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Total No. of Subs for  
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Total Edition  
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W. U. COTTON, Editor and Prop.

This is No. 84

# Cotton's Weekly

COWANSVILLE, P. Q., CANADA, APRIL 21, 1910

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H. A. WEBB, BUSINESS MANAGER

## IS LAURIER ALSO AMONG THE SOCIALISTS?

Sir Wilfrid Laurier believes in responsible government. He believes that the people should be allowed themselves to say what they want and what they do not want. On February the 3rd he delivered an oration in the House of Commons, in which he traced the development of responsible government. He took his stand with the makers of Canada that the principle of responsible government should be made to triumph. Listen to the words of the Premier of Canada. "When these great men, Brown, Dorian, Lafontaine, Baldwin, Macdonald, laid down the principle of responsible government in this country, did they set any limitation upon its potentialities? No, they launched out, untrammelled and unfettered, to enclose the earth in a bond of union and liberty. They did not think that the principle could be trusted for a certain distance, but that it would have to be abandoned the moment they came to the ultimate result of the operation."

Now by responsible government does Sir Wilfrid mean democratic government? Hardly. For his whole government shows that he does not believe in democratic government. If he means responsible government, a government responsible and responsive to the will of the capitalists, then his government is a responsible government.

His government is protecting the capitalists who are using the natural resources of Canada for the purpose of skinning the workers. His government has given fourteen million dollars as a gift, (they call it a bonus) to the labor skinning steel barons. His whole government is organized for the purpose of making millionaires and poorly paid workers. Sir Wilfrid's government is cramming a navy down the Canadian people. He obeys the coal barons who want to set their wage slaves at work to produce surplus profits for them out of uselessly burned coal. Sir Wilfrid is maintaining a government responsible to the capitalists. Under such a government the workers get skinned.

## PRISON LABOR

The Ontario government has introduced a "reform" into the prison system. Hanna has caught a little of the progressive spirit and the Province is going to treat the prisoners with less harshness. A Reformatory has been established at Guelph and the prisoners are to be put to work raising crops. The prisoners who can be "trusted" are being transferred to this new place of exploitation. The first fourteen arrived on the 11th of April and were set to work. They are not to wear prison clothing. They are to be given good meals. They are to have newspapers. In return they are to work.

Thus does benevolent capitalism fling prison labor into competition with free labor. The Canadian government manufactures binder twine with prison labor. This twine is sold only to farmers. It is made by enforced labor and is sold cheap. By this means the Dominion government hopes to hold the farmer vote by smashing free laborers with prison labor and by giving the benefit of the product to the farmers.

Hanna is more circumspect. He is working the prisoners under his control for the good of themselves. He has read a little on modern psychology and has pity for the prisoners. So he puts them back on the land and lets them get a little fresh air and a chance to exercise their muscles, all to the profit of the capitalist government of Ontario.

This very move on the part of Hanna shows how helpless the supporters of the capitalist system are to effect reforms without injury to others, and how futile those reforms are.

Our criminal laws are based on a wrong principle, that of punishment for crime. The law is based on a wrong principle because the economic organization of society is based on a wrong principle, the trafficking in the necessities of life that the useless capitalists may get rent, interest and profit. Organized society, by its very organization, forces men and women to commit crime. The criminal law then reaches out and punishes the weak ones who commit crime. That punishment is severe.

Now the Province of Ontario, through Hanna, declares that the punishment of the criminal is going to be mitigated. The criminal is going to wear ordinary clothes and do

ordinary work. In fact the criminal will hardly know himself from an ordinary wage slave, except that he will have better cooked food and will have a shelter over him that he will not have to pay the landlord for.

But the reforms of Hanna will injure the wage slaves. Prison labor, organized and paid for by the province, will compete with free labor. The criminal, made criminal by society, will be forced to produce marketable goods which will influence the market and make the job of the wage slave more precarious, thus forcing more persons to commit crimes for the sake of food, clothing and shelter, and provide new recruits for the prison jobs to compete against free labor, ad infinitum.

Capital reforms are futile. A complete change in the economic organization is necessary. When that comes the criminal will disappear, the cause which produced him having been eradicated.

In Great Britain the Salvation Army is distributing broadcast the "Emigration Gazette." On page 10 and 11 of the Gazette we read the following: "Socialism is not prevalent in Western Canada, because the individual has too good a chance for acquiring property for himself." This in face of the fact that seventeen Socialist candidates were run in British Columbia during the last provincial election. In Alberta the Rocky Mountain division is represented by a Socialist and in Winnipeg, Manitoba, the Socialists polled one-eighth of the total votes cast. Socialism is prevalent in Western Canada and is becoming more prevalent every day.

Do you not see men who do no work and yet possess all the things that this life can give? How is this possible? How can men who toil not enjoy the results of the toil of others? This is the question the workers are asking and the capitalist politicians and economists cannot answer to the satisfaction of the workers. The workers are told to live frugally and labor hard and they see others who live extravagantly and labor not. The idlers talk of their dividends and their rents and their profits and their rights but they cannot answer the question why these things should be. The Socialist answers the question by declaring that rent, interest and profit should not be. And because the answer of the Socialist appeals to the common sense of the workers the workers are taking up the banner of Socialism, never to lay it down till it waves in triumph over the parlaments of the world and the capitalist system is abolished.

In many places of older Canada the early settlers still linger and tell how things have changed since early days. Money was scarce but food was plenty and cheap. Now it is adulterated and dear. Clothing was then made from wool of sheep raised by the spinners, on the farm itself. Now the cloth is made from what the cloth-makers alone know. Then the shelterings of the people were log cabins and the heating was by wood cut from the forest. Now the sheltering of the people depends upon whether they are workers on wages or the exploiters of wage workers. The former live crowded together while the latter live in two or three palaces, choosing their residence according to the season. The old inhabitants complain that we are fallen on evil days and they are right. But the evil days of capitalism will pass away and Socialism will come, to do away with the artificial inequalities now existing.

The beer war in Bavaria is being waged with great vigor. While Munich and other large cities have not yet been reduced to drinking water altogether, there has been a vast decrease in the consumption of beer. The Germans say beer is too high and the brewers must reduce the price. This the brewers have refused to do and in many towns the people are signing a pledge to abstain from drinking beer until the price has been reduced. The important lesson to Socialists is that the farmers have been advised to sow less barley this year. Socialists claim that organization is better than competition and that intelligent action in the regulation of crops to meet the needs of the people is better than the blind reliance on chance in the sowing of grain. When Socialism comes the production of the necessities of life will be scientifically regulated in a manner to call forth the least expenditure of human effort with the maximum of results.

## A SERIES OF OPEN LETTERS

To the Postmaster General of Canada.

(The Postmaster General rules that papers from office of publication can go to bona fide regular subscribers at one-quarter of a cent a pound bulk postage rate. Bundles can go to newsdealers without payment and on speculation for one-quarter of a cent a pound postal charge. Bundles can go to non-newsdealers for one-quarter of a cent a pound, if the non-newsdealer subscribes for a bundle for a period of three months. But non-newsdealers who want a bundle of a special issue must pay four cents a pound postage, a rate sixteen times that to newsdealers. This applies to individuals and to Socialist Locals. It is the universal practice of Socialist papers of the United States to announce special issues dealing with particular questions and for Socialists to purchase bundles of such special issues and pay for them in advance. Lemieux, by declaring that special bundles going to bona fide purchasers thereof must pay sixteen times the postal rate charged newsdealers for bundles sent on speculation is evidently aiming at the prevention of the free circulation of Socialist literature. Lemieux has informed me that he cannot change this ruling. I am therefore writing a series of open letters to convince him that there must be no discrimination against the public in favor of newsdealers on postal charges and that if he insists in his discriminatory charges, he will become politically dead in Canada.)

.....  
"Cotton's Weekly," the organ of Socialism, published at Cowansville, Quebec, is up against it as far as postal privileges are concerned. We are up against it, too, and cannot help it, though we have not been silent about it either. "Cotton's" charges the P.M.G. with discriminating against it. Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux denies the charge, but we believe it all the same. We know how struggling journalism has been treated in our own case.

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The Kingston Whig, under the title, "The People Be Hanged," in dealing with the question at issue declares, "What interest will suffer by the ruling that papers be carried at the same rate whether they are addressed or not? Does the average newspaper rate recover expenses? If so why discriminate? There may be a reason for it, but it is not apparent on the surface." The article ends by suggesting a commission to look into the postal service.

To the Honorable Rodolphe Lemieux,  
Postmaster General Ottawa, Ont.

Sir:—Your communication of the 31st. March in which you state that you cannot add anything to your former communications with regard to the discrimination of your department against the workingmen to hand. This matter you evidently consider closed so far as your Department is concerned. You evidently intend to let newsdealers get bundles of newspapers through the mails on speculation at the rate of one-quarter of a cent a pound and compel the workingmen of the Dominion of Canada who purchase and pay for bundles of Socialist papers to pay your department four cents a pound for transporting the same. This matter you have resolved. Your discrimination you will continue. The last word, so far as you are concerned, is said.

But, sir, the question is not settled. Lincoln long ago remarked that no question is settled until it is settled wrong. Therefore it is not settled.

It is evidently useless to appeal to you to change your unjust regulations. Therefore the appeal must be made over your head to your masters, the people of Canada. I think the best way is to write a series of open letters to you, publishing the same in Cotton's Weekly. Notwithstanding your statement on the floor of the house that Cotton's Weekly possesses no subscribers, it

According to a recent article on syndicalism by Odin Por, Samuel Gompers is not untrue to the class of workers he represents. He is the representative of the craft workers, the skilled workers who are divided into separate organizations by the nature of their work resulting from the economic forces of production which are fast disappearing. The American Federation of Labor is not a homogeneous body of workers. It is a loose federation of skilled workers whose interests lie more with the petty bourgeoisie than with the revolutionary unskilled workers. But the skilled craftsmen are being eliminated by the advance of machine production. The building trades are a case in point. The skilled wood workers get their four dollars a day. They are being replaced by "Hunkies" mixing concrete at \$1.55 per day. The skilled workers are not the revolutionary workers. But the "hunkies" are the ones who rise in revolt and unite themselves in the revolutionary industrial movement of syndicalism.

There are many persons who praise Socialism and agree with its theoretical tenets but who fight the practical application of Socialism with all their heart.

possesses over six thousand subscribers and the number is rapidly increasing. Thanks to your arbitrary action on bundle charges the circulation is rapidly increasing. That circulation will more rapidly increase as the suppression of the radical publications owing to the action of your Department becomes more fully known to the people of Canada.

Let me inform you that the administrative methods of your Department are not popular with the people of Canada. Listen to what the Toronto, Ont., Standard has to say, with regard to the point at issue:

.....  
"Cotton's Weekly," the organ of Socialism, published at Cowansville, Quebec, is up against it as far as postal privileges are concerned. We are up against it, too, and cannot help it, though we have not been silent about it either. "Cotton's" charges the P.M.G. with discriminating against it. Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux denies the charge, but we believe it all the same. We know how struggling journalism has been treated in our own case.

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You, as a practising politician, look to results on your own career. The question of bundle charges matter little to you as long as you think there will be no protest. You know that a million voters with conflicting interests are not influenced by what you consider little matters. And you consider postal favoritism to newsdealers in mailing charges at a rate fifteen times lower than that charged workingmen a small matter. Yet the freedom of the press is in question. The free circulation of ideas is at stake. You will discover your mistake, perhaps, Honorable Sir, when you wake to the fact that your political career is over and that you are known throughout the length and breadth of Canada as "One Thousand Five Hundred Per Cent Lemieux."

The summer vacation is coming. Parliament will be over. The minds of the people will not be disturbed by legislative activities. The minds of the people can be concentrated on your Department. The time is propitious for a public discussion.

You evidently do not realize the feeling abroad in Canada against the government of which you are a member. I hope that feeling will be made manifest to you during the coming vacation.

Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM ULRIC COTTON.

The development of America was rapid. The development of Canada, however, will be far quicker. The enormous robbery of the workers of other countries places immense sums of money in the hands of the exploiters to build additional machinery of production. The old countries are exploited to the limit. The financiers, therefore, must look to the newer fields, and Canada has caught their attention. So the unemployed of other countries are being rushed to Canada and the surplus products of the laborers of other countries are being used to transport and set to work new hordes coming to Canada. But Canada cannot absorb the surplus labor of other countries for long. When the new machinery of production in Canada gets going full blast Canada will be troubled with the diseases of decadent capitalism, failing markets, unemployed, poverty, stricken workers, corrupt capitalists, and general rottenness. Where capitalism holds sway the signs of its decadence is everywhere visible.

Socialism is revolutionary. Every movement for the freedom of the masses has ever been revolutionary.

The coming of Socialism is the going of poverty.

Socialism will give the child a chance to enjoy its childhood.

A vote for a Liberal or a Conservative candidate is a vote for the enslavement of labor.

There will be great relief for the workers when rent, interest and profit are abolished.

The British Liberals are talking a lot about land but are doing little. The British Liberals, however, are performing an important work of education when they call the landlords parasites and idlers and other like terms. The common people have some sense and will see that the Liberals speak the truth but not the whole truth. The landlords are parasites but so are the interest lords and the industrial profit lords.

.....  
Constantly in Parliament come up bills against the working classes. And the working classes have to meet in their unions and protest and waste their time and funds in letters and telegrams to the Members of Parliament. How much better would it be for the workers did they elect a good sized bunch of revolutionary Socialists to Ottawa who would speak with no uncertain voice and expose the time serving capitalist henchmen who represent the workingmen of their district? The workers have the votes. Let them vote as they strike, against their bosses.

.....  
What chance have the little children of the working classes under this capitalist system? The workers are given but a bare living wage. When the workers are thrown out of work the little children suffer hunger and nakedness. They experience eviction from the shacks the capitalist allows the workers to live in as long as they can find a master to give them a wage and have the strength to labor sufficiently hard to give the master a profit. For the sake of their little children the workers are revolting. For the sake of their wives the workers are revolting. And the red banner of the slave revolt that waved over primitive Christianity, that waved during the dark ages, is now being born to victory by millions of exploited workers who are organized to overthrow the rule and robbery of the few against the many.

.....  
There is a great expansion of business in Canada. Three million square miles of territory is to be subdued and rendered productive by seven million people. The capitalists are absorbing the surplus values produced by the workers. The surplus values are to a certain extent being "reinvested" by the exploiters in preparing machinery for further exploitation. Railroads are being built. Factories are going up. New coal areas are being opened. All by the labor of workers. Canada, according to capitalist papers, is booming and the country is prosperous. Yet it is cold comfort to the exploited workers who get a dollar and a quarter a day to be told that the country is prosperous when they barely get a living. Canada is a fine field for financiers and the labor skinner. Undoubtedly times are prosperous for the parasites.

Now comes the rumor that Laurier will appeal to the people of Canada this year to support his navy policy.

The Conservative party is being re-organized and Laurier hopes that it will be non-effective as a fighting force if elections are sprung on the country. There are certain signs that elections are near. There is the graft on the G. T. P. There are the immense bonuses being given to dry docks. There will be large profits out of the navy contracts if the Liberals win out. All these signs point to elections in the near future. As to the Conservatives being out of business as an effective opposition, it matters little. Both parties are capitalist parties. Both contain members who are slightly radical. Both contain reactionary members. The main thing is for the Socialists to continue their propaganda and waken the workers to the fact that a vote for either a Liberal or a Conservative is a vote cast for the enslavement of the workers. Agitate, educate and organize the workers. Back the Socialist Party with funds for organizing purposes. Keep the aim clear before the workers; the organization of a revolutionary political party for the capture of political institutions, municipal provincial and Dominion, and the establishment of an industrial democracy owned, controlled and managed of, by and for the working classes.

## GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE

There is evidently an alliance between the capitalist governments of France and Great Britain. The capitalist rulers of Germany are exceedingly feared by the capitalist rulers of the two other countries. Therefore there is a secret understanding Great Britain has withdrawn her fleet from the Mediterranean waters and has concentrated her ships off Scotland in the North Sea. France is concentrating her ships in the Mediterranean. Thus the rulers of the two nations work in harmony.

The markets of the world are shrinking for the capitalist class. With India and China and Japan becoming exporting nations, the markets of the world are becoming overcrowded. The capitalist rulers have therefore to struggle to get foreign markets. Under Socialism the home markets would be able to absorb all the home products, save such as were exported for exchange purposes in return for non-indigenous foreign products. But under the capitalist system, the workers cannot buy back, with their scanty wages, the goods they have made, consequently those goods must be sold abroad or there is a crisis. And it is the struggle for foreign markets that makes the possibility of war so threatening.

But the workers who are robbed by the capitalist system; the workers who see fine silks exported while they have difficulty in buying cotton cloth, see that war is senseless and that the capitalist system provokes war. So the European workers are setting their faces against war, while the French rulers are concentrating their ships at Marseilles, a strike has broken out among the naval reservists. The strike has spread to the shop clerks. And the capitalist class have called out the military for fear of their parasite livings disappearing from their grasp.

Anti-militarism is growing in Europe. The workers are weary of the heavy burdens of armies and navies. And Laurier, Laurier of the murder ship infamy, is fastening on the backs of the Canadian workers, the burdens that the workers of Europe are doing their best to shake themselves free from.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Does a general restriction on production, such as cutting down the hours of labor, increase employment to society as a whole?

The product of man is part of his life. Body and mind, society does not confer. By what right have a few people to take them away?

How can a moral standard be valued or measured by a material one? Or in other words, is human life valued by its production, or its needs and wants?

A small minority of people called rulers confer favors on a few individuals by the way of a license to sell liquor. Is this an example of equal rights?

Is the poverty of the land and its resources the prime cause of the overstocked, adulterated food supply?

According to law an unemployed person is termed a vagrant, and liable to imprisonment. Does justice mean one law for the rich and another for the poor?

Law is supposed to be a common force, organized to prevent injustice. Law is the means to regulate our conscience, our wills and ideas, our works and exchanges, our gifts and enjoyments. Its mission is supposed to be to prevent the rights of one man from interfering with those of another in any of these things. But capitalist law is merely the organization of capitalist force to protect property rights. Socialism stands for social law, social justice, and the protection of human life as against property rights.—A. G. McCallum, Ottawa, Ont.

State capitalism is not Socialism. State capitalism is the exploitation of the wage slave by the government. That government by its present composition, belongs to the parasites. If the government exploits the wage slaves, therefore, that exploitation will rebound to the benefit of the capitalists. Socialism aims at abolishing the bourgeois form of government and establishing an industrial democracy in which the administration of things will replace the government of persons.

Socialism will give the expropriated wage slave a stake in the country.



## BREAKING INTO THE LOCAL PRESS

Socialism is breaking into the local press. It is a good plan to write your local editor asking questions about Socialism. If one enquiry from one reader will not fetch him, get half a dozen to write. Let him see that there is a demand among his readers for articles on Socialism. The following is an article that appeared in the Brantford Citizen as the result of an enquiry about Socialism from a reader.

### SOCIALISM

Last week we received an enquiry from a Brantford citizen, asking for information about "Socialism."

While we have some views on this subject, yet, we thought it would be fitting and proper to have the communication answered by one who is in a position to speak with some authority, upon such an important subject.

We herewith give Mr. Wm. Davenport's reply to the question.

### WHAT IS SOCIALISM?

What is this thing that we are hearing so much about?

Who are the men who advocate Socialism, and why do they do so?

These are pertinent questions, and very much in order at a time like the present, when every newspaper that we open contains some reference to socialism or socialists; when almost every group of working men are discussing it, when preachers and lawyers and college professors alike, all have something to say on this great subject.

Probably everyone knows that the German Emperor called the socialists "Fatherlandless fellows," and "Politically untrustworthy persons." Also that Sam Gompers, the Great American Labor "Leader" has said that the socialists were "impossible." General Booth of the Salvation Army, production, and divers very strongly against socialism. So also have men of brains like Ingersoll, John Morley and Herbert Spencer.

Well, now, what is this socialism that these men write and talk about? Here is a definition.

Socialism is a material science. It deals with the resources of nature, the Army also put himself on record as the products of human labor power and the raw material of nature.

Socialists contend that those things that are collectively used, collectively needed, should be collectively owned. For example, railroads, Socialists say that these things that are privately needed and privately used, should be privately owned; for instance, a suit of clothes or a house to live in, Socialists contend that as human labor power, both of hand and brain is the source of all wealth, then to labor should come the fruits of their toil.

Socialists realize that the workers can never enjoy the full fruits of their toil so long as labor-power is a commodity, as it is at present. Being a commodity, it is governed by the same laws that govern the sale and regulate the price of any other commodity viz: supply and demand. The worker, in selling his commodity (labor power), is on the same plane as a farmer, say, peddling eggs and butter, cheese and onions.

Supply and demand regulate the price of these along with the commodity, labor power.

Commodities we find, will exchange on an average at their cost of production. What is the cost of production of labor power? Why enough wages to feed, clothe, house and provide for the necessary education of the worker to do that work that his masters require of him. To this must also be added the cost of his reproduction, for the worker must have margin enough to marry, and breed other workers to take his place when he is too old to be fit for service. And we find that this is just what labor gets! Its cost of production, nothing more!

Now comes the Socialist upon the scene, who says: "Remove labor power from being a commodity by letting labor own the means of production!"

Well, how are we going to do this? First, by educating our fellow workers to a realization of their position as wage slaves. Then, to see by what means the present owners of the means of production own their property.

We see that they own it by virtue of their control of the parliaments, law-courts, armies, navies, and police. Why do the capitalist class control these powers?

Just because we workers say that they can do so by voting them into power at the elections. So to take that power out of their hands the workers are forming into a political party of their own, the Socialist Party, the greatest international organization on earth. Socialist papers are being widely circulated in spite of the efforts of capitalist governments to suppress them. The in-

telligent workers are binding themselves together to stop the robbery that is being played on them, and are beginning to insist that labor, instead of receiving one fifth of its product as at present, shall receive the full product of its toil.

WILLIAM DAVENPORT.

## Toilers and Idlers

Our Serial Story

Copyrighted, 1907 by John B. McMahon.

### SYNOPSIS.

A rich young man goes to work in a foundry which he discovers to be his own property. He learns social conditions and gets next to union people, anarchists, settlement workers, inmates of orphan homes and other types. He faces the problem of his relations to his employees, complicated with a strike and riot.

### CHAPTER XVII.

(Continued.)

A crowd of boys waited impatiently on the curb for the opening of the basement door of the Orphan's Home. It was towards five o'clock Sunday afternoon. They stamped their feet, whistled, chattered in a curious dialect, telling one another how they had spent the day. There were many types of gamins, unsized newsboys, flannel-shirted muscular bootblacks, pale youths of a superior manner who bought a cent's worth of cigarettes at a stand, some little fellows about nine years old, and a few stalwart orphans who were probably near the voting age.

Rensen stood in the crowd with his sponsor, Ohio Jimmy. He wished to learn something of the home conditions of the three apprentices who lived here.

For the moment, however, he was inattentive to the lively scene: his thoughts went back to the cold, foul, bare room where a consumptive lay dying. . . . What matter if all that were changed now, an easy ending assured. "It's no use to me now." Who could restore and make right the dismal past? Who was responsible for this cheating of a man's life?

The boys laughed loudly. A freckle-nosed youngster was telling what a fine time he had in the monk cage at the zoo until a fly cop stuck a pin in his leg.

"De cop t'ought he was squeezing leathers," explained Ohio Jimmy. "Pe'haps he was."

A pale youth with thin lips, wearing a high collar and a red tie, remarked that he won two dollars playing pool at Sam's on the Bowery. One of the littlest boys, who was coatless, swore with chattering teeth that there was no place to go Sunday when the hotel turned you out at eight o'clock.

"They don't stand for a little chap in the saloons, an' youse can't hang around the post-offs widout gettin' chased, an' dem newspepers gettin' in Park Row ain't no good day-times."

"Safact," agreed the freckled youngster, "deh hotle treats yeh worse dan a ten-cent lodging house. Dey chases youse out every day—"

"Aw, I guess dey t'ink we go to ehioh," said another. "and work all de rest of de week. But we don't."

The door opened and the boys dashing in with shouts huddled around the steam radiators, the foremost gaining seats or standing room on top. The basement was spacious and fairly warm, paved with concrete and gas-lighted at three central pillars. Ohio Jimmy, one of the fortunates in the race, danced on a radiator, and taking a mouth organ from his pocket played a jig. His tongueing of double notes was the envy of many. Some of the spectators clapped hands and stamped; while a shrill voice from the end of the room sang a popular sentimental song with scurrious changes.

A bootblack, a newsboy and one of the pale youths stripped their coats, dropped on one knee, and began to throw dice. They played swiftly, with hissing invocations—"Come seven! Come eleven!"—and on occasion cursed. Elsewhere a group of four boys were boasting to one another that they had chucked up many jobs during the past week: running an elevator, errands in a drug store, delivery wagons, and the like. Mike and Salvatore listened to this talk with open-mouthed wonder, especially at mention of the wages.

"If I had a job like that—" murmured the slender, black-haired, graceful Salvatore.

"Sure, I wouldn't chuck it," said Mike with a look of conviction on his heavy dull face. "Six dollars a week."

"Ah, youse are bot' sand hogs," sneered the elevator boy, who wore a canary sweater with purple stripes. He turned and shouted, "Hey, Chicago Butts!" and when a shrewd-eyed, pockmarked youngster came running up, he asked for a good cigar. The merchant opened a paste-board box and offered an assortment of half-smoked cigars and cigarettes, evidently pickings. The customer paid a penny, took the longest cigar, and placing it in a holder, lit it.

Rensen was approached by a stalwart orphan, who was well dressed in a brown fedora and a short fawn overcoat, a small morocco bag over his shoulder.

"Just struck town, pardner?"

"No, I live near here."

"Are you working?"

"A little, now and then."

"How would you like a job as come-on?"

"What does a come-on have to do?"

The young man explained that he was a fakir of novelties, and sometimes cleared six dollars in a day. He wanted a man to act in the crowd and stimulate interest in false purchases.

There was a sudden disturbance in the centre of the hall and a circle formed about the shrill vortex. Klondike Smith, just returned from a

trip to Europe, had been boasting of his adventures; which aroused the professional jealousy of Ohio Jimmy. Klondike leaned forward from the waist, hands in pockets, and said twice that Westminster Abbey was on the river Thames. The other called him a liar and said he was thinking of the Tower of London. Klondike asked that the statement be repeated. Ohio did so and said moreover that a stowaway kept prisoner on the horse deck of a ship naturally couldn't see the town right. To this the retort was oaths and fists. After the travelers had exchanged a few blows they were separated by the larger boys, who told them not to make trouble for everybody by having the old man come down.

Rensen strolled into the washroom, where a number of boys, barefooted and naked to the waist, were washing their clothes in the tubs. The hot steamy odors did not flatter the nose. Mike, the apprentice, scrubbed diligently in a corner, wielding a bar of yellow soap with swollen red hands. His ragged trousers were upheld by a single suspender.

"Your things must be kept pretty clean," said the visitor.

"Sure, the water takes the muck out," replied Mike. "But it ain't hot enough."

"Why isn't it hot enough?"

"It don't kill the creepers."

A youth who was sewing a button on his shirt said you could bake 'em in the oven but you got 'em again from the others.

The boys began to go upstairs for supper, and Rensen joined the procession, handing to the man at the door the tin check that Ohio Jimmy had got him at the regular price of six cents. These checks, as he had seen below, were legal tender to a limited extent in gambling, debt-paying and other obligations.

The supper tables were two rows of pine boards having on both sides narrow fixed benches without backs. Each boy, walking past two piles of cheese and molasses sandwiches, took as many as he liked of both kinds and picked up a stoneware cup.

A frowsy gray woman in a brown wrapper—but her eyes were rather kindly—came with a huge, yellow, spouted watering-pot, such as gardeners use. She laboriously filled the cups with tea. Of this lukewarm pale liquid Rensen took a hearty draught and immediately felt nauseated. He tried a cheese sandwich. Wondering whether his taste might be finical, he looked around and saw that many of the boys made faces and flung away bits of their sandwiches. He looked more closely at the bread. Imbedded in it were the wings, legs and whole bodies of beetle-like insects. Ohio Jimmy, noticing his alarm, said these were roaches in the bread. You could do better with six cents on the Bowery—a bowl of bread and milk, or a decent stew—but the fellows liked to stay together in the hotel.

It was clear why the apprentices had such an appetite for the foundry lunches: Sonia's parable of the bakery likewise became vivid.

An hour after supper the boys assembled in the hall on the next floor for the Sunday evening services, when the president of the Home and some up-town visitors were expected. All were made to sit at little desks, the neatest youngsters in front, and the overgrown, stalwart orphans inconspicuous in the rear. Rensen, taking a previous hint, gave the Superintendent a cigar, saying he had dropped in for the evening; and was assigned a cramped seat behind a pillar.

The Superintendent was a tall, elderly Irishman of a military bearing, with a lick of gray hair brushed stiffly up one side of his head: his face was purplish red, and he roared much like the foreman of the foundry. He marched through the aisles reviewing the assemblage, commanding all to sit up straight, eyes front, mind the hymn books. Suddenly he cuffed a little boy—the one who said the saloons wouldn't allow a little chap inside—and roared:

"You rascal, where's your coat? You dirty little thief, you owe a week's board! Get out! Never show your face here."

This child silently ran out, his cheek red with the blow. He would have to carry the banner to-night, it was whispered; perhaps some police station would give him shelter.

A moment later the president of the Home, a stately large man with short grizzled beard, wearing a frock coat and a gold chain across his ample vest, came on the platform with a party of ladies and gentlemen. Some of the visitors were seated in such a position that Rensen could not see them. The Superintendent's manner had changed; he smiled deferentially at the President and bowed to the visitors. The services began with singing "Onward Christian Soldiers," to the music of a reed organ. The boys sang with a shrill lustiness fairly in tune, aware that the Superintendent stood at one side of the platform facing them, a connoisseur of melody who might give judgement later. There was a prayer by a clerical visitor. After more hymns, the President made an address. He hoped the boys appreciated the chances given them by Christian benevolence—a snug home—meals—food and drink—comfortable beds—a savings bank—bank with six per cent. interest—loans of capital to buy newspapers or bootblack outfits—and chiefly the opportunity of becoming honest, useful citizens. There was a chance for every ambitious good boy to succeed in life, starting at the bottom of the ladder: some of those present might become famous in halls of legislation, or win esteem as noble-minded judges, merchants or financiers.

(To be continued.)

P. E. I. AND NEWFOUNDLAND. Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland are territories very little touched by Socialist literature as yet, but they are fertile fields. Copies of Cotton's should be travelling in that direction. Subs or lists of names for samples earnestly solicited.

## THE PEOPLE'S POEMS

### CAPITALISM AND THE DREAM OF SOCIALISM

I stood at the hour of noon-day,  
On the curb of a city street  
Where passed the vehicles of the rich,  
And the laborers' tired feet.  
And I saw the faces of children  
Lit up with school-time joy,  
Co-mingled with the haggard face,  
Of the sweat-shop's girl and boy.

And I saw the king of Capital  
Like the slave who bought and sold  
The sinew and bone of his fellow man,  
In the mart of clinking gold.  
And the cushioned seat of a costly car,  
Bore him to his repast,  
While the man who had walked that  
he might ride,  
At the curbstone broke his fast.

And grouped in a window five stories high,  
Were youths of tender age,  
Who looked on the sky with the wistful eye  
Of a creature in its cage.  
Ten hours a day at the wheels for them  
Made the sun a noontime treat;  
From dawn till dusk must the shuttles fly,  
They must work if they would eat.

And they fit each groove of the capitalist plan,  
And he moulds them to suit his will,  
For he owns the houses and owns the land,  
And they're only a part of his mill.

They may each on the city register,  
Have legal right to a name,  
But the title of "Mr." only applies,  
To the ones who know the game.

And just as they number criminals,  
So they number each worthy man,  
In the rank and file of the toilers,  
'Neath the system's accused ban.  
And the sun of noon in the western hills  
Now sank to his bed of gold,  
And to each place they called a home,  
Came the toilers young and old.

And an angel fair at my couch appeared,  
As treading the moonlight beams,  
And he showed me things in a book  
of light,  
Made up of what men call dreams,  
And I dreamed that the sun had risen again  
O'er earth's verdure tinted hills,  
And man went forth with a song of joy,  
As the lark her greeting trails.

For a day had dawned which had burst the bond  
Of oppression and of dread,  
And willing hands found sweet the toil  
That gave him daily bread.  
And I looked at the west where the sun had sunk  
With the woes of yesterday,  
And leading a dark-robed phantom forth  
Went an aged sage and grey.

And they parted hands, as a lowering cloud,  
Wrapped the dark one in its fold,  
And back to mingle with sons of earth,  
Towards the east with its morning gold  
Came the saint of thought whose brain had wrought  
With the problem of the age;  
And of the dark-robed monster,  
"What?"

"His name is oppression, I bade him on  
In the land of regrets to roam,  
And afar in the fields of oblivion,  
Must his followers find a home.  
As one by one I lead them forth  
To the hills of the setting sun,  
For from east to west, from south and north,  
They must perish every one."

As I looked on the glorious countenance,  
That had ignorance and crime defied,  
I knew by an inward tuition tense,  
It was wisdom personified.  
And this was the power that ruled the land,  
And I dreamed that slaves were free,  
To gather at wisdom's just command,  
And learn of things to be.

And into the mists of forgotten deeds,  
Sank the records of war and crime,  
And the profit system which bred their needs,  
Had been hurled from the heights of time.  
Then the angel closed the book of light,  
And the moon beams faded away,  
And I rose again from my couch of night  
To the world of yesterday.

—Mrs B. J. Seaman, Sackville, New Brunswick.

THE SONS OF MARTHA  
The sons of Martha seldom brother,  
For they have inherited that  
good part,  
But the sons of Martha favor their  
mother of the careful soul and  
the troubled heart;  
And because she lost her temper  
once, and because she was rude  
to the Lord, her guest,  
Her sons must wait upon Mary's  
sons' world without end, reprieve  
or rest.

It is their care in all the ages  
to take the buffet and cushion the  
shock;  
It is their care the gear engages; it  
is their care that the switches  
lock;  
It is their care that the wheels run  
truly; it is their care to embark  
and entrain,  
Tally, transport, and duly deliver  
the sons of Mary by land and  
main.

They say to the mountains, "Be ye removed!" They say to the lesser floods, "Run dry."  
Under their rods are the rocks re-proved—they are not afraid of that which is high.  
Then do the hilltops shake to the summit; then is the bed of the deep laid bare—  
That the sons of Mary may overcome it; pleasantly sleeping and unaware.

They finger death at their glove's end when they piece and repiece the living wires  
He rears against the gates they tend; they feed him hungry behind their fires.

Early at dawn ere men see clear they stumble into his terrible stall,  
And hale him forth like a haltered steer, and goad and tend him till evenfall.

To these from birth is belief forbidden—from these till death is relief afar.  
They are concerned with matters hidden—under the earthenware their altars are—  
The secret fountains to follow up; waters withdrawn to restore to the mouth,

Yea, and gather the floods as in a cup, and pour them again at a city's drouth.

They do not preach that their God will rouse them a little before the rivets work loose.  
They do not teach that His Pity allows them to leave their work whenever they choose,  
As in the thronged and lightened ways, so in the dark and desert they stand,

Wary and watchful all their days, that their brethren's days may be long in the land.

Lift ye the stone or cleave the wood, to make a path more fair or flat,  
Lo! it is black already with blood some sons of Mary spilled for that.

Not as a leader from earth to heaven, not as an altar to any creed,  
But simple service, simple given, to his own kind, in their common need.

And the sons of Mary smile and are blessed—they know the Angels are on their side.  
They know in them are the mercies given, they know in them they are multiplied.

They sit at the feet and they hear the Word, they know how truly the promise runs.  
They have cast their burden upon the Lord, and the Lord He lays it on Martha's sons.

—Rudyard Kipling.

### WINNIPEG'S MILLIONAIRES

Not long ago a Winnipeg newspaper published a list of millionaires, to the number of about twenty-four, who are said to reside and to have "made" their millions in that prosperous and vigorous city. The newspaper seemed to be very proud that Winnipeg should, so early in its civic career, be able to afford such a remarkable illustration of the modern tendency to the concentration of wealth in few hands. This fatuous gratification arises not from anything really satisfactory in the rapid production of this large output of millionaires, but in the ignorance of sound economics on the part of the newspaper itself. This ignorance, unfortunately, is not confined to the newspaper in question, nor is it peculiar to Winnipeg.

To the reflective mind, the query is immediately suggested: How have these millionaires been produced, in such a small community, in so short a time? In seeking the answer to this, the enquirer will come across some of the great fundamental errors in our fiscal and economic systems. By reason of these defects, the drone which produces no honey is enabled to acquire the larger part of the product of the working bee whilst the working bee itself is able to retain only a small portion of that product.

—Toronto Sun.

### REDUCED RATES

Five halfers for a dollar to five separate addresses, five yearlies for two dollars sent to five separate addresses, two yearlies and a halfer for one dollar sent to three separate addresses; these are the new club offers for Cotton's Weekly. This means that one dollar will get what formerly cost one dollar and a quarter. This means that Cotton's Weekly needs more than ten thousand subscribers to be put on a basis where it will carry itself.

How long will the hustlers give themselves to get those ten thousand subscribers and start the sub list climbing to the point where the paper will carry itself? There is not a hustler but wants to do his share of the work. There is not a hustler but wants to see Cotton's grow in power that it may shake the capitalist government at Ottawa. Every sub hustler is going to dig after subs for he knows that by so doing he is digging the grave of capitalism. He knows also that every sub landed means a direct slap at a reactionary Postmaster General.

### YOU CAN'T AFFORD IT.

You can't afford to remain ignorant of Socialism. Send 50 cents to Cotton's Book Department for the Banner Collection. These seven books will start you right.

## Bumping the Bumps on the Road Up!

Another bump bumped on the road up. The seven thousand mark has been passed. The weekly gain has been over six hundred. The sub hustlers did themselves proud. They are out to carpet the Dominion with Cotton's Weeklies. The mass will soon be stirred. Socialism is in the air, vague and indefinite in many minds. That sentiment is being crystallized by Cotton's Weekly among many other agencies. Therefore the hustlers get busy and pile in the subs.

This last dash by the sub hustlers puts Cotton's Weekly into the more than seven thousand class in point of circulation. This past week a dozen papers were passed and left behind in the race for circulation. Cotton's Weekly is among the first ninety papers in Canada in the number of its subscribers and the list will keep climbing.

Milwaukee went Socialist. A hundred thousand German Socialists have made the Berlin police grant the right of free and peaceable public assemblage. Marseilles, old Marseilles of glorious Revolutionary fame, whose streets for a hundred years have echoed to the tramp of revolutionary feet, is again in revolt. And Canada, the Canada of Mackenzie and Papineau, is listening with attentive ear to revolutionary doctrines.

See the sub list climbing, Climbing to the skies, And a purpose dawning In the workers' eyes, Freedom now to conquer As the glorious prize.

Laboring for ages For their masters' gain, Now the workers waken From their hopeless pain, And unite in millions Liberty to gain.

Unto wife and children Liberty to give, Food and clothes and shelter, Now prohibitive; By their strong arms' labor Liberty to live.

The sub hustlers are going to keep the sub list growing. The bourgeois political institutions have to be captured in order that they may be abolished and replaced by Socialist institutions. And Cotton's sub hustlers are out to help along the job good and plenty.

Following is the statement of circulation for the issue of April 14th.

	OFF	TOTAL
Ontario.....	32,180	2,506
British Columbia.....	53	61
Alberta.....	15	50
Prov. of Quebec.....	63	731
Manitoba.....	6	198
Nova Scotia.....	5	17
Saskatchewan.....	36	103
New Brunswick.....	14	92
Elsewhere.....	1	56
Yukon Territory.....	1	20
Prince Ed. Island.....	3	14
Newfoundland.....	1	8
Total.....	163,768	7276

### Gain for week '605

Total issue last week 8,000.

The Socialists know what they want and go after it. They want the earth for those who do the world's work.

### TO CANADIAN SOCIALISTS

On account of increased postal rates we are obliged to make the subscription price of the International Socialist Review in Canada \$2.50 a year instead of \$1.00. We can, however, make the following special offer: For \$3.00 we will mail three copies of the Review to one Canadian address for one year. For \$5.00 we will mail ten copies of any one issue.

For \$3.00 we will mail The Review one year and the Chicago Daily Socialist for one year. CHAS. H. KERR & COMPANY, 120 West Kinzie St., CHICAGO

### The Banner Collection

HAVE you started on the study of Socialism yet? Good propagandists are made only by study. Study in order to better convince the other fellow. The Banner Collection of Books are the very best obtainable for the beginner in the study of Socialism. Socialism is explained in a simple and interesting manner. The Books are neatly bound in paper, and can be carried in the pocket without any inconvenience. Here is the list:

1. EASY LESSONS IN SOCIALISM—Lefebvre..... 5c
2. SOCIALIST CATECHISM—Water..... 5c
3. PARABLE OF THE WHITE TANK—Belamy..... 5c
4. MERRIE ENGLAND—Blatchford..... 5c
5. WHAT'S SO AND WHAT ISN'T—Work..... 10c
6. The Socialists, Who They Are, and What They Stand For—Spargo..... 10c
7. Socialism, What It Is and What It seeks to Accomplish—Liebknecht..... 10c

A Postal Note for 50 Cents will take the whole bunch. There is no better investment for the New Socialist. Seven Books for 50 Cents from Cotton's Book Department. Ask for the Banner Collection.

### Unionist Combination

INFORMATION is constantly being asked for on Industrial Unionism. This Unionist Combination of Books will supply it at small cost. Every awakened wage-earner should be conversant with the different phases of Unionism, and be equipped for argument with the force and power given by knowledge. All these books are pertinent to the man under the machine.

1. INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM, by Trautmann.
2. REVOLUTIONARY UNIONISM, by Debs.
3. A RAILROAD MEN, by Debs.
4. CLASS UNIONISM, by Debs.
5. CRAFT UNIONISM, by Debs.
6. INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM, by Debs.
7. METHODS OF ACQUIRING NATIONAL POSSESSION OF OUR INDUSTRIES, by Richardson.
8. REVOLUTION, by London.
9. YOU AND YOUR JOB, by Sandburg.
10. THE MAN UNDER THE MACHINE, by Shivers.

These books were formerly sold at Five cents per copy, but you can get the set now for 25 Cents. Send a postal note for 25 cents to Cotton's Book Department and get this educative combination.







## COMING ELECTIONS

There will be two provincial elections this fall. In Manitoba Premier Roblin will probably appeal to the country on the general policy of his government. He has slung out a bait on the shape of government owned elevators for the farmers. But the Manitoba farmers have their eyes open and are not afraid to look a gift horse in the mouth when the horse comes from a capitalist government whose members are seeking reelection. The Manitoba Socialists are working hard to capture some of the constituencies. Speakers are in the field and great work is being done.

The other province where elections will be held is Nova Scotia. Premier Murray is using the prohibition bait to capture the workers. He has suddenly grown righteous and is going to have prohibition in the Province, with the exception of Halifax, if the dear people will only return him to power again. Nova Scotia is nearly all under no license at the present moment. Murray will simply go to the country on an antiquated issue in Nova Scotia specially resurrected for the purpose. Were Nova Scotia threatened with alcoholism, or were it plastered with saloons, there might be some enthusiasms raised for Murray as a righteous knight going forth to do battle with the demon rum. But when Nova Scotia has conquered the liquor traffic all except in Halifax, the spectacle of Murray going forth to fight the traffic in Nova Scotia, except in Halifax where he will allow the demon rum to work its will, is ridiculous in the extreme and shows what sham platforms capitalist politicians can stand on without breaking through.

In Cumberland County, N. S., the Socialists are going to run a straight Red for the Provincial House. Glace Bay will probably do the same, and there may be other candidates under the Socialist banner.

There may be elections shortly in Alberta also. Premier Rutherford pulled off a capitalist deal that was altogether too raw even for the stomachs of his capitalist supporters. Under Rutherford the Province of Alberta guaranteed the bonds of a bonus hunting railway company for three hundred and fifty miles to the tune of thirty thousand dollars a mile. Millions of dollars of Provincial bonds bearing five per cent interest were sold in New York at par over the deal and the American buyers turned round immediately and sold the bonds in London cleaning up three quarters of a million in a day. The road, although bonded for three hundred and fifty miles, is to be only two hundred and forty miles in length. No guarantees were exacted as to the weight of rails to be used nor as to the quality of the ballasting nor as to the width apart of the ties. The road can be built for twelve thousand dollars a mile.

There is likely to be a Provincial election soon, therefore, in Alberta. These three provinces are the ones in which the Socialists will have a chance to test their strength.

The following is a statement of the circulation of Cotton's Weekly in the various constituencies of the three provinces, together with the name of the Member of Parliament for the Dominion House, a statement of the Liberal or Conservative majority in that constituency, and the total number of votes polled for all candidates in the Dominion elections of October 26th, 1908. The most likely constituencies for the success of Socialist candidates are those in which a Socialist newspaper is most widely read.

## ALBERTA

Calgary, M. S. McCarthy, Con. Majority, 687. Votes cast, 8,266. Cotton's subs, 79.

Edmonton, Frank Oliver, Lib. Maj. 2,317. Votes cast, 8,107. Cotton's subs, 110.

McLeod, John Herron, Con. Maj. 293. Votes cast, 6,239. Cotton's subs, 104.

Medicine Hat, C. A. McGrath, Con. Maj. 352. Votes cast, 5,492. Cotton's subs, 81.

Rod Deer, M. Clark, Lib. Maj. 260. Votes cast, 6,702. Cotton's subs, 202.

Strathcona, J. M. Douglas, Lib. Maj. 1,052. Votes cast, 6,242. Cotton's subs, 115.

Victoria, W. H. White, Lib. Maj. 370. Votes cast, 4,924. Cotton's subs, 58.

## MANITOBA

Brandon, Clifford Sifton, Lib. Maj. 69. Votes cast, 8,616. Cotton's subs, 60.

Dauphin, G. Campbell, Con. Maj. 217. Votes cast, 6,195. Cotton's subs, 74.

Lisgar, W. H. Sharpe, Con. Maj. 105. Votes cast, 3,425. Cotton's subs, 33.

Macdonald, W. D. Staples, Con. Maj. 576. Votes cast, 5,404. Cotton's subs, 24.

Marquette, W. J. Roche, Con. Maj. 570. Votes cast, 6,000. Cotton's subs, 22.

Portage la Prairie, A. Meighen, Con. Maj. 250. Votes cast, 6,038. Cotton's subs, 79.

Provencher, J. P. Molloy, Lib. Maj. 460. Votes cast, 4,978. Cotton's subs, 3.

Selkirk, G. H. Bradbury, Con. Maj. 98. Votes cast, 5,650. Cotton's subs, 39.

Souris, F. L. Shaffner, Con. Maj. 851. Votes cast, 5,739. Cotton's subs, 29.

Winnipeg, John Haggart, Con. Maj. 2,018. Votes cast, 17,453. Cotton's subs, 357.

## NOVA SCOTIA

Annapolis, S. W. Pickup, Lib. Maj. 211. Votes cast, 4,031. Cotton's subs, 7.

Antigonish, Wm. Chisholm, Lib. Maj. 20. Votes cast, 2,562. Cotton's subs, 4.

Cape Breton and North Victoria, D. D. McKenzie, Lib. Maj. 17. Votes cast, 5,681. Cotton's subs, 54.

Cape Breton South, J. W. Madden, Con. Maj. 225. Votes cast, 9,871. Cotton's subs, 122.

Colchester, John Stanfield, Lib. Maj. 115. Votes cast, 5,357. Cotton's subs, 16.

Cumberland, E. N. Rhodes, Con. Maj. 490. Votes cast, 9,110. Cotton's subs, 186.

Digby, C. Jameson, Con. Maj. 131. Votes cast, 3,411. Cotton's subs, 6.

Guysboro, J. H. Sinclair, Lib. Maj. 205. Votes cast, 3,797. Cotton's subs, 3.

Halifax, R. L. Borden and A. B. Crosby, Con. Maj. 751. Votes cast, 13,780. Cotton's subs, 77.

Hants, J. B. Black, Lib. Maj. 133. Votes cast, 4,149. Cotton's subs, 3.

Inverness, A. W. Chisholm, Lib. Maj. 1,544. Votes cast, 5,925. Cotton's subs, 11.

Kings, F. W. Borden, Lib. Maj. 491. Votes cast, 4,473. Cotton's subs, 21.

Lunenburg, J. D. Sperry, Lib. Maj. 267. Votes cast, 6,475. Cotton's subs, 4.

Pictou, E. M. Macdonald, Lib. Maj. 299. Votes cast, 8,373. Cotton's subs, 13.

Richmond, J. W. Kyle, Lib. Maj. 240. Votes cast, 2,318. Cotton's subs, 2.

Shelbourne and Queens, W. S. Fielding, Lib. Maj. 342. Votes cast, 4,632. Cotton's subs, 1.

Yarmouth, B. B. Law, Lib. Maj. 839. Votes cast, 3,731. Cotton's subs, 2.

The sub hustlers of Cotton's Weekly can see just where Cotton's Weekly is going, and what Members are most likely to find annoying. It is said by some that what we do not know does not hurt us. Assuredly capitalist Members of Parliament are not hurt by what their electors do not know about Socialism. It is what their electors do not know about Socialism that worries the M. Ps.

In every electoral district in these three Provinces Cotton's Weekly circulates. But the ignorance to overcome is enormous and the sub hustlers have done well to spread Cotton's so widely, and they are but beginning their work.

G. G. Bell, a member of the British Institute of Electrical Engineers, has invented a method of storing heat that will revolutionize electrical development. By his method heat derived from electricity can be stored for twenty-four hours or more with but little loss. His perfected apparatus will consume an equal amount of electric current during the whole twenty-four hours, thus more than quadrupling the efficiency of the machinery in the power-house. The difficulty, heretofore, has been that power-houses had to be equipped for hours the larger part of the machinery was idle because of lack of current demanded. Owing to the invention the price of electric light in Great Britain, according to the New York Times, is less than a quarter of what was charged three months ago. This invention will invade the field of production and will not let go its hold until the method of production has been revolutionized. We are in the grip of economic forces which have seized upon the capitalist and worker alike and will not lose their power until their work is accomplished and society itself is revolutionized.

## ENGLISH SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The yearly subscription to the British Isles is two shillings. Comrades having friends among the agitators in the Motherland would do well to send copies of Cotton's travelling in that direction.

"I submit to you that not a cent should be extracted from the pockets of the people except every cent goes into the treasury of the people and not into the pockets of anybody else." Thus spoke Laurier before he came to power. After he came to power he hugged Sifton to his bosom. He hugged the Grand Trunk Pacific to his bosom. He is now hugging Pugsley in a fond financial embrace. But what else can be expected from a capitalist politician?

Socialism never made such giant strides before in its history as it is now. International capitalism has seized upon the workers and the workers are in international revolt.

**BY the Cotton Dresses of our Wives, by the Wet Feet of our Children, and Our Scanty Spread Breakfast Tables, we will be damned if we keep the Idle Rich Much Longer with us."**

(The following has been received by Cotton's Weekly direct from Glace Bay. Not one word has been altered. To some it may seem irreligious. But the language comes from the heart and there needs must be John the Baptists, of the Social revolution with fiery hearts and indignant tongues.)

## SERMON TO THE WORKING CLASS

A Sermon preached by a humble preacher of the Glorious Gospel of Discontent to the Working Class, Church of Man, Glace Bay, April 3rd, 1910.

Brethren: you will find the text upon which I intend to found the few remarks I will address to you this morning in the 31st chapter of Proverbs and the 9th verse, and which reads as follows:—

"Open thy mouth, judge righteously and plead the cause of the poor and needy."

The poor spoken of in my text, are here right in Glace Bay, working in and around the fourteen coal mines of the Dominion Coal Company. During the year 1908, according to our Provincial Government report, in these mines were employed 5,486 of our brethren. They, according to the same report, produced during that year 3,816,958 tons of coal. The price received by the Dominion Coal Company for each ton of coal was \$2.33 at the mine mouth. The average wage paid to our brethren, according to this bulletin issued by the Dominion Government, is \$381.45 per year, plus ten per cent increase. Now, my brethren, let us figure a little and see if we cannot find why so many of us are in such a hell of a fix at the "Pluck-me" company stores.

5,486 men and boys produced 3,816,958 tons of coal, or roughly speaking, 695 tons each. Each ton was worth \$2.33, or the product of each of our brethren was worth that year \$1,629.35. The Dominion Coal Company paid back in wages to each of our brethren something like \$419.60, leaving a balance of unpaid labor in the hands of the Dominion Coal Company, for each producer of \$1,209.75. This amount is appropriated by the do-nothing profit takers, who also own the jobs and hand them out when they like, where they like, to whom they like, and just so long as they please. Hence, our life is edged on one side by poverty and on the other by anxiety to hold our job.

Oh! generation of vampires! who shall save you from the wrath of the blood baptized sacramental army of the social revolution, we are organizing for your extermination?

The average earned by our brethren is \$419.60 per year. Let us see how our women folks manage to make that amount cover the expenses of say a family of seven. There is the husband, the wife and five children. We will particularize the absolutely necessary things they must have if they are to live at all:

Rent for hovel or shack per year	\$44.00
Coal and light per year	16.90
Taxes for a man with no property per year	4.00
Doctors fees per year	4.60
Soap & washing soda	8.00
Boots for husband	3.50
" " wife	1.50
" " five children	7.50
Outside clothes for husband per year	8.00
Outside clothes for wife per year	8.00
Outside clothes for five children per year	15.00
Underwear for husband per year	1.40
" " wife	1.40
" " five children per year	5.00
School books per year	4.00
Insurance on family (lowest possible)	18.16
General Household wear per year	1.10
Total	\$152.06

There is a boom at present in Canada. The capitalist exploiters of Canada are preparing enormous additional machinery of production for the enormous additional exploitation of the wage slaves. So at present the wage slaves of Canada are busy preparing the machinery for their further enslavement. The condition would be hopeless were it not that within capitalism lay wrapped the future Socialist state and that the machinery now being built for the capitalist mode of production will be captured by the workers and be utilized for the Socialist mode of production.

After providing these, there is left for food for the year \$267.54, or to each member of the family per year for food \$38.22, or per week for each 73c, or per day for each 10c, or per meal for each 34c. They spend nothing on church, theatre, trade union, car or railroad fare, newspapers, postage, stationery, rum, nor tobacco. A lonely, joyless, laughterless life that is one long tragic struggle with fear and want. How often in our unregenerated days have we meekly listened to the Reverend Gillis Whalemouth, High Priest in Mammon Joss House, as he looked down on our toil distorted bodies and the care furrowed brows of our wives and simpered out to us:—

Oh! weary heart, there is a home, Beyond this scene of toil and care; A home where sorrow never comes, Who would not fain be welcome there. Wait; meekly wait and murmur not, Oh; wait, Oh; wait and murmur not.

Brethren we'll be damned if we are going to wait meekly or any other way. We are going to murmur good and hard.

Every poor man longs for Heaven, Underneath the skies, Not when he is in the grave-yard, But before he dies. Every poor man knows that idlers Ought to work somehow, He knows eternal life is here. The judgement day is now.

With womanish looks and effeminate voice, the priests of Mammon whimper out "The poor you will always have with you." And that may be true, but by the cotton dresses of our wives, by the wet feet of our children, and by our scanty spread breakfast tables, we will be damned if we are going to keep the idle rich much longer with us. We are heartily tired of 34c meals and snobs.

The Gospel of Discontent, Brethren, is spreading in every industrial country on earth. It is being accepted with a warmth and a universality that no other religion ever received. Courage brethren! the day of our emancipation draweth near, soon shall go forth, louder than the Atlantic thunders breaking on an affrighted shore, the triumphant working-class shout, "The idle rich man dieth and in hell he lifted up his eyes." Rent, interest and profit will have passed away and the working man will have received the social value of his labor. May the Good Lord bless his Word to the inspiration of discontent with present conditions. Amen.

The Montreal Street Railway wants to carry freight. The municipal authorities forbid it to carry freight. It is declared that the railway is transporting quarried stone at night and that it is carrying freight of other kinds. The Board of Control is closely watching the company to see if it is doing other than passenger transportation. Heavy traffic is now done by horses and wagons. It is an expensive method compared with the electric line. Yet it must be continued because the carting companies want their profits. And the carters want their jobs and the hostlers and all the other workers employed by the expensive and cumbersome business want their jobs too. The fight is for control of transportation and the profits that arise therefrom. Would it not be much more sensible did the people who work arise and abolish the private ownership of transportation? Then the people would benefit themselves by doing away with the cumbersome system and adopting the more effective one. Then the workers could be released from the care of useless horses and carts and be transferred to some other department of activity and either produce more wealth or else assist other workers in the work now done and by so doing reduce the number of hours the workers now undergo. The private control of the means of production and distribution results in waste, high prices and small incomes for the workers.

## MATERIALISM

The scientists of the Victorian era were declared to be materialists. But the scientists of that day declared that they were deciding nothing as to the real causes of anything. They were simply tracing the unfolding of processes. In the same way the newer scientists are blamed for being materialists. Yet they are no more materialists than any other set of investigators into the realm of nature. When Galileo wanted the wise men of the seventeenth century to look through his telescope they laughed at his foolishness and refused to look. Then later they confounded him, to the satisfaction of the wise men of their day at least, by drawing arguments from past writers. The wise men did the same with Darwin's theories. And today the same cry goes up that modern scientists in the realm of economic determination are materialists, fools, and filled with all unclean notions. Yet the economic determinists are winning out. Prisons are being remodelled and society itself is being transformed according to the newer sciences. Let not the tremulous be afraid of the new ideas. Many materialists are also spiritualists. For material determinism does not necessarily conflict with the concept of a spirit world, any more than Galileo's telescope did. Material or economic determinism simply traces the unfolding of a process.

In India when the plague strikes a village the British start to clean up and disinfect. This is fought by the Indians as pollution on the part of the English and against the will of the gods. Yet the English clean up the village and the plague disappears. The protestant doctrines of individual conscience was fought by the Roman Catholic church as being against the will of God; yet the protestant doctrines grew in strength and the countries under the control of the protestant idea did not seem to be any worse off than the catholic countries. Evolution was fought as being dangerous to religion and yet evolution is now accepted by many religious leaders. And the doctrine of economic determinism is accepted by a growing body of Christian ministers who are uniting themselves in the Christian Socialist Fellowship.

The doctrine of economic determinism, that the actions of the vast majority of human beings are necessarily determined by the hunt for the primitive needs of life, food, clothing, and shelter, is finding more and more favor with the thinkers and doers. On this ground crimes are explained, and bodily weakness and vice are founded. On this ground the guiding motives of life of the vast majority of both rich and poor are explained. In the light of the doctrines of economic determinism the history of the world is being reinterpreted in a far more satisfactory manner.

The doctrine of economic determinism will explain many things, chief among which is the method of its own abolishment. If the competitive hunt for food, clothing, shelter, instruction and amusement is now the guiding motive in the vast majority of individuals, then let us abolish the competitive hunt by cooperation. Let the means of life be socialized and let the struggle for the necessities of material existence be abolished. Then, with the cooperative production of the things whereby man must live, and the certainty to each man of the means of life for himself and family; with, moreover, the cornering of the means of life for the sake of private profit abolished; then men will no longer struggle competitively for the means or the control of the means of life. Then economic determinism will cease to exist as a law of civilized life; because the struggle for the means of life which gives rise to the doctrine, will have been abolished, and the doctrine no longer applies. A new social order will have arisen in which the governing motives of the old will have passed away.

The dream of the Socialist state is wrapped up in the passing away of the competitive struggle for the means of life. Because they see this state, the Socialists are sometimes called dreamers of visions, sometimes called the harbingers of love. But Socialists are also called the preachers of hate and discontent and discord. The non-Socialist finds it difficult to unravel the mystery and discover just what the Socialists are. The mystery is easily solved. We are not living in the Socialist state of co-operation. We are living in the capitalist hell of competition. We are subject to the struggle for the means of life. We must govern ourselves accordingly. The coming of the Socialist state will only be through the abolition of private control of the means of life, that is by the abolition of the capitalist class and the rising of the working class to power. Therefore there is a class struggle on and the Socialists must

take part in it. There is the capitalist class and the working class. The working class is in revolt against the capitalist class. Now according to the doctrine of economic determinism, the actions of both classes are governed by the way in which they get their living. The working class gets its living by the labor of its hands. The capitalist class gets its living by the robbery of the working class through rent, interest, and profit. The workers are the ones who do the work now and who will eventually do the work in the co-operative commonwealth when parasitism has been abolished. The capitalist class members are the parasites and their parasite positions will have to be abolished before the coming of the Socialist state.

Therefore the Socialists take part in the class struggle. They wake the workers to their position as wage slaves. They strike for higher wages. They will not vote for capitalist henchmen. They are out to take away the revenues of the capitalists absolutely and utterly. Did they have their way the capitalists would get no revenues at all and would need work at something useful either with head or hand. The Socialists are first, last and always on the side of the workingmen against their capitalist exploiters. They are in a capitalist state and must act accordingly. They do act accordingly and earn a great reputation among the members of the exploiting class, as stirrers up of discord, strife and hatred. And this reputation is again explained by the doctrine of economic determinism. The capitalist class regards any person or set of persons who take away their revenues, which they fight to still enjoy, as stirrers up of strife and discord.

But material or economic determinism does not decide anything as to ultimate causes of the world's existence. It simply explains why men do many things which are evil and how to do away with those evil actions by abolishing the causes that produce them.

Wyclif translated the Bible into English and was murdered by the organized society of his day. But he established an order of monks clothed in brown robes, selected from among the common people, and after his death these brown monks continued his work. The Bible was read with avidity by the common people and after that peasants of England for a couple of centuries were in continual revolt. Where did they get their inspiration? Read the bible and you will find out. From the time Pharaoh was sickened of the Israelites until they were carried away into Babylon, after their return down to the destruction of Jerusalem, and after that in the propaganda of primitive Christianity among the slaves of the Roman Empire, the Israelites and the Jew were in continual revolt against rulers and exploiters. That history of the turbulent Jew injected into the minds of the English peasant made him a revolter against his rulers. No wonder the rulers of Wyclif's day got rid of him as an incendiary and pestiferous fellow. Today there is a spirit of revolt abroad among workers. So today the Rev. Gillis Whalemouths are employed to interpret the Jewish history to the satisfaction of the master class. There are good men in the ministry. But there are numerous Gillis Whalemouths also in the ministry and because they are there the churches are losing their hold on the working classes. If you investigate you will find more true religion and passionate desire for the betterment of humanity among the Socialists than in many expensive churches.

Socialism is a movement of the working classes. Socialism depends for its success on the working classes. Socialism will gain because it is the hope and inspiration of the men who toil. It promises them liberty and life. It holds out to them health and strength and leisure for their wives and children. Is it any wonder that the empty words of capitalist politicians no longer please the workers? The workers see the chance of their emancipation under the red flag of Socialism and refuse to be led into slavery by the words of politicians who want to rise to power on the votes of the workers.

A special telegram from England to the District Ledger, Fernie, B. C. reads as follows, "The Dominion Coal Company of Nova Scotia is using every effort obtain thousands of strikebreakers, so far understand meetings with poor success. Am taking up matter with Kier Hardie who will bring before House of Commons. Law in England compels informing men when engaged to take place of men on strike.—James Douglas, 4 Park Rd., Aspatia, England." The international nature of capitalism is compelling international solidarity of workers.