousands of lives are lost each day is the surging stream which helps the economic mill-wheel in motion.

Let me now cite a few instances of ridiculous waste, the number of which can be enlarged upon by the reader at his own good time and pleasure. I think it is readily admitted that of all waste that is deplorable, there is none more so than the waste of HUMAN LIFE. Yet in mercantile circles this is a loss that does not occasion much alarm, as may be seen from the fact (the shedding of crocodile tears notwithstanding) that loss of human life has not become of sufficient importance as to intrude itself into the modern system of bookkeeping. A factory may be destroyed by fire. A ship may go down at sea, and while an entry will be made in the profit and loss account of the loss of the ship or factory, no entry will be made of the loss of human life. Of course no one wonders at this, for a ship or a factory represents so much capital. A human being does not. (Not now — he did once before he was FREE to compete). Therefore, he is of no account. But we who are Socialists place in importance before all other things the loss of human life, consequently we deplore and denounce a social system which uses up human beings in unnecessary and wasteful pursuits, while it kills off three generations in one by harnessing the slaves for long weary hours at arduous and unnecessary toil, whilst at the same time other workless slaves are being worked off at the same rapid rate by being denied the right to earn the common means of life.

At a very moderate estimate, only one-half of the work that is done today is necessary. All the unnecessary advertising of unnecessary wares, all the unnecessary machinery used for the production of the same, all the unnecessary means of transit and distribution involved, and all the thousand and one contrivances for providing the slave with his most cherished (f) desire—WORK, would be done away with under a sane system. What a unique 20th century achievement this passion for finding or making work! At this moment ships are leaving foreign shores for this land laden with the self-made manufactured articles that are stored in ships that are leaving our shores for foreign climes. Germany, France and America send earthenware and china to England, and then England sends earthenware and china to Germany, France and America. Birmingham, Eng., sends jewelry to New York, and New York returns the compliment. Sweden sends iron ore to England; England sends it to Sweden, and so on ad lib. All the multifarious products of every clime pour themselves into New York or London, from there to be distributed to all parts of the globe. All of this is a proof of the presence and the order of the glorious and wonderful age of capitalism.

These remarks, I know, will tend to ruffle the serenity of those who pin their faith to the glorification of trade and business relations, but they may open up a train of thought, as I hope they will, on nature reflection, will convince the reader that we as a nation boast of order where there is chaos, and that we chatter about enterprise, which is but another name for saying that we are engaged in a conspiracy to squander in a wholesale manner untold life and wealth.

Let us come nearer home. Whilst one library may suffice to meet the

literary demands of a whole town, whilst one park may supply the facilities for recreation of the whole body of citizens, whilst one post office with a few branches, one city hall, one police station, and so forth, may function exclusively for the particular purpose for which they were originated, and whilst in a given district one school may cater successfully for the mental requirements of the children, and one church of its kind can supply all the other dubious requirements for the children's parents, yet in that same district it will take an incalculable number of grocers to supply that district with provisions, an equal number of bakers to supply the meat, of bakers the bread, of clothiers the clothes, of shoemakers the shoes, of milkmen the milk, of news agents the news, and so forth, and very few seem to marvel that it should take such an indefatigable multitude of wagons, vans, etc., not to speak of errand boys, messengers, agents, etc., for whom we keep our streets in repair to facilitate their ridiculous traffic.

As Nunquam pointed out, the postman can supply every resident in a given number of streets with all the morning letters, but it will take a whole army of food distributors to replenish the breakfast table of the same residents. And this is the System that we are expected to regard with veneration!

Then there are our public services. Public services, one would think, were meant to serve the public. The railways are public services, although, of course, they serve the directors and shareholders as well. Now one would think that as the railways are here to serve the public, that the public would avail themselves of the services. But one frequently sees trains going upon their journeys almost void of passengers, whilst we see travelling in the same direction, footsore and weary, men and women looking for work. So with the street cars. Slaves who live at one end of the town work at the other end, and are forced to walk while cars run empty.

One more instance, and then I am through. I once lived near a brick works. The workers were close to a colliery, where sinking operations were being carried on, and where bricks were needed to line the shaft, build a stack, etc. The bricks for the mine were procured hundreds of miles away, and the bricks made next door to the mine were sent to the very place where the mine's bricks came from for house construction. I thought what a shameful waste of loading, unloading, etc., was involved. If one applies the same fact as in this case of bricks, to the countless other products of labor, one can readily see what an idiotic waste of labor goes to the maintenance of the capitalist law and order.

What, the reader may ask, will become of this unnecessary labor if something like regulation and order is established in the production and distribution of wealth? For answer, I say, ask a Socialist and subscribe to Cotton's Weekly.

The Province of Quebec is the most backward place for education perhaps on the American continent. It is not because money is not spent. Each year there are \$7,000,000 spent on education in this province. Yet Quebec pays the lowest salaries possible. Ten and fifteen dollars a month is quite prevalent as a salary. Mr. Godfrey Langlois, member of the Legislative Assembly, is working for universal, compulsory, secular education. He is doing a mighty work for Socialism, although he calls himself a Liberal. Few people realize the dense ignorance of the people of Quebec. The Catholic hierarchy has directly encouraged this ignorance. They call it their religion and they fight Langlois for trying to spread education. Socialism cannot get much of a root among the people of Quebec as long as an ignorant priesthood persists in fostering ignorance among the children. There are many Catholics who sympathize with Langlois, and quite a few priests and ecclesiastics are with him, but as yet they are in the minority. The Labor Party of Montreal, advocating compulsory education, uniformity of text books, nationalization of industries, etc., are preparing the way for the spread of revolutionary ideas.

Before the Conservatives came into power, Monk, who recently resigned from the Ministry of Public Works, introduced a bill to extend co-operative societies and to give them power to use public credit for the advance of the co-operative movement. At once the supporters of capitalism declared that this was giving the co-operative societies power to do a banking business, and could not be allowed. The bill was thrown out. Perley, Lemieux, Doherty, Borden, and other high party men in both parties own bank stock. Monk owns none. Monk was willing for the co-operative societies to break into the banking business. The others were not. This is just a little illustration of the working of economic determinism which those influenced by it do not want to see discussed.

IT'S PAID FOR.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Constituency	Subs.	Voters
Kings	9	5,822
Prince	7	4,529
Queens (2 seats)	7	5,673

NOVA SCOTIA.

Constituency	Subs.	Voters
Annapolis	29	5,312
Antigonish	19	5,312
Breton	19	5,312
Cape Breton	43	5,312
Colchester	43	5,312
Cumberland	43	5,312
Dieby	6	5,312
Guyborough	6	5,312
Halifax (2 seats)	24	5,312
Hants	24	5,312
Inverness	24	5,312
Kings	24	5,312
Lebanon	24	5,312
Pictou	24	5,312
Richmond	24	5,312
Shelburne	24	5,312
Yarmouth	24	5,312

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Constituency	Subs.	Voters
Charlotte	7	5,312
Gloucester	7	5,312
Kent	17	5,312
Kings	17	5,312
Northumberland	17	5,312
Restigouche	17	5,312
St. John City and County	208	5,312
St. John City and County	12	5,312
Sunbury, Queen's	12	5,312
Victoria	12	5,312
Westmorland	12	5,312
York	12	5,312

Constituency	Subs.	Voters
Argenteuil	3	5,312
Bagot	3	5,312
Beauce	1	5,312
Beauharnois	1	5,312
Bellechasse	1	5,312
Berthier	1	5,312
Bonaventure	2	5,312
Brome	12	5,312
Champlain	12	5,312
Charlevoix	12	5,312
Chateauguay	12	5,312
Chicoutimi - Saguenay	12	5,312
Compton	6	5,312
Dorchester	6	5,312
Dumfries	12	5,312
Gaspe	12	5,312
Hochelaga	61	5,312
Huntingdon	61	5,312
Jacques-Cartier	61	5,312
Joliette	61	5,312
Kamouraska	61	5,312
La Belle	61	5,312
Leopold-Notre-Dame	61	5,312
L'Assomption	61	5,312
Laval	61	5,312
L'Islet	61	5,312
Lotbiniere	61	5,312
Maisonville	61	5,312
Maskinonge	61	5,312
Megantic	61	5,312
Missisquoi	61	5,312
Montcalm	61	5,312
Montmagny	61	5,312
Montreal (6 seats)	61	5,312
Nicolet	61	5,312
Pontiac	61	5,312
Portneuf	61	5,312
Quebec (2 seats)	114	5,312
Quebec County	1	5,312
Richelieu	17	5,312
Richmond	17	5,312
Rouville	1	5,312
St. Hyacinthe	1	5,312
St. John's-Berthier	61	5,312
Shefford	61	5,312
Sherbrooke	61	5,312
Soulanges	61	5,312
Stanstead	61	5,312
Temiscamata	61	5,312
Terrebonne	61	5,312
Three Rivers	61	5,312
Two Mountains	61	5,312
Vaudreuil	61	5,312
Wright	61	5,312
Yamaska	61	5,312

ONTARIO.

Algoma East	129	15,229
Algoma West	129	15,229
Brant	27	8,437
Brantford	27	7,076
Brookville	27	5,790
Bruce North	11	6,821
Bruce South	11	7,547
Carleton	23	6,666
Dufferin	54	5,442
Dundas	9	5,181
Elgin	9	7,785
Elgin East	27	5,094
Essex North	19	15,716
Essex South	19	7,785
Frontenac	23	5,442
Glenora	23	5,442
Greenville	11	5,442
Grey East	7	5,236
Grey South	7	5,236
Haldimand	23	5,236
Halton	23	20,143
Hamilton (2 seats)	1	6,996
Hastings East	21	5,236
Hastings West	21	5,236
Huron	11	5,442
Huron South	11	5,442
Huron West	11	5,442
Kent East	23	5,236
Kent West	23	5,236
Kingston	23	5,971
Lambton East	23	4,529
Lambton West	23	4,529
Lennox and Addington	11	4,529
Leeds	11	5,236
Lincoln	23	15,229
London	23	15,229

MANITOBA.

Constituency	Subs.	Voters
Brandon	97	9,629
Dauphin	129	9,415
Lisgar	29	4,554
Macdonald	111	8,127
Marquette	30	8,127
Portage La Prairie	38	7,644
Provencher	38	7,644
Selkirk	92	9,158
Souris	70	7,741
Winnipeg	626	27,464

SASKATCHEWAN.

Constituency	Subs.	Voters
Assiniboia	208	11,786
Battleford	363	17,662
Rumboldt	363	17,662
Mackenzie	363	17,662
Moose Jaw	730	26,874
Prince Albert	130	9,941
Qu'Appelle	122	12,312
Regina	248	16,204
Saltcoats	56	7,786
Saskatoon	239	14,789

ALBERTA.

Constituency	Subs.	Voters
Calgary	106	17,662
Edmonton	226	19,637
Macleod	467	19,368
Medicine Hat	513	18,259
Red Deer	916	17,261
Strathcona	623	13,735
Victoria	226	19,152

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Constituency	Subs.	Voters
Comox-Atlin	562	9,917
Kootenay	988	12,659
Nanaimo	314	8,538
New Westminster	899	12,465
Victoria City	362	8,246
Yale-Charbo	732	10,914
Vancouver City	926	22,91