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Cotton's Weekly

W. U. COTTON, S.A., S.C.I., Editor ESTABLISHED DEC. 2nd, 1908

Published Every Week at Cowansville, P. Q., Canada Thursday, Jan. 30th, 1913

This Paper is not Published for Profit. It is published by Co-operative Effort as an advocate of the Co-operative Commonwealth. It is the only Canadian Weekly Paper as the Low Subscription Price of 25c per Week. In clubs of four or more. Single Yearly subscriptions 25c.

25 CENTS FOR 40 WEEKS

Total Number of Subscribers for week of Jan. 30th, 1913: **28,741**

Number of New Subscribers: **623**

Number of Expiring Subscribers: **683**

LOSS FOR WEEK: **240**

Total Edition Last week 31,400

And They All With One Accord Joyfully Skin the Working Class

JUDGES

I am a full fledged lawyer of the Province of Quebec.

I could get a good living by going into the courtrooms and pleading cases.

But I cannot go into a court room, nor look at a judge on the bench, without feeling the utmost contempt for both the court and the judge.

More than that, I cannot enter into a courtroom and see a judge on the bench handing out capitalist law, without becoming indignant.

For the judges in their personal capacity, I have respect in many cases. They are generous. They give to the poor. They actively engage in charitable work.

But for them in their capacity as judges, I have no respect. They receive seven thousand dollars a year for enforcing the laws which rob the producing class and heap wealth upon the parasite class.

Not only do I have contempt for them, but I pity them. They cannot help feeling their degraded condition. It is true the world looks up to them. It is true they are regarded with awe and reverence by the majority of the people.

However, they are trained men. They know the hollowness of their honors. They know the injustice of the laws they administer. They have all been practising advocates.

They are men with the divine spark of life in them. They have a conscience. They feel naturally for humanity.

This being the case, either of two things happen. They keep their conscience, their humanity sense, and every time they decide the laws in favor of property against human welfare, they feel contempt for themselves, and their conscience troubles them.

Or else they sear their conscience, and become sold in body, soul and spirit to the exploiters against toiling humanity.

The Socialists of Canada have a great and noble service to perform for the judges of Canada. This service consists of capturing the law-making bodies and of enacting into law measures which will abolish legalized tyranny and create laws founded on just principles which it will be a pleasure for any judge to administer.

LAWYERS

"We start in young to give justice and do right, but we soon give that up and go after the dollar." So said one of the late prominent lawyers of Montreal to a confrere who had just entered the legal profession.

The lawyer who does not go after the dollar, soon finds himself left in the race. He falls into poverty.

When men go to law they do not want law, they want to get money or property. They don't want justice, they want results.

Hence the lawyer is driven by the cupidity of his clients, by their desire to win economic benefits from the other fellow, to fight to win for his clients. The question of right or wrong, of what the victory will mean to the loser, does not enter.

The lawyer is not to blame, neither are the clients. It is the system which is at fault. We live under a system of master and slave. The weak are pushed to the wall. The cunning who can steal a franchise, or get hold of a townsite, or put it over a city in the way of an ice combine, or get workers in their clutches through the ownership of a mill or mine, these are the men who have a soft time.

So those who wish to enjoy the good things of life proceed to prey. They use the laws of the land to grab the means of production, and enforce slavery on the mass of the people. They fight among themselves over their titles to ownership of the slave pens. And the lawyer, as one knowing the intricacies of the law, is hired by the respective thieves to go before the courts when there is a question in dispute.

The courts do not decide according to justice. If the courts did, they would send the whole parasite crowd packing. They would declare that the revenues arising from production be longed to the producers.

The courts do no such thing. They listen learnedly to the legal problems involved, and decide according to the established way back in the days of Christ by the Romans, or by the lawmakers of the dark ages in England.

There is no justice in the laws governing our dealings. The lawyers know this, and consequently pursue the dollar. We cannot blame them.

The Socialists have a great and noble work to perform on behalf of our legal brethren. They have the work of overturning the present rotten laws, give economic justice to all, and give our legal brethren a chance to do some really useful work in some productive way for which they would be rewarded according to the value of the labor of their hands.

AN EXAMPLE

If the people had eyes to see, they would see. It appears they have no eyes. Otherwise, the farce enacted by our courts of law would make the people rise, sweep out of power our present representatives, change the

laws, and introduce civilization.

The Montreal Herald Publishing Company, Limited, of Montreal, which publishes the Montreal Daily Herald, is being sued for \$650,000 libel by several directors of the Montreal Tramways Company. It is an interesting case, and throws a lurid light upon our laws.

We all know the history of public service corporations. We know how their stock has been watered again and again. The Herald has been publishing the financial history of the Tramways and Power Company, which operates in and around Montreal. This company is an amalgamation of former existing companies. It was formed a couple of years ago, and to show the extent of the increased capitalization, the Herald publishes the amount of capitalization before and after the amalgamation, as follows:

BEFORE.	
(Presumably Cash.)	
Street Railway Bonds	\$4,413,999
Street Railway Stock	10,500,000
Canadian Power Bonds	6,500,000
P. and L. Bonds	1,825,000
Terminal Bonds	613,000
	\$22,851,999
AFTER.	
(Cash and Water.)	
Tramways Bonds	\$14,000,000
Tramways Debenture Stock	15,000,000
Canadian Power Bonds	6,500,000
Tramways and Power Stock	15,733,700
Do. Notes	6,500,000
	\$59,211,700

How much of the original \$22,851,999 was water history says not. But the \$22,851,999 in the process of the shuffling of securities swelled to \$59,211,700.

This, however, is not the basis of the libel actions. In one of the operations, \$9,000,000 mortgage was added, which was issued against assets and divided among the stockholders of the Montreal Tramways Company. The Herald, in a fit of abstraction, said the directors stuffed this money into their pockets.

Whereupon E. A. Robert, president of the company, and E. Howard Wilson, W. C. Finley, and J. M. McIntyre, and the Hon. J. M. Wilson, directors, sued the Herald for \$100,000 each for libel, and J. W. McConnell, vice-president, sued the Herald for \$150,000.

Had the Herald declared that the \$9,000,000 had been divided among the shareholders in proportion to the shares held, there would have been no libel suit. But as it declared, in a momentary aberration, that the directors stuffed the money into their own pockets, the directors consider that the Herald has charged them with being guilty of the criminal offence of theft and fraud and that they had stolen or fraudulently converted to their own use, and put in their own pockets, the sum of \$9,000,000. They claim they have been gravely injured in character, reputation and standing, and have suffered serious loss and damage as public and financial men.

These libel suits are illuminating as to our laws. A producing class create the wealth, a non-producing class own it. When the wealth created by the producing class increases, the master class water their securities and enjoy added wealth of millions.

This is perfectly legal and right, according to our laws. The vast mass of the people are nothing but slaves. The master class legally enjoy all the workers produce above a living. They divide it among themselves. The Herald is not sued for stating this fact in this instance.

But when it announces that the non-producing gentlemen elected as directors to a concern, pocket \$9,000,000, instead of dividing it as the company laws require, among the other owning parasites in proportion to their ownership of the means of production, these gentlemen consider they are seriously injured. You see, the members of the parasite class, if the alleged facts are true, will not trust them with any more directorships, but will thrust them in the penitentiary for not dividing up, according to the capitalist laws, the surplus wealth surging up to them from the producing slaves. Wherefore the capitalist exploiters appeal to the capitalist courts to grant them \$650,000 damages for the injury they have suffered.

The courts will gravely listen to the cases, and award damages, if any damages have been legally suffered by these capitalist gentlemen.

Under Socialism, such cases will become absolutely impossible. The street railways and the power companies, along with all other social means of production and distribution, will be socially owned. Messrs. Robert, McConnell, Wilson, McIntyre, Finley and McIntyre will be directors only if the working class say they shall be directors. They will get nothing but their own earnings, according as the useful producers decide the remuneration attached to their services, and they will have to work to get what they do. There will be no owning class apart from the producing class. There will be no stock companies and no shareholders to elect directors to represent parasite interests. The chances are that under such a regime, the eminent financiers who are now suing the Herald for enormous damages will be laboriously learning how to do something useful in the world. It will only be the good heart of the common people if they are given any-

thing above a bare living wage, for creating wealth takes skill and knowledge which financiers do not possess, and they will probably have to live for a while on the alms of their present slaves.

And if any would-be gentlemen are caught under Socialism, trying to get away with \$9,000,000 for the benefit of any would-be parasites, something which is perfectly legitimate now, they will be treated as common thieves.

A CONTRAST

The legal firm of Messrs. Perron, Taschereau, Rinfret, Genest, Billette and Pimsoil are the attorneys for the plaintiffs in the above suits in which the injury to six reputations resulting from a small paragraph in a newspaper is valued at \$650,000.

The same advocates are the attorneys of the Montreal Tramways Company in the case of Normandin against the Montreal Tramways Company.

In the latter case Normandin got his foot crushed by the cars of the defendant Company. He sued and a jury awarded him \$12,000 dollars damages.

This is a record verdict, and the Tramways officials are protesting. Of course the reputations of eminent capitalist parasites are considered by themselves to be worth \$650,000, but it is outrageous for a common man to have his crushed foot valued at \$12,000.

Wherefore Messrs. Perron, Taschereau, Rinfret, Genest, Billette and Pimsoil are moving to upset the verdict.

Among other grounds they allege the defendant company did not have the month's notice of the action, as required by law. Moreover, it is alleged the foreman of the jury was a relative of Normandin. Moreover, moreover, and a lot of more more-overs will no doubt be brought into play.

The case is tied up in the courts now. When will Normandin get his damages? No one knows. The law is slow and there is many a curve in it.

Sixteen years ago Harriet Nugent, a little girl three years old, was run over by a New York Trolley and she got \$5,000 damages. She has just got them. For sixteen years the case was in litigation, while a sister who works in a department store supported the cripple for the sixteen years.

The Normandin case may have a retrial at once. Or it may go to the Court of Review and then to the Court of King's Bench and then to the Supreme Court of Canada, and then to the Privy Council of England. The law's delays are proverbial. Wherefore the Tramways Company officials are hoping that justice may be done from their point of view and the outrageous verdict of \$12,000 for a crushed foot be set aside.

Our capitalist courts are expensive. Few workers are allowed within their sacred precincts. If they go in, it is at peril of imprisonment. One Montreal youth languished in jail because he took a case which he had no money to pay the costs for. He was defeated, and having no money, he was flung into a dungeon for his temerity for coming to a capitalist court without funds.

I have great contempt for the courts and judges of Canada. There is no justice in them. The contrast between the above cases should be burned into the brain and conscience of every worker in Canada.

Remember, the courts of Canada are for those with money. The laws are made against you, and the judges of our misnamed courts of justice are paid \$7,000 to decide according as the henchmen of the capitalist class in the various lawmaking bodies have made the laws.

The laws are against the workers. The courts are instruments to be used against the workers.

And yet some workers think the Canadian courts of law will give justice to them if they should happen to want it.

There are many people who seem to think that under Socialism there will be a terrible mix-up over jobs. They seem to think that people will not be able to find the right job, and that consequently "Socialism won't work."

Even if under Socialism, there is an occasional misfit, conditions could not be possibly worse than they are today. At the last Conservative Congress at Indianapolis, Ind., the experts declared, "Don't expect to find in strikes the greatest industrial waste; it will be found in the wrong employment of men. Out of ten men probably only one fills the job that he ought to be filling, and out of ten jobs probably only one is filled by the man who ought to be engaged for it." Under capitalism men have no chance to be employed at the work they are fitted for. Socialism will certainly be a vast improvement over this state of affairs.

IT'S PAID FOR.

If you receive Cotton's Weekly regularly and did not subscribe for it, it is paid for. You will receive no bill for subscription, and the paper automatically stops at the end of the time paid for.

Red Seal Sub Cards, four for \$1.00.

The professional politician will soon be where he belongs—nowhere.

We don't care what the capitalist does so long as he don't rob us.

Socialism has reached a point where it cannot be dismissed as an idle dream.

Wake up! Read! study your conditions of life. Become class conscious. Don't be a living replica of the ossified man.

If your master gave you what you produced in his factory, you would soon have no master. He must keep back four-fifths of the results of your toil to pay for automobiles, yachts, receptions, trips to Europe, and countless other luxuries these parasites flaunt before your eyes.

Year after year you register a mental kick about the price of your coal. Year after year the coal barons raise the price. You can do nothing so long as you vote for the profit system—a system in which you cannot share, and which bleeds you and you only, for you workers are the only source from which profits can possibly come.

WHERE PROFITS COME FROM

You have wanted Cotton's to get down to brass tacks, to explain just what Socialism is, why it does not go in for reforms, show its aims, and explain itself.

Then carefully read the present article and understand it. For it is the foundation fact of modern industry, and from it arise the tactics of the Socialist parties of the world.

The capitalist class live off unpaid labor.

Their revenues are wholly composed of what the producing class produce and do not enjoy.

The value of a commodity is the amount of socially necessary labor time it takes to produce.

If a pair of shoes are worth five dollars and a suit of clothes worth twenty-five dollars, this means that there is five times the amount of social labor "rapped up in the suit of clothes as the shoes is crystallized in the pair of shoes.

The capitalist class make their profits by exchanging commodities at their value, that is, at the amount of labor time therein embodied measured in terms of the medium of exchange.

The workman sells to his master, not his labor, but his power to labor, and the master pays the worker the value of his labor power, that is the amount of socially necessary labor time therein embodied.

A worker costs labor to produce and maintain. He needs food, clothing and shelter to keep his body fit as laboring power, and he needs more in order to raise up workers after him so that the labor power of the future may be secure. He must raise a family.

The employer pays a wage on an average that just covers this. He pays the value of the worker's LABOR POWER and he buys LABOR TIME.

Thus if it takes four hours of the worker's labor to pay for his keep, the master pays a wage that will buy four hours of applied labor in the form of commodities.

But the worker sells a certain amount of applied labor time, usually ten hours. Hence the master PAYS THE VALUE OF FOUR HOURS LABOR POWER AND GETS TEN HOURS' LABOR.

The difference between these two is called SURPLUS VALUE by the Socialists, and from this difference, the difference between the four hours paid for and the ten hours worked, arises ALL THE REVENUES OF THE MASTER CLASS.

THE AIM OF SOCIALISM

The man who does not understand the above fact does not understand the Socialist movement. He is liable to be led off into reforms. He lacks the basic knowledge of the movement.

When we understand that all rent, interest and profit is nothing but UNPAID LABOR for which the producing class get absolutely nothing, then the aim of Socialism becomes clear.

The aim of Socialism is to ABOLISH ALL RENT, INTEREST AND PROFIT, and to have the workers enjoy the product of their labor. This means THE ABOLITION OF THE WAGES SYSTEM, for wages (which means the sale of labor power on the part of the worker and the purchase of applied labor time on the part of the capitalist class) necessarily results in the robbery of the working class.

In the place of the wages system we will establish the co-operative commonwealth, where industry will be democratically managed by the producers themselves.

This means a complete overthrow of the present system. It means that the unearned revenues of landlords, employers, shareholders in companies, bondholders, money lenders and the like WILL BE COMPLETELY ABOLISHED. It means that all the receivers of unearned revenues will have to become producers to get rev-

A RADICAL DEPARTURE RED SEAL SUB CARDS

We are issuing a New Sub Card, which is a new one in the Sub Card Line. It has been dubbed by the staff at Cotton's as the "RED SEAL SUB CARD."

We advise every hustler to send in his order quick because these new cards are going to go like wildfire the minute Canadian militant reds see them and the new idea gets started. Get rid of your old cards and STOCK UP with the NEW RED SEAL SUB CARDS.

The issue of the new cards will be limited to a few thousand, just about enough for every hustler to get a supply. Twelve for \$3.00, and a copy of Cotton's All Red Facts free postpaid.

RED SEAL SUB CARDS A RATTLING NEW IDEA

Study Socialism. The time is coming very soon when you will have to be for or against it in earnest.

If the worker is entitled to his product, what would the capitalists get for theirs?—misery, vice, crime and poverty.

Health experts say fresh air is the best medicine for the body. Socialists say Socialist literature is the best medicine for the mind.

Just size up the man who is fighting and knocking Socialism. You will find one who is afraid of work, and getting his living off the efforts of others.

Times are changing. The workers are becoming alert to their conditions. The time has passed when college bred men and graduates of big business can lead tollers around by the nose.

One don't need a magnifying glass to perceive the horrors of the capitalist system. In the city, in the village, hamlet or crossroads, the filthy tracks of the capitalist beast may be seen with the naked eye. Indeed the soul is sick of the sights.

Masters Tremble in Fear Before the Logic of Scientific Socialism

enues, or be fed on the bounty of the commonwealth by the consent of the producers through old age pensions, or the like. We aim to accomplish our purpose by political action.

REFORMS

Our aims are revolutionary (which may be attained by peaceful means). We aim to abolish the parasite position of all those now considered to be our most prominent citizens. We are told that such aims are impossible of fulfillment, and that we should work with the present political parties to secure reforms.

The universal reply of the Socialist parties of the world to this demand is NO COMPROMISE, NO POLITICAL TRADING.

Reforms appear to be alluring, but the Socialists do not pursue them. The reason for this will be apparent with a little analysis of modern conditions.

All the revenues of whatever kind which the capitalist class receive are unpaid labor. That is their first proposition.

The second proposition is the following, taken from the Communist Manifesto: THE EXECUTIVE OF THE MODERN STATE IS BUT A COMMITTEE FOR MANAGING THE COMMON AFFAIRS OF THE WHOLE BOURGEOISIE.

These two propositions will help us to understand many things.

The governments of the various countries are committees for managing the common affairs of the bourgeoisie or the benefactors of the system of unpaid labor now in vogue.

Labor, on an average, gets but the cost of its keep. The rest of its produce goes to the master class.

In the division of the spoils, the masters try to get the advantage of each other. Hence arise special privilege, credit monopoly, landlord exactions, and the like.

These things give great profits to the sections of the masters, and consequently small profits in other sections. Hence arise the cries against "special privilege," raised by exploiters of labor whose profits are thus taken from them. They want the privilege of robbing the workers continued, but "special privilege," which interferes with their profits, abolished.

The United States the Pujo Committee has been investigating the money trust. It has found that the Morgan group of financiers have been getting enormous revenues through the manipulation of credit. In other words the money capitalists have been getting large revenues and the direct exploiters of labor, the employers are protesting. The government, in looking after the common affairs of the exploiters, will endeavor to break this monopoly, not in the interest of the producers, but in the interest of the other sections of the exploiting class.

In Canada, the railways have been charging high rates, much to the detriment of shippers. The Canadian Railway Commission will probably order a reduction. The railways have been getting more than their fair share of the unearned revenues. But if the rates go down, wages will not rise. Socialists do not go in for "railway reform."

In Ontario the Hydro-Electric Commission is supplying cheap power to municipalities. Through the operation of this commission, manufacturers are getting cheaper power. This but adds to their net revenues. It does not increase the standard of living of the workers. This commission is simply looking after the interests of the bourgeoisie.

In England an insurance act has gone into force. The coming year it is estimated a million working class mothers will have \$7.50 and free medical attendance in the birth of a million children. This was introduced by the British government as a "reform." By so spending money, and looking after the birth of children, the executive committee of the British bourgeoisie simply see to it that the future profit producers of the master class come into the world

uninjured. They are simply looking after the common interest of the exploiters. To this same class of reforms belongs the new "Department of Public Health" about to be inaugurated by the Canadian government.

Minimum wage laws, and the move made to stop the sweating of women workers simply mean that the executive committee of the master class enact laws to conserve and protect LABOR POWER which is the common source of all their unearned revenues. The master class are discovering that labor power has been deteriorating under too severe exploitation, hence the change.

Reforms within the capitalist system benefit the master class, AND WILL BE INAUGURATED TO PROMOTE THE REVENUES OF THE EXPLOITERS.

Reforms do not endanger the master class, save in one case, when they are introduced for fear of the overthrow by the workers of the parasite class. This fear comes only when the workers unite upon the political field for the overthrow of the wages system, and are on the verge of triumph.

The reforms capitalists will grant will only be such as will benefit the masters themselves, though they may incidentally benefit certain sections of the slave class.

Hence Socialists stand for no compromise and no political trading with the executive of the master class. The revolutionary workers press forward to the overthrow of their exploiters and the abolition of the system which is founded on slavery.

METHOD

The method of Socialist activity is political action.

Under our present government, the executive of the state is a committee for managing the common interests of the exploiters. This is so because the voters have voted lawyers, manufacturers, professional politicians, and the like into power. These make the laws which judges, policemen and soldiery enforce.

If through political action the government is an executive committee of the masters, through political action also it can be made the executive of the working class.

Now all political questions at Ottawa, Washington and other places where no Socialist members have been elected, are discussed solely from the point of view of property owners. Where Socialists are in a minority, voices are raised in the interest of the working class.

When the Socialists win in a country, then there will be a complete turnover—Private property in the means of production and distribution will be considered against public interest and good morals. The interests which are now considered supreme will be considered as purely secondary, if considered at all.

The producers, the workers—it is their interest which will be considered supreme.

Legislation will be in the interests of the wealth producers.

For this reason, the proper place of every wealth producer, be he farmer or wage worker, is in the ranks of the Socialist movement.

We have nothing to do with your religion or your personal beliefs or your family relations.

Our sole object is to unite the producers upon the political field to capture the supreme political power in order to legislate so that those who produce shall enjoy the social equivalent of their labor.

We do not want to divide up, or support lazy drones, or make you an atheist, or bind your brain down to a narrow rut.

We wish to have the working class freed from a system which makes them work and not enjoy, so that they may have a system which will give them a chance to enjoy in their own way the full value of their services to society.

This result can be attained only by united action of those now exploited. The Socialist movement is of, and for the working class.