

CLEAR THE WAY FOR THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH

THE WORKING CLASS AND THE EMPLOYING CLASS HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON. THERE CAN BE NO PEACE AS LONG AS HUNGER AND WANT ARE FOUND AMONG MILLIONS OF WORKING PEOPLE, AND THE FEW WHO MAKE UP THE EMPLOYING CLASS HAVE ALL THE GOOD THINGS OF LIFE.

Cotton's Weekly

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Nova Scotia.....	416
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New Brunswick.....	287
Prov. of Quebec.....	703
Ontario.....	1064
Manitoba.....	196
Alberta.....	248
Saskatchewan.....	143
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Yukon Territory.....	2
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Socialism stands for the abolition of the robbery of the workers.

Capitalism stands for the rearing of palaces for the robbers and hovels for the workers.

"I see nothing to be thankful for while one woman or child is left hungry on the byways or highways."
—Will Crooks at Winnipeg.

The commission plan of city government sounds the deathknell of democracy within the capitalist state.

The workingmen have the numbers and the votes. It is up to them to stop the plunderers who rob labor. The only thing that allows the fool worker to be robbed is the fool worker.

Men at present frequently live well and do no work. They can live well because they receive rent, interest and profit. Abolish rent, interest and profit and men will not be able to live idle lives.

The suffragettes of New York City are heckling the candidates for Mayor and are adopting the tactics of their British sisters. The Socialist candidate has pledged himself for women suffrage. Gaynor has hedged.

Miss Mary McArthur the English woman labor organizer is in Chicago. Miss McArthur is not in favor of the suffragette aims. They are too limited. Miss McArthur fights for adult human suffrage. The fight of the ladies of Great Britain for woman suffrage based upon a property qualification is, in her estimation, too narrow.

A wreck near Rainy River on the C. N. R. resulted in the death of the fireman and brakeman. At the coroner's inquest it was proven that the whole crew of the train had been on duty for twenty-six hours. The workers fall beneath the juggernaut of profit for private individuals. They are worked 'till they can't stand and then are killed because they sleep at their posts.

Canada is going to have a navy that will cost twenty million dollars. Twenty million dollars would go far in giving every Province a good set of school buildings, with good teachers. But the patriot plunderers of Canada want a navy to help waste the resources of Canada and their political henchmen at Ottawa look religious and say, "So be it."

Women unionists of Chicago are stumping the state of Illinois advocating the passage of a law limiting the hours of female labor in factories to eight hours. This law has been attacked on the ground of its unconstitutionality. It is said to interfere with the freedom of contract guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States. The court of first instance has held that the law is unconstitutional. It is probable that the higher courts will upset the first judgement. A similar law passed in Oregon has been maintained.

Socialism does not stand for making the workers divide up with the drones. Capitalism stands for that.

The capitalists say, "Blessed are the meek, for we can pick their pockets in peace."

Another merger. This time three car companies are amalgamated with a capital of ten million dollars. This is but the beginning of the process.

China is going to build eight warships, twenty cruisers, ten gun boats and many torpedo boats. China is developing along capitalist lines. She is developing bourgeoisie culture which is based on guns and murder.

The Trades and Labor Council is to spend several thousand dollars in organization work. Let the organizers be well imbued in the revolutionary spirit and the money will be well spent.

When a man is out of a job and his wife is fretting at home there is apt to be ill temper shown. Ill temper leads to quarreling and separation. Capitalism with its horrors of unemployment is fast breaking up the homes that still remain to the working people.

Socialism aims at giving every man a chance to develop the best that is in him. Capitalism stands for giving a few rich persons and a few unscrupulous devils a chance to develop the best and the worst that is in them at the expense of everybody else.

A thirteen year old negro boy in South Carolina stole a pair of shoes. The judge condemned him to a whipping and to six months of attendance at Sunday school. Evidently in the South Sunday schools are kept for the special purpose of instilling into little negro boys the sacredness of the property rights of the labor thieves.

The Retail Merchants of Canada recently suggested a Board of Commerce to prevent unfair competition in the retail line. The Board would be like the Board of Railway Commissioners and would be controlled by the government. The Retail Merchants are feeling the pinch of the big departmental stores and are squealing.

Mrs. Frances Hughes sued the Canada Northern Railway for the death of her husband. Damages alleged was ten thousand dollars. The case was heard in Montreal. At the conclusion of the evidence the Company moved, to have the case dismissed because no evidence had been offered to show that the platform on which the husband had been killed belonged to the railway. The judge at once dismissed the case. Under capitalism the judges are bound by red tape. They give law and the law is rotten. Under socialism the railway companies will cease to exist. The judges will not have to decide whether a widow should be well provided for or starve according to the rules of tweedledum and tweedledee. Humaneness will rule even among men and women.

A capitalist definition of personality is as follows, "Personality is a consciousness which is conscious of consciousness and which is capable of directing that consciousness in the realms of feeling, of knowing and of willing." A socialist definition might be as follows, "Personality is a combination of ideas and emotions thinking and expressing themselves." The capitalist definition is supposed to be good and the socialist definition is supposed to be wicked. The reason is not far to seek. The capitalist definition gives the big plute a chance to swell out his chest and pretend to be it. The socialist definition puts him on a level with an intelligent jumpingjack. The socialist definition is therefore wicked because it contains the germs of less majestic to plute pride.

Fifty-four thousand acres of land has just been sold by the C. P. R. out west. One company has the disposal of fifty four thousand acres of land and the capitalists say that is all right. But if a socialist should suggest that a municipality be given the control of the land within its limits that would be horrible. There are some villages in Eastern Canada whose territorial limits are but six hundred acres. To pass a law declaring that the title to this land should be held in trust by the municipality for all the people is an outrage according to the plute apologists. They would prefer that one capitalist should own all the six hundred acres and make everybody who lives on the land pay him rent. According to the socialist idea the land would be employed for profit. The owner now gets his rent and is free to spend it on wine, women, and luxury. Private initiative and reward of ability! Bah!

Britain's Inevitable Conflict

The following editorial from the Toronto Globe shows that some capitalist papers catch at times a gleam of the truth:

The Budget is only an incident. Discussion of land taxes touches only one point in the problem. Protection or Free Trade is a phrase of a far larger controversy. Lloyd-George, the Liberals, and the Labor men are not the cause of the struggle; they are merely voices giving utterance for the moment to the passion and the hope that stir in the heart of the nation. The conflict was inevitable. Its beginnings lay far back in the history of Britain's evolution into freedom. It is the age-long struggle of Privilege against Equality.

The Privilege is doomed. Despite all fine speeches about hereditary rights on the one side and the peril of Socialism on the other, things as they are cannot remain. By no desert of theirs the few have been born to idleness and luxury. By no fault of theirs the many have been born to toil and want. The idle rich at one end and the idle poor at the other are the extremes of a civilization that cannot endure. A century ago Burns saw the tragedy of unemployment, when, for the sake of wife and offspring, the haggard out-of-work only "begs a brother of the earth to give him leave to toil." That condition cannot survive. It is doomed because it is unjust. Today as never before in a thousand years the heart of Britain is moved as with a great tide, and the issue of it all, if British civilization is to be saved, will be a new social order in which no man shall eat bread by the sweat of another man's brow. A nation with a million paupers huddled and hustled together in the city slums, and with a half-dozen landlords holding millions of acres of land for sheep and rabbits and red deer—that nation in God's world can have no peace but a sword until justice is done and the honest man has an honest chance.

That time is at hand in Britain. The present distress may wear the guise of the day of the sword, but out of the coming confusion will emerge a new Britain. Mr. Will Crooks bears about in his body the marks of the conflict, but in his heart is the assurance of triumph. Lloyd-George, knowing by hard experience the injustice of things as they are, has come into the kingdom for such a time as this. Men like Asquith and Edward Grey will not turn back. If they did others would rise and reform would go on. The conflict is inevitable. The storm centre is not the Budget, but the social order. Equality will win.—Toronto Globe.

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Every copy of Cotton's Weekly is paid for before it leaves this office. If you get Cotton's through the mail with a little red address label on it, your subscription has been paid by some friend who wishes you to look into the socialist doctrines. You need not hesitate to take Cotton's from the post office as no bill will be rendered, and the paper will be promptly discontinued when the subscription expires.

There is a struggle on between the Canadian trade organizations and the international unions. The workingmen do not know their own interests. Some day, however, when the slavery becomes a little too galling the two organizations will merge into one to fight the bosses. The workingmen of the world are bound to unite. Until they do unite they will have to crawl at the heels of the men and women who treat them like cattle and keep them around only for profit.

The Wealth of the Farmers

BY THE EDITOR

There are many labor thieves who delight to tell the farmers how rich the agricultural producers of Canada are. Glibly from the lips fall the tale of the farmers' wealth. Just recently Clouston of the Bank of Montreal returned from the west oozing words of wealth about the farmers. Let us look a little more closely at how rich the farmers really are.

In the fall, the time when the labor thieves take it upon themselves to declare unto the farmers the enormous agricultural wealth possessed by the hardy sons of the soil, the crops are harvested. The hay is in the barn and the fodder corn is in the silo. Thrashing is taking place and all the products of the year's toil is laid out and can be seen by the eye.

The labor thief comes along and says, "You have so many bushels of corn. The market price is so much. You have so many bushels of wheat. You have so many bushels of potatoes, and apples and turnips. You have so many hogs and cattle and lambs. The market value of this wealth is so much. You have therefore produced so much wealth this year. You are rich beyond the dreams of avarice. What are you growling about?"

Although the farmer may have all these things he quickly finds out he cannot sell them and keep the farm going. If he sells the cows he will not be able to take the milk to the factory. His monthly check from the milk factory or the creamery will no longer be coming in. He cannot sell his cattle and continue in the farming business.

He cannot sell his hay or his fodder corn. If he sells them or his root crop his cattle will starve. He must keep the feed to feed to his cattle in order that they can live that he can draw his monthly check from the creamery.

Moreover he has to haul and plow and harrow and rake and he must keep his horses in fit condition to do the farm work. They must be fed. Again he must keep his hay and grain for them.

Then his wife and children and himself must be kept alive. He must keep sufficient of the food he has raised to prevent them from losing strength. He and his wife and children are as much farm animals forced to labor for a living as are the horses in the stable.

After all these crops are kept for home consumption, there is a certain surplus that can be sold. A few hogs and sheep and an old cow or two. This is all that is left of the wonderful wealth produced by the farmers. But even here there is no money for the farmers out of the sale of these things. There are the taxes to pay, there are clothes to purchase, there are farm implements that need repairing and there are needed phosphates and paris green and harnesses and coal oil and a host of other things absolutely necessary to keep the farm going. When the farmer gets through the year and paid toll to the railroads and to the Cloustons and others of a like financial ability the farmer can feel glad if he comes out where he was at the same time the year previous.

The wealth of the farmers is purely in the hands of the financiers and industrial and railroad barons. These gentlemen find the farmers mighty good picking and to these gentlemen the farmers are a source of wealth. But for the farmers themselves there is a lot of hard work and little profit. The wealth they produce is easily consumed. The most of it is of necessity consumed on the farm itself. It cannot be sold without putting the farmer completely out of business. The financiers and other labor thieves who take the sum of the autumn crops of the farmer and tell him that he is worth a whole lot of money because of them are liars.

Imagine a hungry family about to eat dinner. There are soup and potatoes and turnips and meat and pie for the meal. Just before the dinner begins in walks a bank manager and says, "Hold, I want to see how much you people are worth." He finds there are five people at dinner. He looks over the table and sees the bill of fare from the neighboring hotel and says, "Five persons mean the following dishes, five soups, five potatoes, five turnips, five meats, five orders of pie. At the hotel across the way this dinner would cost you three dollars. You should be happy to possess such wealth. You are worth three dollars." Then the financier walks out, the family eat their dinner and then wonder where in thunder the three dollars which the financier told them they were worth has gone to. Clouston, in telling the farmers how rich they are has played the same kind of a mon-

key game on them. Great financial magic. It is fun and money for the labor thieves but it's hard on the working farmers.

U. S. Flag Not to Shelter Taft

H. Martin.

The following is one of several letters which the Editor of the Berlin Daily Telegraph (capitalistic) has refused publication. Disloyal sentiments the chief offence. The weak kneed flabbiness of the Canadian press is well shown up when it turns down a mild article like the following:

Through "international courtesy" the American flag will not appear at the disgraceful meeting between President Taft and "Czar" Diaz of Mexico, for the territory on which the two officials will meet is in dispute and will therefore be considered neutral.

Since drinking to the health of Czar Nicholas, Taft is well prepared to take Diaz by the hand, or welcome him in whatever way may be required by the etiquette of the occasion.

The English language contains no word that adequately expresses the cruelty of the Russian and Mexican governments in their efforts to continue their present absolutism.

Their methods of torture, their outrageous disregard for human rights and their despicable struggle to thwart every advance of civilization and self-sale, brand Russia and Mexico today as the empires of death. If civilization means anything it means that we have passed the dead line of cruelty and unkindness. A government or society that will freeze and famish its subjects, then torture them for aspirations toward liberty and democracy is too despicable to be worthy the respect of any fair minded person.

How can any thinking person condone the actions of these governments to preserve that which has outgrown nature.

I declare that the peasants of Russia and the peon slaves of Mexico are actuated by the highest motive that has ever been a mainspring of human action—the desire to secure a little more freedom for the weak and oppressed.

When Taft was in Russia he drank the health of the Czar. He is now on his way to shake hands with Diaz. When he has done this he will in his personality, have linked together two of the worst brutes that modern times have produced. But a few months ago I had the unpleasant experience of hearing one of our clergymen, who had made Taft's acquaintance as a college mate, (but surely could not have known him as a politician, and now as president of the greatest republic ever,) eulogize this same Taft as a good christian man and brother beyond reproach.

Of course the hand of God is working mysteriously through King's, Queen's, Czar's, Emperor's, Shah's, President's and the rest of them, and therefore any criticism would be and should be looked upon as an act of disloyalty. Bah.

Don't you think it is about time a thinking people get away from this divine right of kings?

Mexican railways, mines and plantations are owned by American capitalists. These industries are owned by American capitalists. These industries are worked by enslaved peons. Upon the perpetuation of that slavery depends the dividends for these securities owned by American capitalists. Peonage in Mexico rests upon the brutal rule of Diaz. Therefore Taft as the representative of American capitalists, shakes hands with Diaz.

What could be more treasonable to free government than any sort of sympathy for Russian and Mexican despotism today?

A Catholic Priest at Glace Bay where the strike is on took the side of the strikers. The labor thieves in Montreal were much put out and the church authorities told the priest to keep his mouth shut. The church is the faithful upholder of capitalism. It upheld feudalism and now it has become the political supporter of the industrial highwaymen. The church is the semper eadum, it still supports the robbers.

Two hundred tars deserted the British fleet in New York during the Hudson-Fulton celebration. It is all right for labor thieves like Asquith and the lords to mouthe about the glorious liberty under the British flag but, the sailors who know how harsh the butcher slave-drivers under that flag can take the first opportunity that offers to escape its protecting flappings.

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"In every historical epoch, the prevailing mode of economic production and exchange, and the social organization necessarily following from it, form the basis upon which is built up, and from which alone can be explained, the political and intellectual history of that epoch"—Karl Marx.

Class Rule Over Mind

One of the interesting sights in New York this week is the view from Riverside Drive of the great international fleet. During the evening the river sparkles with electric lights. In mid-stream, stretching away for miles, lie the warships of many nations. In all they number fifty-seven.

It is a scene worthy of contemplation. A body of troops appears much as did its predecessors of a hundred years ago. A battleship presents concretely to the eye the highest application of the machine process of our age to purposes of war. The inflexible and New Hampshire are the result of the combined inventive genius and social labor of the world's workers. But the capitalist class of the world owns them and directs them on their careers of destruction.

As he looks down on the ships from the Drive, the boldest worker must be profoundly impressed by the power of the masters. The funnels and masts of the American fleet up the river show like a dark, ugly forest. The owners and rulers of the world have it literally gripped in a clutch of steel.

But this view, to him who lingers a while, is incomplete. Armies and fleets are but a show of power. Imagine the workers of America assembled on the shores of the Hudson. They might reflect as follows: "The real power of the capitalists consists in what they persuade us to think of them. We wish them to have troops and ships of war. We consent to their ownership of land and mines and railroads and factories. We agree with them that they deserve the best food and clothes and homes, the works of art, the seats of learning, and the opportunities of life. We produce everything and surrender all to them gladly, asking but the chance to produce more. These ideas constitute treason to ourselves. Without the treason throughout our ranks the battleships might as well be made of cork and their guns of paper."

The foundations of capitalist power are laid deep in the minds of the workers.—N. Y. Call.

Salvation Army "Sweating"

A public demonstration to protest against Salvation Army "sweating" was held in Trafalgar-square, London, on a recent Saturday afternoon. Mr. James Macpherson, chairman of the United Workers' Anti-sweating Committee, presided.

The Chairman said the object of that meeting was to protest against the diabolical system of sweating which was carried on under the cloak of religion and philanthropy. There were many kinds of fraud, but this, in his opinion, was the biggest fraud of the lot. All the property of the Salvation Army was invested in the name of the general. He had nothing to do with the religious principles of the Army, and from a personal point of view he was extremely sorry that General Booth was at the present time laid up. (Hear, Hear.) They had no personal feelings in the matter, but they condemned the system as a whole.

Mr. S. Stennett moved a resolution which was adopted—condemning General Booth for refusing to grant a public inquiry into the charges which had been made, and asking the public to withhold their contributions to the funds of the army until such inquiry had been held. In the course of a lengthy speech he charged the Army with sweating, with under-selling, with supplying the workers with insufficient and rotten food, and with robbing its victims of the small sum of from 6d. to 1s. 6d. a week which they received. They meant, he said, to continue the agitation until they had proved to the public what a damnable fraud this social work of the Salvation Army was.—English Ex.