

No man great enough or rich enough to get this paper on credit or for longer time than paid for. If you get a copy regularly its paid for, and will stop when the sub expires

FOUR
FORTY
WEEKS
SUBS FOR
25 Cents

IF No. 269 IS ON THE RED LABEL, RENEW AT ONCE AS YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES NEXT ISSUE

Cotton's Weekly

W. U. COTTON, B.A., B.O.L., Managing Editor

Established Dec. 3rd, 1908

ROY WHEAT, Associate Editor

Published Every Week at Cowansville, P. Q., Canada Thursday, Oct. 30th, 1912

This paper is not published for profit. It is published by co-operative effort as an advocate of the co-operative commonwealth. Last week we sent the following number of copies

30,190

High Cost of Living

A few months ago Alderman Blumenthal of Montreal was greatly agitated by the high cost of living.

This gentleman was out to catch the kittle vote, and he knew of nothing else that would tickle the kittleful voter better than the high cost of living.

So he made speeches, he did. Talked long and often. Yes sir, the high cost of living is his theme, and it was the cold storage issue that were to blame. They forestalled a market and he raved up and down against it.

Then Alderman Blumenthal went on a western trip. He was going west as a committee of one to study the high cost of living. The dear people of Montreal, the oppressed and downtrodden consumer, would find in him their staunch warrior. Yes sir, they would.

Blumenthal went west, the cold storage controversy kept right on. Summer came and the price of living kept right on climbing, and Alderman Blumenthal came back and we have heard nary a peep from him on this tre-men-dous question of the day.

But a thoughtless warrior has come into the field. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has nailed high cost of living banner to his political banner and his white plumes formerly of victory, now of defeat, can be seen valiantly charging like any Quixote on the skinny Rozennote of Liberalism against this foe of the people.

At Joliette, P. Q., in addition to purity in elections Laurier demanded the lowering of the tariff in order to lower the cost of living. Sir Wilfrid's brain must have ossified twenty years ago. He is still tearing round charging tariff windmills, like he did in 1896 and in previous years.

He does not seem to grasp the fact that the wage worker is a slave, a slave in an overstocked market of wage slaves seeking a buyer. He does not seem to know that if the cost of living goes down the competing wage slaves will make the wages fall to the lower cost of living. If he does know this fact, he keeps it to himself.

Sir Wilfrid is the henchman of the capitalist labor skinner. He is endeavoring to lead the slaves into false issues. He comes as a smiling friend ready to knife labor in the back should he be returned to office.

Borden has his knife into labor now. Labor is laid bleeding upon the altar of rent, interest and profit, and the heathen political priests feed its blood into the gaping jaws of Canadian plutocracy.

Labor has no friends but itself. Laurier and Borden are the right and left political hands of the labor skinner, reaching out to rob and pillage the working class.

Get onto this fact, you laboring slave, and act accordingly.

Why, Workingmen?

Why, workingmen, do you elect the agents of your capitalist skinner to places where they make the laws governing you?

Why do you elect the Perleys, the Oslers, and the other millionaires to make the laws for you who slave ten hours a day for a few dimes that will barely cover the cost of your keep and let your wife bring forth young into the world to be fed into the profit mills of the master class?

Why do you vote for the jackals of the labor skinner, the advocates, the class who lodge in the clefts of the rotten system and grow fat on the doles of the masters who profit by your slavery? The Borden, the Lhodes, the Lauriers, and the other of their ilk?

Why do you send to parliament, you poor working, bleached, homesteaders, the prey of the loan sharks and the money lenders, and the machine vampires such agricultural aristocrats as Clark with his nine-hundred acre farm?

Why do you send such stockbrokers as McCurdy and Forget?

Why do you send bankers and financial agents and other like creatures to make the laws governing YOU?

You are the goat. You are the slave. You create the wealth they enjoy. Is it not the height of folly for you to vote for these gentlemen and cheer and consider it YOUR victory when they get next the law making machinery?

You are slaves. You work in the mills of mammon. You grind out profits for others. When you feel the pressure too hard, you strike. Seabs are imported. You are black-listed. Or the militia is called out, and you are hustled off to jail. The beak gives you six months for daring to ask a seab to quit work.

Why is this so? Because you voted to have it so. The Borden, the Lauriers, the Perleys, the Oslers, the other members of parliament control the political power and they direct the bayonets at YOUR breasts.

Then they come with banners and processions and brass bands, and you go to the speechifying, and they talk of the tariff and battleships for Britain, and a lot of other rot, but never a word they say about how they made the laws and had the soldiers' bayonets pressed against you, ready to make your children fatherless and your wives widows in a cruel, ghastly capitalist world of arrogant wealth and pestilent poverty.

O you poor dubs of voters, you poor unthinking creatures. Come out of your trance, wake to the folly of your government, vote for your own party, the Social-Democratic party. Join it, make it supreme, and oust your masters, your tyrants, from their position of ownership.

Seize the reins of government for yourself.

The Montreal Star deprecates the betrayal of confidence between big thieves, and wails and fears that "we shall all be back again in the old days where a dollar was a big round prize." Sir Hugh Graham saw those days; he remembers them. They are here yet, but not to his class. He belongs to big business, and supports big business, the bigger the business the more support received from his paper. But the workers, the useful class, look upon a dollar as a prize just as did their forefathers. They even look on it as more of a prize, for though the worker receives more dollars for a week's work than he did thirty or forty years ago, those dollars will not go so far as the old dollars did. The cost of living has advanced so rapidly, and business has become so intense that no matter what the wages received, the worker has a hard time to make ends meet. The dollars is indeed a big round prize today.

THE INVENTOR UNDER SOCIALISM

WHY THE SOCIALIST ARGUMENTS DIFFER FROM OTHERS

Examples

These statements may seem harsh, nevertheless they are true.

A Canadian woman worked hard upon a scheme of needlework. She was poor and had a mother and a sickly sister to support. She discovered the beauties of raised needlework on cloth. She desired to patent her invention. She took out a patent of working strawberries on cloth in a raised form. This patent protected her for strawberry designs in silk and other material in a raised form on cloth, but the patent held for no other design. So berries, cherries, leaves, branches, and every other design save strawberries were open to the public and silk designers to make freely. The woman did not benefit by her discovery.

She set to work upon another scheme for teaching kindergarten children. This was in the form of a wonder ball which opened and displayed many things. She had a sympathetic friend who showed much appreciation for her work. The woman yielded to the sympathy and explained the whole thing, and her second invention was stolen. Go to law over it? Oh yes, for a rich person, but how could a poor woman with a sick sister and mother to support pay the jackal lawyers and fee the jackal judges?

Here is another instance: An American inventor discovered a new pump. It was a great idea, and he patented it, took it to a big pump firm and wished to sell it. They praised it highly and the terms were agreed upon. The inventor got eight hundred dollars cash and a royalty on every pump sold. No pumps were sold. The firm pigeon-holed the invention. Rather than go to the expense of remodeling their plant to manufacture the pump and pay the royalty they charged the eight hundred dollars up to profit and loss, and kept on selling the old style pump to the public as the best thing ever invented.

History is full of examples of stolen inventions, inventors dying in poverty and the wrecks of blasted hopes of the brightest minds of the race has produced.

You hire out to a capitalist employer. You work at his machines. If you discover an invention while in his employ, that invention does not belong to you, but to the master whose wage slave you are.

Capitalism robs the inventor. If an inventor through favorable circumstances becomes rich, he becomes a capitalist skinner in turn and robs other inventors.

The Effect of Inventions

We have shown that the inventor is robbed (we will come to the case of Edison presently), and that the benefits of his invention go elsewhere.

In talking to the average non-Socialist he will not wait until you have shown him the fallacy of his ideas, but will say, "But you have got to have capitalists to provide the money to have the invention manufactured for the benefit of the public."

But under capitalism, the public do not benefit by inventions. The capitalists alone benefit. Large sections of the public are injured by inventions.

Formerly in England the workers used to weave cloth in their homes. They got good pay. They were sturdy and independent. Then the weaving machinery was invented, the hand weavers found their occupation gone, many of them starved to death, and little children were huddled into the mills to tend the machines, working fourteen hours a day. They died like flies. The workers were forced into cities and huddled in slums. The outbreaks of desperation, like the Lawrence, Mass., strike, and the infamous conditions of the cotton mills has been the result. The capitalists have benefited, but the cloth workers have suffered. The bottle blowers used to get good pay. The blowing machine is taking their jobs away. Machines are displacing the workers and forcing them to be tramps. The bread lines of our cities are the result of inventions controlled by the capitalist class.

Inventions of the machine gun, of powerful explosives, of nickel-plate are burdening the world with crushing military burdens—to the benefit of the capitalist class.

Inventions displace human labor power by machine labor. The workers are forced to compete for the fewer jobs and their wages hover round the cost of living when employed and they are forced to starve when out of work.

While production increases marvellously, the condition of the working class grows worse. Wages in the past few years have not advanced as fast as the cost of living. But new millionaires have been created by the hundred, while the old millionaires have grown to be multi-millionaires.

Wage Slave Inventors

"What about Edison? There is an inventor or who has become a capitalist. Why cannot all inventors become capitalists like him?" Edison got in right, and has the capitalist mind as well. He has succeeded, and because of his success many inventors cannot succeed.

Edison has established a plant at his home in the State of New Jersey. He employs many persons. He gets keen minds to work for him.

These employees are constantly busy experimenting. If they discover any new thing, it belongs to Edison who employs them and pays them their slave pay.

Edison is not a single inventor. He is a capitalist and his results are the work of many inventors.

He is an example of the newer form of exploitation of inventors.

Capitalists realize that inventors can discover many things of benefit to the master class. Consequently inventors are hired to invent. They get their pay and the employers get the invention.

In Germany the manufacturers employ skilled chemists to experiment and discover new processes.

American universities are beginning to place inventors on their staffs. Particularly the state universities, supported and paid by the various states, are paying inventors and

scientists to work at problems whereby the production in the state can be stimulated and the processes shortened.

It is discovered that inventors working together can do better than inventors working separately. The problems to be solved are complex. The inventing staff will divide the work and each expert on his own section of the problem.

Individual invention is being replaced by collective invention.

And the collective inventors are paid a salary and their inventions are the property of those who pay.

Capitalism is exploiting the inventor more and more for the benefit of the capitalist class.

The inventor has nothing to lose but his chains by the coming of Socialism.

The Inventor Under Socialism

Capitalism prepares its own grave. It creates the conditions which necessitate its own death.

It is stimulating the invention so that machines take the place of human labor.

Those machines owned by capitalists, make the displaced workers unemployed. The machines, owned collectively by labor, will make the workers supreme in society.

Instead of the workers working ten hours a day at the machines for a couple of dollars a day for the profit of millionaires and multi-millionaires, all will have an opportunity to work, and the common labor of all will cut the working hours of the workers and raise their income.

Where now they work ten hours a day, for two dollars, under Socialism they will work four or five hours a day for an income equal to eight or ten dollars a day now.

Under capitalism the average inventor starves, or gets a small salary from the master class for long hours.

Under Socialism no doubt those inventors who prove their ability will be free from the necessity of other labor and can devote all their time to devising ways whereby the labor of all will be made lighter.

Those inventors who have not proved their ability will have plenty of leisure and funds to carry on experiments with.

The position of the inventor under Socialism will be far higher than under capitalism.

"Drunkness is increasing in Great Britain," says a capitalist sheet, and with its usual avidity to sidetrack an issue, hints that the weather has something to do with the increased booze bill in Great Britain. Poverty comes before drunkenness. The masters of the old country have robbed and pillaged the workers till the gaunt spectre of poverty is haunting city and country alike. Drunkenness naturally follows in its wake. It is the only balm for a crushed and starved soul, and a terrible balm at that. Beaten to the last ditch, and with no hope of ever being able to rise again, the worker snatches at the last ray of hope to feel like a man again, and be able to look his brother man in the face. He drinks, his spirits are buoyant, he feels equal to a king in power, the capitalist system which has dragged him into the gutter looks to him as of no account and childishly impotent. It is only for a short time. He awakes. He is still in poverty and his despair is greater than ever. His friends of the gutter do not care for his company. He drinks again. And again. Those who have never suffered the pangs of hunger or carried the oppressive burden of poverty blame the man himself. They jump over the head of the real cause brute, and attack the victim in his poverty and misery. Thoughtlessness.

A non-Socialist returning to the States from Canada wished to subscribe for Cotton's Weekly to be sent to his American home. He was told to wait till he crossed the border and then subscribe for the Appeal. He could not understand it, as he was imbued with the capitalist spirit, and wondered why we did not grab on to his money. Every paper to the States and from the States requires a one cent stamp, so subs from the Appeal here and from Cotton's Weekly there are only enriching the postoffice department. It costs a dollar bill to send a yearly sub to the States. If a comrade in the States wants a Socialist paper it would pay him better to send his dollar to the Appeal and get four forty-week subs sent anywhere in the States. If a Canadian comrade wishes to get the Appeal it will cost him a dollar. Would his dollar not go further and cover more ground if he sent four forty-week subs to Canadians? Why should you, pay the capitalist government fifty cents for sending a fifty cent paper to your friend for a year? A lot of Socialism is being held from the public by this method.

"That man was born tired," said a boss of a factory a short time ago, in pointing out a workman to a visitor. Perhaps the boss spoke with more truth than he was aware of. The visitor made a quiet little investigation of his own, and discovered that the man's father was a worker who had been broken down in the factories he had worked in. His mother was forced to attend to the wants of a family and take in washing besides, before and after the "tired" man was born. The husband's wages were small, and the wife worked night and day to help in rearing the family. Is it any wonder the aforesaid man was "born tired"? Further investigation revealed the fact that every other member of the family, male and female, were obsessed by that "tired feeling." Were these people responsible for their condition? Or do you think that the capitalist system had something to do with it?

Today the inventor scarcely ever receives any reward for his genius. He is forced to take his invention to the capitalists and get backing. He gets what they leave, and that is about enough to keep him in existence until he can perfect some other idea for them to coin money from.

Capitalism supplies the incentive for people to kill each other for gain, and often forces the workers to fly at each other's throats to provide profits for the capitalists.

Armageddon

Armageddon looms ahead of the nations of Europe.

Germany is piling up armaments at an increasing standing army. France has forced three year service instead of a year service for her recruits. Great Britain is now spending for armaments yearly more than the whole of Europe spent in 1896.

In Austria the government has been arming C.P.R. agents for enticing Austrian recruits to emigrate to Canada.

The nations are facing each other in arms. And not only this, but each country is facing revolution from within.

Should the world war break forth, there be complications. The class conscious proletariat of each country will do their utmost to prevent and hinder the world war.

Should Britain and Germany declare the peoples would revolt against their government.

These governments would declare martial law. Civil courts would be abrogated drum-head court martials.

Truly, if Armageddon comes, there will be terrible times.

Peace societies are powerless. Bryan Carnegie and the other henchmen of the thieves are puny creatures.

There is only one force, the International Socialist Movement, that can prevent the Canadian comrades have a mighty world salvation to perform.

Their work lies in fighting the military it that the master class is endeavoring to engender in the hearts of the Canadian people.

The plan of colonial troops for the empire means colonial troops to shoot revolting British workers when they against Germany is declared.

The Canadian patriot is not with Borden or Lord Strathcona, or Hughes.

The Canadian patriot is with the class movement of Canada, the class working-class movement who are posed to Borden and to Laurier and the tary mongers, our so-called eminent citizens.

You have a real work to do, Canada. See that you do it.

Who Throws A Vote?

No, you don't throw away your vote the Socialist ticket.

You throw away your vote on a capitalist ticket, the Grit or Tory ticket.

The man who votes against the set is the one who throws away your vote the Grit or Tory ticket against your own interest.

The Conservative and Liberal for the continuation of the present which robs you. They are run of the capitalist class.

If you vote Grit or Tory to strengthen and perpetuate the enemies, so that they can count you.

Your ballot is a strong and hard when you vote for Borden or hand that club over to the capitalist. "Please smash me over that!"

And they smash you, all right.

If you vote the Socialist ticket it does not win, you strengthen the party which is destined to you.

The only way in which you throwing away your vote is by Socialist ticket.

The only way in which you can vote hasten the day of your delivering the Socialist ticket.

To vote any other ticket is to your chains thicker.

Socialism is not a far-off dream have that erroneous notion in your head that get it out the better.

Socialism is the next step. This is demonstrated by the constant increase in the Socialist vote in the civilized world.

No, Socialism is not a far-off steadily advancing. Students of coming to the front every day.

ies of Socialism are inquiring, taking up the study. The capitalist advancing throng, and are making frantic efforts to skin the weak and pile up a horde for the day the system will be swept away.

Purity in Elections

Sir Wilfrid Laurier is a fit say laughter of the gods, and Borden.

In his recent speech at Joliet October 18th, Sir Wilfrid came into elections.

His pet, Sidney Fisher, late Agriculture, has gone to defeat guay bye-election. Bob Rogers the field, and from far and near heeled had flocked to Chateaugay the Liberal candidate.

Bob Rogers being in the count of the Liberal voters being the voters to er went to defeat.

Now Laurier comes forward a of purity. He has forgotten the cord in Brome, from which Fisher came. He said not a word of the Liberal record for corruption had been. Fisher had been succeeded by a bigger pork barrel was opened.

Evidently in Chateaugay also will a pork barrel was also opened, and the hogs rooted where the feeding was best.

Sir Wilfrid is indignant, but never says Borden. In Borden's Halifax plat was a plank for purity in elections but den cynically holds to the belief that pl are good to get in on.

When he was in opposition and the reptile fund was in the control of the Liberal, Borden wailed aloud for purity. Now that the reptile fund is in the control of Borden's party, Laurier wails aloud for purity in elections.

It is only the very ordinary kind of humbug fool that will take Laurier's pretense of purity for anything more than a great gob of hot air—or Borden's pretenses.