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Cotton's Weekly

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DEPARTMENTAL STORES

The departmental store has been the stock-in-trade of reformers. The low wages paid, girls not allowed to sit down, the long hours, impudent and immoral employers and the petty tyrants they place in charge have furnished many a reformer with matter for speech to respectable audiences.

Consumers' leagues have been formed, the members of which pledged themselves to purchase goods made only in good conditions and sold in model stores. These consumers have been easy marks and have paid more for what they buy under the impression they were helping to right conditions.

Legislators have been appealed to and still the old conditions were not changed. And the "respectable talker" heard the speeches and the pother and rested calm in the hope born of their laziness that the wrongs were being righted.

This is the result of "reform from the top," the "uplift" work. A different tale is told when labor itself awakes. In Buffalo, N.Y., two thousand employees of twenty-two houses have gone on strike. The strike affects the clerks, salespeople, check boys and girl drivers of delivery waggons and their assistants. The strikers demand an eight hour day, and a minimum wage for boys of \$8, for girls of \$8, for men of \$15 and for drivers of \$18.

I know just how the "uplift" people feel about this strike. They feel it rank ingratitude. After they have talked and talked and gone round in their nice dresses and good suits to the parlors of the best people to tell them of the woes of the poor store workers, it is rank ingratitude for the clerks not to stay in their misery quietly and peaceably. Besides, their demands are too much, don't you know. The creatures should be content with an eleven hour day and a minimum wage of \$5 per week next year or the year after.

The reformers look upon the workers as inferior creatures to be talked over and uplifted like the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals deals with the animal class. When the workers show spirit, it frightens the reformers.

But the best hope of the future is the revolutionary, independent spirit of the exploited many. Their solidarity, their struggles, their throwing down the gage of battle to the masters, show that the spirit of liberty lives and breathes.

The masters and the reformers have caused fear and are started. For the strike of the Buffalo departmental employees will spread to other cities. It means a new spirit among a hitherto sleeping section of the working class. It is a part of the revolutionary fire which is flaring over the world.

Today it is a demand for the forty-eight hour week and a minimum wage. Tomorrow it will be a demand for the ownership of the stores by the working class and the full earnings of those stores to go to the working class.

THE STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE

There is a struggle for existence going on in society. This struggle ranges all through the fields of industry. The tools compete, the owners compete, the workers compete, and the organizations both within the capitalist class and within the working class compete.

The tools compete. The spade competes with the horse plow. The spade went down in the struggle and the horse plow supplanted the spade as a method of cultivating fields. The traction plow is competing with the horse plow, and in the west is driving the horse plow out of business. Various types of traction plows are competing. The most efficient will win out in the struggle for existence.

The owners compete. The owner of the spade competed with the owner of the horse plow and was outclassed. Today the owners of the traction plows compete. The ones most favorably situated, or with the largest masses of capital win out. The other owners are crushed down into the ranks of the wage workers.

The workers compete. The capitalists organize themselves into companies. These companies fight each other, and one or the other goes down to defeat, or they merge into one company and fight other companies. Those organizations the master class find most suitable for their purposes of exploitation survive. The others perish.

The organizations of the workers compete. Those ones which prove themselves the fittest to survive crush out the others. A struggle is on in the U. S. between the American Federation of Labor and the Industrial Workers of the World. The one which proves itself the best to push forward the interests of the working class will gain adherents to the detriment of the other, and finally triumph.

Tactics compete. Those tactics which best serve the ends of those practising them will survive. Let us illustrate by a strike. The workers go on strike. Scabs are called in, and take the places of the strikers. What tactics shall the workers adopt towards the machinery? Shall they, when they go on strike, tamper with the machinery in such a manner that the scabs cannot operate the machines? Or will they leave the machinery perfect for the scabs to operate? Tampering with machinery by strikers to render it useless is useless. Will sabotage survive? It will if the working class find it a beneficial tactic.

Finally the owners and the workers struggle for the ownership and control of the means of production and distribution, the former to hold and the latter to gain control. This struggle is becoming more acute as the workers' organizations become more powerful and united and the workers become more class conscious.

The Socialist is the worker who is struggling for the ownership against the present non-producing owners, so that the united working class may own and control.

The fittest to survive will survive. Do you consider the working class the fittest? Or do you think your masters are the fittest and best? The way you look upon this question is an indication of your spirit, whether it be that of a slave or that of a man worthy to be a free worker equal in industry with your fellow workers, and worthy to have no boss to give you work so he may live without work.

May Day in Montreal

May Day in Montreal was a surprise. The enthusiasm and numbers of the comrades came as a great joy to us all.

Only two weeks were taken to prepare for the event, and the result was an astonishing spectacle of unity.

The parade began at seven o'clock from the corner of Milton and St. Lawrence Boulevard, and marched to the Champs de Mars. Over 5,000 persons lined up. Comrade Albert Saint Martin was Grand Marshal. The red flag was carried by two young lady comrades, Miss Sheffer and Miss Rosenstone.

Headed by a brass band of twenty-five pieces, the majority of the players being Socialists, the parade wended its way to the scene of the speeches. In crossing St. Catharines Street and in crossing Craig, long lines of street cars were held up.

There were many banners displayed. Russian, French, Jewish, English, Ukrainian and other groups marched behind their respective banners.

At the Champs de Mars an attentive audience of over ten thousand persons listened to the speakers from ten different platforms. The speakers were changed every ten or fifteen minutes. Over forty soapboxes gave the straight revolutionary principles. This is a tremendous change from even two years ago, when speakers were scarce, and the comrades had to rely upon the old standbys.

Today, in Montreal a new enthusiasm has gripped the forces of revolution. In the private gatherings, ten thousand Socialists and their sympathizers are at work leavening the proletariat.

The dawn is breaking into broad day.

PROSPERITY AND THE SLAVES

We all know the wonderful prosperity that has come to the owners of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It was given tens of millions of dollars cash, a completed railway worth thirty millions of dollars, and millions of acres of land worth over a hundred million dollars.

These gifts came to the C.P.R. owners and has made them immensely wealthy.

We all know the prosperity the Canadian Northern owners enjoy. The road has been built practically by the credit and cash of the people of Canada. It has been given \$10,000,000 in cash. It has been given land worth \$20,000,000. Its bonds and stocks have been guaranteed to the extent of \$175,000,000.

Surely this generosity would open the hearts of the railway magnates so they would treat the men who toil in a decent manner. But no.

At Mission Junction, B.C., a Provincial Labor Commission has been investigating conditions. Mr. A. M. Verchere, a justice of the peace, testified. He finds the men are not paid in money, but in time checks, which are false pretenses. They arrive, and work on construction work in the wilderness. They get paid in time checks which are marked "not negotiable." The result is that no merchant will cash them. The railways themselves, both C.P.R. and C.N.R., will not accept these time checks for transportation. But the saloon keepers will.

You see the idea. The workers are gathered from distant quarters under false pretenses. They arrive, and are held practically in peonage. Mr. Verchere has had men brought before him charged with the crime of stealing a ride on the C.P.R. These men would have checks of the C. P. R. on them for work done, but they could not cash them for transportation. If they want to get out, they have to hoof it out.

Some men do this, and when they call for their checks, they find deductions made for hospital fees, municipal road tax, commissary supplies, etc.

The saloons cash the checks, and come out all right. The employers do not mind if the men drink. If they do they will be sodden animals who will work and will not kick against their cursed treatment.

These are a few of the ills the workers have to endure so that our "builders of empire" may riot in wealth. The so-called "builders" are nothing but big grafters whose records would disgrace the books of a Kingston penitentiary. The real empire builders are the men down in the construction camps, treated like slaves, robbed, kicked about, and ever toiling so the grafters may have palaces a Nero or a Pharaoh never dreamed of possessing.

PROTECTION AND RECIPROcity

Cotton's is quite frequently asked to explain the difference between reciprocity and free trade.

You remember in 1911 how the politicians yahooped throughout Canada. Both the Liberals and the Tories stretched their lungs to almost the bursting point.

The Liberals pitted the poor working class. How the salt tears trembled in the voices of the Liberal speakers as they portrayed the high cost of living, and the woes of the working class thereunder. "Return us to power," they cried, "and we will give you an opportunity to enjoy a lower cost of living."

The Tories pitted the poor working class. They wanted to save them from the deceptive wiles of the wicked Liberals. If free goods were admitted, or the tariff lowered, the workers would have to compete with the pauper product of other countries and their woes would pile mountain high through lower wages.

The working class, acting on the principle of bearing the ills they had rather than flying to others they knew not of, returned Borden to power.

As to the respective contentions of each party, the procedure under the Lemieux Act is enlightening. When the Liberals were in power and when the Tories are in power, the procedure is the same.

When a dispute arises as to wages, a Conciliation Board is appointed to investigate conditions, and one of the questions always investigated is the COST OF LIVING in the disturbed area.

If the cost of living is high, the Board decides for a comparatively high rate of wages for the workers. If the cost of living is low, the Board decides for a comparatively low scale of wages.

The Boards always consider that the COST OF LIVING SHOULD DETERMINE THE RATE OF WAGES.

FRATERNAL SOCIETIES

Would you kindly explain through your columns the part fraternal societies such as Oddfellows, Free Masons, A. O. U. W., etc., etc., play along the lines of the class struggle? Of course I have my own ideas about the matter, which are in no wise complimentary towards said societies—but I may be all wrong. This is a phase of the subject that I have not seen or heard discussed as yet anywhere; and I have digested quite a lot of material in my quest after truth. Probably you could name the book I have talked to read. At any rate give us your opinion at your earliest convenience. Very truly yours—D.H.P.

Society is divided into two classes, the capitalist class and the working class. The owning non-producers and the non-owning producers.

Through the ownership of capital—the means used to exploit labor—the capitalists take all the wealth the workers produce and give them back a wage which will just keep them fit to produce more wealth for the owners of capital.

Between these two classes a struggle is going on, the capitalists to hold and the workers to capture the public powers. The capitalists wish to retain their ownership so as to continue to live on the sweat of the workers. The intelligent working class wish to capture the public powers so as to transform the means of wealth production into the collective ownership of the producers.

There is a class struggle on in society. This results in much misery. Misery will continue as long as the class struggle lasts.

Fraternal societies are organized on the false supposition that the members of such societies shall be united in a brotherhood bond. Under capitalism such a supposition does not work out in practice.

The economic interests of the various members of such societies, in so far as they are antagonistic, will prevent the brotherhood bond from operating. Such societies are largely shams today.

If a lodge is composed of capitalists, there can be no sort of brotherhood bond, for the interests of the capitalist class are an economic bond of unity.

If a lodge is composed of workingmen, there can be a brotherhood bond, because of similar interests. But if a poor member gets into a rich lodge, he gets the cold shoulder. If a workingman gets into a capitalist lodge, (he can't very well get in, he would be rejected), he would be like a fish out of water.

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Money is Tight

Say the western capitalist papers, a statement which many of us take with the usual good deal of salt. It does not interest us at Cotton's because "Facts is Free. It cannot be bought. No matter how much money there is, it cannot buy a copy of Facts. Its not for Sale. There's only one way to get it, and that is by working for Socialism in sending along True Subs at 25 cents each, or by Bundles or Agitation orders to the same extent.

Just now the New 1917 Edition of Cotton's Compendium of Facts is engrossing our attention. We are just jumping at along at the New Facts. It will be by long odds the finest yet produced. Contents are up-to-the-minute, typewritten, and appropriate, binding a delight to the eye. It will be an inspiration to the Socialist when he reads the 1917 Facts before a prospect.

Facts will be ready in a short time now, but don't wait for it. Those who have not received a copy of Facts early will be wise in getting busy NOW. Cotton's will mail to everyone who sends along a copy of Cotton's Compendium of Facts when published. Those who advance first will get the first books that are sent out to subscribers. First come, first served. The coupon is guaranteed that you will get Facts.

We want every agitator in Canada to have a copy of the New Facts. Those who have old copies should pass them along to others. One thing sure—if you see your copy of the new Facts, you won't be happy till you get it.

START AFTER IT TODAY.

The Boys Who Battle for Freedom

Four come from Gananoque. A Hanses, Sask., slave sends six. A Nainimo, B.C., red enlists four. Six subs from Notre Dame d'Auvergne send four. From Welland Junction comes a list of four. From Winnipeg a comrade sends 20 subs. From Hastings Conlee and fifteen to Bidway, Ont.

"Please send me a bundle of twelve for a year."—Wallard, Sask.

Comrade T. Edwin Smith, of Yetwood, Alta., sends twenty-six.

A western comrade blew into Montreal and landed five almost at once.

From Wharston, Alta., comes a lovely list of thirty, including a lovely list of three, Alta., comes another lovely list of three.

"I do not know the benefactor that sent me Cotton's Weekly. Each worker in Canada should have a copy and wake up the sleepy brains."—Toronto.

"Enclosed find \$3, being \$2 for cards and \$1 for rent-agitation. My timber to work on for subs is most all gone for another master."—Whiteman's Creek, B. C.

"I am enclosing my subscription, and another for England. I have never taken the paper, but I am sure it is a lot about it."—Wynward, Sask.

Flanish Local No. 2, Vancouver, sends ten subs, and asks for the return of Cotton's Co-operative Publishing Company. This will help pay of the debt hanging over Cotton's.

From Chertwood, Alta., comes a handsome list of twenty-two. That is, they look handsome to Cotton's; but no one looking at them consider them an ugly looking bunch.

"Enclosed please find five sub cards properly filled out. Give the poor fellow a hand, and he will be able to get them. They need it. Find \$5 for sub cards and \$2 for rent."—Galt, Ont.

"Enclosed find \$5 for eight sub cards and two subs. The farmers of the west are becoming more and more dissatisfied with the present system of exploitation."—Paynton, Sask.

"I enclose fifteen subs. We are beginning our campaign for the next elections now, and we are able to get a candidate in Sturgeon constituency there."—Madway Centre, Alta.

"I drop you ten subs, but it is hard to get them. The conditions here are getting worse. Perhaps we can get them easier when the system hits the slaves a little harder."—Erskine, Alta.

"This country will soon be a lotted of Socialism. There is an awful lot of Socialism in the air, and it is being made as a Prince Albert, Sask., slave, making a first payment on a share of stock in Cotton's."—Saskatoon, Sask.

From a slave town in South Waterloo, Ont., constituency, comes \$4 for subs. These subs and the return of the Socialist candidate, Com. W. E. James, who has already been nominated for the next elections by the rebels in the constituency.

A Marwayne, Alta., comrade sends fourteen and writes: "I got some names election day. Here in Alexandria we police have been becoming much interested in what I expected. We have Cotton's and hard times to thank for our success."

"I am very busy trying to farm my household, but I just picked up like names and forward them. We home-owners are not very busy. People around here are becoming much interested in Socialism."—Flowerdale, Sask.

"It is a long time since you heard from me. I have not seen a newspaper, but I have had the result I have been able to get four other wage slaves to part with \$5 each for the return of Cotton's."—Midland, Ont.

"I sometimes envy you, comrade, for your gift of gab and your ability; but I guess I can do a bit or some good to the cause by contributing financially, and getting the most out of my money. As soon as I get things whipped into shape around my camp, I'll come across more liberally. In the meantime, I'll send you \$5 for the rent-agitation fund."—Evesham, Sask.

"I am donating your good paper to those popular citizens. Sure the system has got me square between its molar, but I've figured out a little scheme. There are lots of slaves hunting for masters, and the majority of them do not know they are on the hog, so I am going to strike to get the price raising agitation fund."—Evesham, Sask.

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May Day in Port Arthur

Dear Comrade—I desire to portray to the workers of the Dominion the scene that was presented on May 1st by the countless thousands of slaves to the double slaves and imperious masters of Port Arthur. The May Day parade was scheduled to start from the Finlay Labor Temple at ten a.m. Almost three quarters of an hour before starting time, the marching youth in their feminine beauty, and masculine stability gathered in abundance around the typewritten new and appropriate binding to a historic hotbed in the coming revolution.

Shortly after the hour of ten, headed by the Finnish bands of the two cities, Port Arthur and Port William, and approximately 2000 slaves, the parade commenced winding their way through the principal streets of the city. They marched by concert to the inspiring strains of the immortal Marseillaise, hundreds of citizens gathered on either side of the procession and gazed with mingled horror and admiration upon the brilliant crimson banners which were borne aloft by the peaceable and well-disciplined, yet terror instilling, moving mass of humanity which covered over half mile of growing street.

Ray Park, the selected habitation for the day's enjoyment, was reached without a mishap, and although during the morning hours some dark clouds appeared on the horizon and threatened a downpour of rain, midday saw the firmament clear and all through the afternoon old sol beamed its golden rays on the happy gathering as they listened to classic music, dramatic recitations and some educational speeches.

Like all other stories this one has another side. While I was pleased with the splendid turnout on the part of our Finnish and some of our Ruthenian comrades, I was disappointed to find a numerically small representation of English-speaking workers. There are over 250 copies of Cotton's coming out of Port Arthur weekly, so there must be a large number of English-speaking Socialists in fact. I have spoken to many persons who were predig in their admiration of the work the Finns are doing, and who assured me that their hearts were in the movement and ended their sentence with a big BUT.

"I have no more use to the labor movement than a message-carrying pigeon," they said. "I respect the work they never did anything to awaken slumbering humanity except they were the butt-end of policemen's clubs."

"Remember, fellow Canadians, that the Finns have burdens to bear, families to support, and desires to enjoy. They are well as you. Why do you so cringingly remain in obscurity and allow them to test the brunt of battle and take the consequences? The content with which our opponents treat us here is largely due to the moral cowardice of the Socialists themselves. Conviction that is not worth fighting for is not worth retaining. You can never expect others to respect your opinions until you respect them yourselves sufficiently to express them on every appropriate occasion."—J. P. McGee.

Result Ta'er / Ita.

During the last campaign I contested the Taber riding as a Socialist against a straight Liberal and a straight Conservative. We entered the race at the last possible hour owing to the difficulty encountered in collecting the necessary deposit. After the campaign was under way I made three speeches, and had a lot of organizing. The result was smaller than it otherwise would have been owing to the fact that we were unable to get our complete return, and that only four of the voters of the riding. We polled nearly 300 votes. I have seen the complete return, and it may be under that figure. It is significant that we got the votes where we were speaking; and as a general rule, the vote was in direct ratio to the amount of work.

This is the most encouraging sign. It shows that we will win just as soon as we can get our philosophy before the people.

We ran this campaign without any assistance from outside except that Miss Mushkin helped me one night. We'd purposely refrained from asking help, either money or speakers, for we wished to test our strength in the riding. We were a sort of sock taking party, and got a line on our progress.—T. Edwin Smith Yetwood, Alta.

Result in Alexandria, Alta.

The result of official count in Alexandria elections, Alberta, give

Conservative (returned) 478
Socialist (deposited) 297
Socialist (returned) 115

115 is a very big vote for this constituency. Everyone expected a small vote of between 200 and 300. This is one of the best results we have had. The Liberals attempted to disenfranchise us by unfair location of the polls, but we were able to travel great distances to vote. Another step toward disenfranchisement was a clause in the Election Act which forbids anyone to vote outside his own polling district without his enumerator's certificate. As a result only five are allowed from one division; whereas previously we have been allowed to vote where we pleased in the riding on taking oath. V. P. Moran, Sec. Pub. Committee, Kitchissippi, Alta.

No. They Did Not Get It

In 1912 the Council of Stratford, Ont., granted to a sectarian body the sum of \$300 for its social work. Taking this as precedent the Societalists of Stratford sent a petition to the city authorities asking for \$300 to carry on its propaganda. The conclusion of the petition read as follows:

"As a precedent for this petition, we would remind the worshipful mayor and aldermen, that the city council of 1912 did grant to a sectarian body a sum of \$300 and the doctrine is advanced that that body are more or less repellent to such citizens as may be Agnostics, Brahmins, Catholics, Jews, Mohammedans or Hindus. Socialists in Canada are not such persons. Nevertheless, in the history of our country, thought and human action, has there been so many men and women, scattered over such a vast area of territory, speaking so many different languages, facing vastly different problems who have agreed in such great detail, as to be found in the International Socialist Party.

"It is resolved, that the petition the worshipful mayor and aldermen of the City of Stratford, on this 24th day of March, 1913, that a sum of not less than \$300 and the Societalists be granted to Stratford Local No. 57 of the Social Democratic Party of Canada, for the carrying on of their economic and social educational work."

The petition was read in council. Needless to say, the Socialist local was not granted \$300. They got nothing from the city representatives of the exploiting class.

How One Slave Died

REPORTED BY A FELLOW SLAVE.

You are sending Cotton's to E. Radford, Diamond City, Alta. (I suppose it is a lack of funds which prevents you moving to Ontario). He is right. I would like to move to Ontario. I feel it to be to the best interests of the movement in Canada. The question of funds stands the way it does.

Galt, so far seems to be the most likely place, with building, etc. But the question of funds forbids as yet. No doubt the Galt unions would contribute a part of the moving expenses.

Now, comrades, it is for the party to decide. First, do the Socialists of Canada want Cotton's in Ontario; second, if so, what shall be the future home of the paper, and third, how the funds are to be provided to pay the moving expenses.

Cotton's is willing to move just as soon as you want us to move.

Would you like to join Cotton's Book Club? Send for one of our new Book Catalogs. It will tell you many things that are valuable for propaganda.

Moving to Ontario

Comrade H. Martin of Berlin, in a recent communication, "I suppose it is a lack of funds which prevents you moving to Ontario." He is right. I would like to move to Ontario. I feel it to be to the best interests of the movement in Canada. The question of funds stands the way it does.

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Would you like to join Cotton's Book Club? Send for one of our new Book Catalogs. It will tell you many things that are valuable for propaganda.

The May Day parades throughout the world were the grandest that have ever been.

SLAVERY IN CANADA

The Dominion government has taken on the cash requirements and other restrictions of railway construction workers coming to Canada to assure work.

The plea out forth is that there is a tremendous railway construction work to be done and the workers in Canada are not numerous enough to do it.

This is not the real reason. The reason is that the men near the scenes of construction know the horrible conditions and get out. So the employers go far afield with glowing advertisements to lure the slaves into their horrible camps. Borden, of course, being the lickspittle of the master class, has his government do its best to help the beasts of profit get in their ghoulish work. He prates of patriotism and practises slavery.

The following letter shows the conditions which force the railway contractors to go far for their slaves.

CONDITIONS IN THE CAMPS

I would like to have this published in your valuable paper, how the men are treated on the Grand Trunk Pacific construction gangs, working for Fuley, Welch and Stewart, contractors. This is from an I.W.W. organizer, in his own words.

"I went in from Edmonton to organize for the I.W.W. I found bunkhouses that were not fit for dogs to stay in. The men were not allowed to sleep on. They were laying on the bare ground in all the lower bunks, and on rough logs for the upper bunks, in the worst condition possible. Some had contracted diseases, and were unable to move. I paid for one poor fellow to have him removed to the hospital; but he never got there. He died on the road. I found that the men were taxed \$11 per month for hospital fees, but when they got sick or got badly hurt there was nothing done to have them sent to the hospital, and if they laid in for a few days they were told to get out by the boss.

"I saw one man who had cut his foot badly, and could not move. He had been told that if he wanted to go to the hospital he had better bring his own money. He was laid out for a month for hospital fees, but when they got sick or got badly hurt there was nothing done to have them sent to the hospital, and if they laid in for a few days they were told to get out by the boss.

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S. D. P. Bulletin

Dominion Executive Committee, Social Democratic Party of Canada, Berlin, Ont., April 7th, 1913.

Regular meeting, Members present, Morrish, Quirnbach, Allister and the chair. Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read. Correspondence dealt with from B. C. Exec. Com. 2; East Selkirk; Dorion; 2; Cotton's Weekly, 4; Orillia; Calgary; Paradise Valley; Lussigny; Cobalt; Wadena; 2; Kenora; Meadow Spring, N.S.; Manitowish; Ukrainian Exec.; Porcupine Miners' Union; Veteran; Cobalt; Winnipeg; Polish; Kenora; P. Q.; South Porcupine; Finnish Exec.; O. L. Charlton; Port Arthur; Toronto; Wadena; 2; Hesperus; Sarcello; Falls; St. Catharines; Lindsay; West Toronto; Brockville; Pitoc; Westport; and other matters.

Comrade Morrish presented a report on the Cobalt April 23rd with wages \$12 a week and all expenses. That is, wages \$12 a week and all expenses. Matter for the province to deal with as per contract. That the charter was granted to Ukrainian comrades of Port William as Local No. 9. Received \$25. Expenses \$20.85. That the donations of Cobalt, \$25; Porcupine, \$15; Silver Centre, \$10; Wadena, \$10; and other matters. Ad. \$25.00 advanced Comrade Wayman. Ad. \$25.00 to meet May 5th.—H. Martin, Secretary D.E.C.

Rotten Conditions for Construction Workers

Fair Wage Officer J. D. McNeven, of the Department of Labor, Ottawa, has passed through here investigating the conditions of the working men on this line, partly at the request of the royal commission of Italy to Canada, but more because of the conditions of the construction workers of the World, who, by the way, are beginning to make themselves heard by the captains of big business here.

Did McNeven go into the bunkhouses he would have found the most rotten conditions known. No ventilation, dirty, full of vermin, and the men packed like herrings in a barrel. No water, so many of them got sick. But only serious cases were admitted to the hospital, such as broken bones. Frozen cases, the rest had to be satisfied with a few pills, although some of their cases were very bad.

So those trying to get out had no sport. The snow was from four to six feet deep, heavy and cold. The temperature was below zero, and meals from 50 cents to one dollar. Many workers were sick with the winter grippe. They got out, were without any money, and had to go back to the camps. It is to be hoped that the false statement as to living conditions made by the Dominion government, which is the capitalist press, will waken up the workers that they will vote for a man to represent themselves, and not for a lickspittle who will always be against them.—C. J. Willow River, B. C.

HOW TO KICK

A new sixteen-page pamphlet by Robert Rivers, which is very interesting because it explains the necessity of the Kick Political as well as the economic. Every worker should have a copy of this author is suggestively good. Single copy, 1 cent; ten copies for 25 cents. Postpaid.

World Notes

Appeals to Many People

The Russian employers are attempting to introduce the American Taylor "efficiency" system.

The annual congress of the Socialist Party of Holland was recently held in Utrecht. The membership in the party increased in the last two years, from 16,000 to 17,000.

The largest and one of the most centralized trade unions in the world is the German Metal Trades Union, with 236,454 male members, 27,876 female members and 17,247 members in the juvenile section, a total of 381,577.

Brazilian experts in many European towns are making feverish efforts to get workers for their country. The 238 mate is murderous through yellow fever, malaria, etc. A new railway 228 miles long has been constructed but 16,000 workers have died on the job.

Sun Yat Sen fears that China is on the verge of a more terrible revolt, this time against the schemes of President Yuan Shi Kai. He is warning the powers not to lend money to the present government, which will be used to stifle the democratic aspirations of the people.

In Nikolayev (Southern Russia) 5,000 shirt workers laid down their tools upon their demand for the dismissal of one of the factory policemen who had increased his workman without any real vocation, being refused. The strike ended a week later in complete success for the workers.

The first annual report of the Chile Socialist Party has been issued. The party was organized in June, 1912, when 24 branches of the old democratic party broke away to establish a Socialist party. For the time being the movement was confined to Iquique and a few other towns.

The labor paper which is owned by the Socialist Party and by the Federation of Trade Unions of Bulgaria, and which collapsed at the beginning of the war, has again been revived. All hail to the paper which is so valuable to the workers. It is now being reconstructed by the Bulgarian labor movement.

The Carnegie Peace Commission has come to America to plan for the celebration of the hundred years of the independence of Great Britain and America. A meeting in Hyde Park, Ben Tillet declared that he never saw a more miscellaneous or corrupt mission sent to this country. It is financed by Carnegie which comes from the sanguinary hands of a man who has crushed the labor at Homestead. His remarks met with a frantic approbation.

The Social Democrats of lower Austria recently held their annual conference in Vienna. From their report it appears that the Vienna municipal elections have increased from 50,000, 1900, to 119,000, and the party has now 2,746 women in 1911, while in the 21 branches of the party in Vienna have a membership of 42,536 men and 3,383 women. The party has 2,617 men and 2,746 women in 1911, while in the 21 branches of the party in Vienna have a membership of 42,536 men and 3,383 women. The party has 2,617 men and 2,746 women in 1911, while in the 21 branches of the party in Vienna have a membership of 42,536 men and 3,383 women.

American Notes

Recruits are Needed

4,000 silk weavers have walked out in Hudson County, N. J., in sympathy with the striking mill workers of Paterson, N. J.

Mayor Witten, of Jersey City, has refused to allow Bill Haywood to speak in that city, declaring that riots and disturbances generally have followed his visits to the city.

Twenty-five thousand striking silk workers in Paterson, N. J., who had been on strike for ten weeks, paraded on May 1st in the streets of Paterson. They were led by Bill Haywood, who had been arrested, including Bill Haywood.

It is being said that the Bread Trust is working out a well laid plan to penetrate its ranks with spies, the officials of the Bakers' Union, international and local, are being approached by the trust. It is being said that the Bread Trust is working out a well laid plan to penetrate its ranks with spies, the officials of the Bakers' Union, international and local, are being approached by the trust. It is being said that the Bread Trust is working out a well laid plan to penetrate its ranks with spies, the officials of the Bakers' Union, international and local, are being approached by the trust.

Recruits are Needed

For the Bundles Boosters, Cotton's should be sending three times the number of Bundles that are now going out. The active readers of Cotton's could take a bundle of at least four a week and use them as sample copies to be sent to the people in their districts and towns should club together and get a good-sized bundle and send it to the Bundles Boosters. Cotton's should always be supported by a bundle of Cotton's to be sold and given to the people.

We have all kinds of bundles for all lengths of time. So there is nothing to be afraid of. The Bundles Boosters should always be supported by a bundle of Cotton's to be sold and given to the people.

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Toronto Socialist Sunday School

Dear Comrade—The Toronto S.D.P. as it is well known, ran a Socialist Sunday school. What is perhaps not so well known is that this school is not an ordinary Sunday school. It is a school of the regular attendance of young children, and lack the considerable support of adult workers. The school is run by a few of our most promising scholars who have formed themselves into a Socialist Club and intend to do great things for Socialism in Toronto.

With lectures, debates, and a strong support of the adult workers' movement, their numbers as to stimulate and regenerate the Sunday school, and consider the Socialist Club and intend to do great things for Socialism in Toronto.

The Toronto movement may draw in only one of the many ambitions, and soon to be realized schemes of the Young Socialists Club have under hand. The Young Socialists meet on Sunday at 3 p.m. in the Plunkett hall, 24 Adelaide St. West. For the Book and Education—Frank Kabbs.

Join the 1917 Club and be in the vanguard.

FINANCES OF COTTON'S

Our receipts for the month of April last were as follows:

Subs, sub cards, etc. \$332.25
Advertising 18.68
Job printing 167.52
Sale of stock 142.10
Total \$640.55

Total \$640.55

It will be noticed that the receipts for subscriptions and the sale of the paper form over two-thirds of the revenues of Cotton's.

Since April the receipts from the distribution of Cotton's as a Socialist paper amounted to \$200. In March, the month previous, the receipts from this source amounted to \$200. This marks the decline in activity among the subscribers. During April the debt hanging over Cotton's rose by about \$300.

This condition portends grave complications unless remedied. You can remedy it by getting those subscriptions you were going to get, but have put off. You can buy subscription cards. You can contribute to the battery or take a bundle.

EXCHANGES ON CHECKS.

If checks are sent as remittances to Cotton's the remittance should be added to the amount.

THOUSANDS SELLING

War, What For? Kirspatrick \$1.15
12 Lectures and Essays, Ingraham 75c
Lectures and Essays, Voltaire 75c
Origin of Species, Darwin 75c
Middle-class, Emerson, Haeckel 75c
Evolution of Man, Haeckel 75c
—Postage Paid—

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COULD BE CURED

I Will Prove It to You Free

You who are suffering the tortures of Eczema, Itch, Salt Rheum, or other skin diseases—You whose days are miserable hours of itching, burning pain, and sleeplessness, bearing treatment which has cured hundreds, which I believe will cure you. I will send it free, postage paid, without any obligation on your part. Just fill the coupon below and mail it to me, or write me, giving your name, age and address. I will send the treatment free of cost to you.

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TU QUOQUE

The tu quoque argument is a favorite one at Ottawa these days. Tu quoque is simply Latin for "You're another."

Coderre, whom Borden had picked to be one of his cabinet ministers, ran in Hochelaga county, back of Montreal, and got elected.

Charges were preferred against him of having bribed and of having his agents vote illegally in the names of absentees and dead men.

The Hon. Doherty, Minister of Justice, and ex-judge of the Quebec province, who is noted for being able to say the least of anyone in the most words (perhaps this is the reason Borden made him Minister of Justice) got up in the House and said that under the Liberal regime the same kind of charges were made and the Liberals refused investigation.

Here is another case. Charges were made that a homestead near or in Prince Albert, worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, was disposed of by the government with the connivance of the Hon. Robert Rogers for ten dollars an acre.

Rogers got up in the House of Commons and did not attempt to refute the charges. He simply said such deals were common under the Liberal regime. He used the "you're another" argument, which seems to be the favorite style of disapproving accusations at Ottawa.

Undoubtedly Doherty and Rogers are right. Undoubtedly the Liberals are just as big crooks as the Tories. Undoubtedly the Liberals passed iniquitous legislation and put through deals which smelled of high heaven of corruption.

This but means that we have two sets of crooks at Ottawa. The one set of crooks are in, and the other set of crooks are out and want to get in.

As long as the common producing class will continue to vote for either of the two crooked parties, the tu quoque argument is a good one. If the Liberals prove charges against the Tories, the Tories reply to the people, "Yes, but the Liberals are just as bad, maybe worse."

The reason for the crooks in power is that our whole system of producing wealth is run by crooks in their own interest. The capitalist class is crooked. They live by stealing, which is protected by the laws made by their political crooks. Both parties are in their pay.

We propose to the common people, the victims of the crooks and their crook politicians, that they join us in abolishing the whole crooked game and make service the basis of reward instead of legalized robbery. This is the aim of Socialism.

And those interested in the crooked game tell the plundered victims that it is unwise to vote for the Socialists, but they should rather vote for one of the two crooks, both put up by the crook capitalists, SO AS NOT TO LOSE THEIR VOTES.

And the wonder is that the plea of the crooks is regarded as sensible by so many otherwise sensible workingmen.

The labor skinner of Winnipeg are protesting to loud heaven over the injustice they suffer. W. H. Reeve, who is an active spirit in the Trades and Labor Council of Winnipeg, has been appointed fair wage officer by the provincial government of Manitoba.

His duties are to see what is a fair wage to pay workmen employed on provincial government work, and see that the fair wage is paid. Naturally Reeve has been doing the best he could by the men, and the private employers find their slaves kicking for more pay to be on an equal plane with the government employes. The Winnipeg Board of Control and the Builders' Exchange and other capitalist concerns have been holding protest meetings and want Reeve dismissed. If one little fair wage officer can create such a commotion among the employing class, what a row they will raise when the workers send their representatives to the provincial and dominion law-making bodies. Hurry up, workingmen, and send them there and see your masters get the cramps in their pocketbooks.

For Sallow, Wrinkled, Freckled, Pimpled Skin

(From Woman's Home Journal.) If you have any sallow, blotchy, don't use paint, powder or anything else to cover it up. Too often this only emphasizes the defect. Besides, it's much easier to remove the discoloration with ordinary mercerized wax. Applied nightly, the wax will gradually remove freckles, pimples, blackheads, moles, patches, sallowness, red or yellow blotches, or any surface eruptions. The affected outside is absorbed a little each day, until the clear, soft, youthful and beautiful skin beneath is brought wholly to view. Ask the druggist for an ounce of mercerized wax and use this like you use cold cream. Remove in morning with soap and water. Many who have tried this simple and harmless treatment report astonishing results. If bothered with wrinkles or crow's feet, a wash lotion made by dissolving an ounce of powdered salicylic in a half pint with alcohol will prove remarkably effective.

The working class must free itself

The black-faced toiler is the hope of the world.

Under Socialism forts and arsenals will be swept away. There will be no need for them.

Socialism knows no boundary line. It is international, world-wide, and its precepts are impregnable.

Why do certain types of addressers desire to play at Ottawa when the session is on? Ask some of the old rascals you send there to represent you, Mr. Worker.

The capitalist press is the one last hope of capitalism. When muskets and artillery fail, the hired press will try to keep the wool drawn over the eyes of the workers.

Under the capitalist system the son and daughter of the worker are joint heirs to illiteracy, poverty and vice. The criminal masters who are the direct cause of the misery are often looked up to and revered.

Politicians are supposed to be the servants of the people. The Ottawa brand are the servants of the capitalists, and only think of the people once in four years, when they ask to be returned to power. And the people fall for it every time.

If a small portion of the fighting spirit displayed by the workers in slaughtering the workers of another country in the devilish contraption called war was utilized in fighting the beast of capitalism, the working class of the world would come into their own.

Socialism is not visionary scheme hatched by fanatics. It is a hard, common sense method of justice to every man or woman of the producing class—a thing which is impossible under the present system of exploitation.

Malcolm Fraser, an American artist, is depicting Christ in his pictures as a working man, a broad, strong son of toil. He is shocking a few persons. These pictures are significant of the times. The working class are rising to power and are re-creating the artistic conceptions of the past.

Karl Marx builded better than he knew. His hopes and aspirations are gradually being inoculated into the masses. His books are being read and studied more widely every year. The social upheaval is due at any time. Out of the masses will surely arise many another Marx. The toilers will demand their own. They will be invincible.

Sam Hughes thinks an armory a more useful structure than a school or library. He would like to see armories in every town on the border between Canada and the United States. Long years ago all the American forts on the border had the men removed from them. Sam has a depraved mind. He is behind the times. His fighting spirit belongs to the age of the battleaxe and two-handed sword of his ancestors.

Jail sentences used to have a deterrent effect. Now the "60 days hard labor" is laughed at by the worker. He knows that the prison labor is a jimmy pipe alongside what is forced to do outside the walls. His hours will not be long, he will get enough to eat, and a place to sleep, and the prison guards are too lazy themselves to urge anyone else to hurry. "But he loses his freedom," you say. He has no freedom to lose, and he knows it, therefore accepts his sentence with a chuckle.

Motor cars are a great aid to the Socialist cause. Bent and toiled workers slouching home after a day's slaving have their eyes blinded and their lungs filled with the dust and stench of the buzz-wagons of their masters. The workers are getting poorer, the masters are getting richer, and flaunting their ill-gotten luxuries before the eyes of the working class. This is causing the worker to think, and the more he thinks the more dangerous it is to the capitalist robbers. The masters are forcing the workers into a corner, and they are due to get the worst of it.

"They are a bunch of clock-watchers," said a factory manager of his men recently. Well, why wouldn't they? The men referred to worked a sixty-hour week, and under the speeding-up system at that. These men have been reading Socialist literature for some time, and were beginning to understand just how many hours' labor they presented to their employer each day. They knew that before the hands of the clock reached XII they had earned their little dole and that the remainder of the day's labor went to buy motor cars and fine clothes. There are a lot of people watching clocks these days.

Good jobs are being held out by the masters these days to writers to knock Socialism, and who will promise to try their best to stave off the inevitable co-operative commonwealth. These writers are making a sorry mess of it. They do not understand the most simple precepts of Socialism, therefore their vapors are a miscellaneous jumble of meaningless words and phrases. They try the old political trick of putting anything on paper, and without proving it, expect the workers to swallow it whole. But there are too many "show-me" people these days, and the hired writers can no longer pull the wool over the eyes of the masses with their babblings which a six-year-old child could see through.

Strikes are fought with a stubborn pertinacity and a spirit of resistance never before displayed, and the traditional conservatism of the toiling masses, which means dullness and inactivity, seems in a fair way of breaking up, as a knowledge of the fact of an irrepressible struggle of classes slowly but irresistibly penetrates the minds of the workers. Joshua Wanhope.

THE AIM OF SOCIALISM

(The following letter was published in the Montreal Witness of January 4th, 1913. It gives an outline of what Socialism aims at. This will give non-Socialists some idea of what we want. Comrade Smith wrote it with the view of reaching the non-Socialist. We also publish the Witness' editorial of same date. The difficulties conjured up by the Witness against Socialism are similar to those conjured up by feudal beneficiaries against capitalism. Yet capitalism triumphed. An intelligent working class who can create palaces and cannon and flying machines and rotary presses and the complex telephone system, surely have the brains to manage the distribution of the wealth flowing from their labor when they have seized the political power.)

To the Editor of the Witness: Sir—The charge is often made that Socialists spend most of their time and energy in fault-finding, instead of pointing a way to better conditions. It is sometimes said that while they claim to know a way to improve things they will not share their knowledge with others. There is a great deal of truth in both these charges, but the oversight is purely unconscious. They are so busy pointing out the fact that there is a need for a change that they forget that the other party will want to know what we intend to do before they are arrested in the evil of our present form of society. For the benefit of those who really want to learn more I will explain our plans for the reorganization of society.

HOW ALL WILL BECOME OWNERS

We intend to substitute collective working class ownership in all the agencies of production with democratic organization and control to the end that all the benefits of the industries and all the product of their labor shall go to the workers, and not to a group of non-productive parasites. To bring this about will not require any change in our methods of production; not a wheel will stop, not a man will be affected adversely except those who do not take an active part because changes will be made in the constitution of the boards of directors and in the method of distribution of the products of the factories.

Before I can show you how this will act I must ask you to notice our present organization of society and industry. To-day we have capitalist class ownership in the agencies of production. By agencies of production we mean all the railways, factories, mills, mines, land and machinery of distribution. I say capitalist class ownership because today private ownership in most of these institutions is a thing of the past. The joint stock company and the corporation is the plan upon which nearly all of them are organized. No one man as a rule owns a whole factory, though he may be the greatest shareholder. Lord Strathcona owns nothing in the whole C. P. R. system. He can not go into a round-house and carry away a monkey wrench, because it is not his. It may be that he owns the shares, but he shares in that monkey wrench, but there are nearly 25,000 other people who have a claim to it, and they must be consulted too.

THE CAPITALIST CLASS.

Second: as a rule no capitalist has all his resources tied up in one company, but he owns shares in several. For instance, there is one man in Calgary who owns shares in city subdivisions, a coal mine, C.P.R. shares, the main lumber company of Alberta, the cement trust, and, last, a system of country elevators. Another man, known as the Cattle King, owns shares in the meat packing plant that stands in his own name, but there are two million dollars outstanding that is owned by other capitalists. He also owns a chain of retail stores all over Alberta and British Columbia, shares in the C.N.R., lands all about the city, ranch lands all over Alberta, as well as numerous leases. He has shares in a silver mine in Mexico, a gold mine in British Columbia, and business blocks in half a dozen cities. These men are typical of the members of the capitalist class. They own only part of the various industries, and they own shares in many. The men of this type are all much alike, and the greater part of the ownership of this world is vested in such men. This section of the population called the Capitalist Class, constitutes about eight per cent of the total.

Now this class as a rule takes little or no part in actual production. From the diversified nature of their holdings it is impossible that they should. Any man who is able to take a part in the production of gold could not take any important part in the conduct of a railway. The greater portion of these men do not pretend to know anything about the various businesses in which they have their money invested. They hire salaried men to do this for them. To illustrate: Out of the 25,000 shareholders in the C.P.R., less than 2,000 live in Canada, and of this number only about 100 are connected with the actual conduct of that great corporation, therefore we see that as far as the actual operation of the railway as a servant of humanity is concerned, 24,900 of those shareholders are useless, and they could all die overnight and not a wheel in the shops would falter.

The members of this class elect certain of their members to act as an executive committee of each corporation. These are the directors. The duty of the directors is usually confined to voting approval of the plans prepared by the salaried employes, voting increases of stock and voting dividends. Once in a great while there is a man on the board of directors who knows the business, but the great majority will

admit that they know nothing about the business which they are paid to direct.

At regular intervals, either quarterly or yearly, the board of directors will be told how much money there is to the credit of the company, and they will decide to divide this surplus among the shareholders in proportion to the degree of ownership.

THE WAY IT WILL BE DONE.

Under Socialism the ownership in all the agencies of production by an Act of Parliament would be declared to be the property of the working class and the men engaged would be called upon to arrange for democratic organization and control of them. Positively no compensation will be given to the present holders. They will be compelled to take an active part in production or starve. This will not be confiscation. It will be restitution. All the wealth of the world is the product of the working class, and to declare it to be the property of the working class is but to rectify a mistake that should never have been made.

The workers of each industry in all probability will elect members of their own class to act on an executive board and direct the policy of the industries. They will be there in the place of the present board, with this difference: They will know something about their business and will be taking an active part in it. To illustrate:

The railway men will probably be the greatest single group. They will choose the executive board from among the different sections of the number of men employed, perhaps, one representative for each one thousand men. If the proportion of grades of employees remains the same as it is now the proportion will work out like this. Officers and general office clerks, 5; trackmen and sectionmen, 15; engineers and firemen, 9, etc. The machinery of the existing unions will perhaps be used to choose the first board. This board will meet and continue all the officers and superintendents in their positions and will direct the treasurer and other financial officers like this.

Go ahead and run the business as you have been doing in the past, only make your reports to this body and at the end of the year distribute the surplus on hand back among the men who have worked during the year in proportion to the amount of work they have done.

RUNNING RAILWAYS AND INDUSTRIES.

Suppose the C.P.R. were on this basis, let us see how it would work out. Last year the amount paid in dividends to those who did no work was 85 per cent, as great as the amount paid in wages to those who did all the work. Assuming the same wages were paid after the transfer as before the paying, officials would have a surplus at the end of the year equal to 85 per cent of the wages paid. This would be distributed among the men on the railway pay rolls in proportion to the amounts they had drawn during the year. A man on one of the extra gangs who had worked 300 days during the year at \$2 per day would receive 85 per cent of the amount of \$510. An engineer who had worked the whole year at an average wage of \$125 a month would receive \$1,275 in dividends, and the other workers in like manner.

All the industries would work on a similar plan. The principal duty of the central government would be to see that the workers engaged in one industry did not overcharge the workers in the others. The workers on the railways might in order to raise their wages raise freight rates unduly, and it would be the part of the central body to adjust prices and rates. They would do this on the basis of the human labor power necessary to produce an article. That is, an article that had required one hour's labor time to make, taking the average of all the men in the industry, would exchange in the market for another article that had required the same amount of labor time to produce. If a pair of overalls required one hour of the average man's labor and it took one hour to produce a bushel of wheat, then the two would exchange and everything else in proportion. This is nothing new. In fact, it is the fundamental basis of all prices charged for commodities today. In fact, if we examine society as it actually is today you can see that under a Socialist regime very little change would be made. The trend of evolution is preparing the structure for us to work on, and when the time comes to make the change we will find all the industries ready for us to take over.

WHAT THE FUTURE WILL DEVELOP.

No man can tell exactly how the change will come or exactly how the workers will organize industry, because no man can tell exactly how society will develop in the next 30 years. If the objectors will tell us the form industry will take we will map out the plan to fit, but it is impossible for him to do this, hence we can not answer his question. Who, thirty years ago, could have forecasted the growth and development of the Standard Oil Company or the Steel trust?

It is not necessary to put forth a definite scheme for the operation of the great tools of production under the Socialist regime. We know that the working class who are intelligent enough to create the aeroplane and the railway are intelligent enough to run them and utilize them to their own benefit. With this consciousness we go ahead, pointing out the evils of our present system and forecasting its inevitable breakdown and the consequent co-operative commonwealth.

If you publish this I shall know it came in answer to a distinct want. If you do not I shall know that you

dare not. Thanking you in anticipation, I remain T. EDWIN SMITH. Yetwood, Alta.

WHAT SOCIALISTS WANT

Editorial in Montreal Witness, Jan. 4th, 1913.

We thank Mr. Smith very much for having at last departed from the customary misanthropic fault-finding and setting before our readers what it is, as he understands it, that the Socialists think would be better than the present system of society. He seems to have thought that matter out further than any one who has written to us on the subject. We thought to have spared him the publication of his last sentence; but it also has its value in showing how he regards all men who are not Socialists as living in dread of him, and those who think with him. There may be some reason for such fear, in the case of those ancient systems that have a fear of men thinking for themselves. We could imagine some fear on the part of those business organizations which are drawing the various forms of business into monopolies; though so far as we have observed, these rather welcome Socialist ideas. Judge Gary, of the steel trust, who as much as any man represents the capitalist interests of the United States, is a constant advocate of various forms of government control as the natural antidote of monopoly. Railway management usually welcomes a railway commission as a body before which it can lay its case, and look for fair treatment. Yet the railway commission is one of the most Socialistic moves of our day. For ourselves, we have too much democratic faith in the saving 'common sense of most' to look forward to any such overturning as Mr. Smith so confidently threatens. There will be lots of experiments tried, and they will show what they are worth.

We ask our readers to study the scheme detailed by our correspondent, and do the hardest thinking they can about it, and ask themselves if they think its achievement would remove class legislation or the exploiting of the working man. Sundry questions will occur to them. It is generally understood that capital is necessary to carry on enterprises. Mr. Smith tells us how he would do his initial capitalization. He would simply confiscate that which is already invested. How would he obtain the means to create new enterprises? He proposes that the government of enterprises should be active, the constituency being the workmen. How would he prevent the control becoming the sport of adventurers, supposing human nature to remain as it is? He proposes to have the employees represented in the directorate in proportion to their numbers. How would he keep the more numerous class from working it in the interest of that class? He proposes that prices should be fixed by government. Just think what hauling there would be over each! The value of each thing would be the length of time it took to make it. This looks like a premium on slow production. Indeed, how are men to be induced to give their best labor and powers to their work? Who is to admit men or exclude them from any class of labor or to determine questions of promotion? We presume that the engineer who gets \$120 a month must spend it all on goods at prices determined by the government, or have it confiscated, like the means of previous capitalists, as a crime against society. We are not saying that we cannot foresee answers to such questions as these. We only note them and a few of those which will occur to the ordinary reader, new to Socialism, when he sets himself to thinking. It is for such to put on their thinking caps and think things out.

The spirit of discontent is rife among the working class. The masters quake with fear, for they are wise to the fact that the reign of capitalism will soon be at an end. Therefore battlements are built, garrisons are strengthened, troops are trained on land and sea, and the bestial, murderous war spirit fostered in every civilized (?) country under the sun. But all these preparations will be for naught. The spirit of Socialism is permeating the armies and navies of the world. At the appointed time the slave soldiers and marines will hurl their weapons away from them and join the invincible throng of emancipated slaves who have risen to claim their own. And who will say they nay? Not the masters, for they will crawl on their fat bellies to the workmen they have spurned, and beseech for that mercy which they themselves withheld to God's children under the dark domain of the King Capital they worshipped.

"If the church does not see the vision of the prophet, does not accomplish what is to be done in our country and in our time, then some one else will. The Socialist in the labor temple, perhaps, may rise to be the leader, and what a pitiful thing it would be if after all these years some other organization should strip the church." These were the words of Rev. R. F. Bowles, M.A., in the St. James Methodist Church, Montreal. Is not this a petty spirit? Rather than rejoice because the Socialists are forcing the church into the fight to improve conditions, Knowles considers it a pity. Rather he should rejoice that the labor temple is helping to right the wrongs of those who toil. When such petty spirit is shown in the church, is it any wonder the workers leave it?

Thousands of people are just on the verge of becoming Socialists. If you come over to your class it will be the means of bringing many others. Just try it and see.

Who will carry the bag hereafter," asks the Toronto Globe with regard to the Ontario graft charges. Why, the capitalist class, of course, as long as the wage slaves will let them.

RUSSIANIZED BRITAIN

We rely upon political activity to accomplish our aims.

But suppose we have not the vote. Suppose we have no manner of registering our desires. What then?

The women of Great Britain want the vote. They do not want the vote just to have it as a plaything. They want it to oppose the oppression of women through the public powers of the state. They want it to put women on a political basis with men so that the double standard of morality now in vogue may be done away with and to the end that the thousand and one inequalities in the eyes of the law between the sexes may be abolished.

They have not the vote, and the first thing the women do is to demand this fundamental right. It is refused them.

What course is left? The only course that the oppressed of all ages have attempted, violence and force. Hence militancy is born. The legislators and the judges and the public powers do not do the proper thing, remove the wrong from which militancy flows. They adopt repressive tactics. They shut the women up and torture them. They raid their homes. They institute the horrible barbarism of Russia, domestic visits. They suppress their newspapers. They prevent their public meetings.

So far as women are concerned, Great Britain has been Russianized. We look upon Russia with horror. We think that the people have not the right to vote and consider Russia to be barbarous in her suppression of the political rights of the people.

Great Britain is barbarous in her suppression of the political rights of the women. But somehow we don't seem to see the injustice of it.

We call Great Britain the land of liberty and our legislators are giving thirty-five millions of dollars to protect this land of liberty which tortures women, invades their homes, and denies them the elementary rights of twentieth century humans, and we think it is all right.

Verily the days of hypocrisy and bluff and double dealing are with us, and no doubt will continue until the common producers rise in their united might to overthrow existing conditions.

PROTECTING LIBERTY

Our legislators are busy at Ottawa giving away \$35,000,000 for three ships to protect the British Empire and the liberty it accords the people within its borders.

In another column we publish an account of the Putumayo horrors. These horrors were and are perpetrated for the benefit of a British commercial company with head office in London.

The same article lifts a little of the curtain which hides the horrors of indentured native labor practised within the British empire.

A correspondent writes from our Canadian West about the conditions of labor in the construction camps of the Grand Trunk Pacific.

In Cumberland, B.C., miners are evicted from the shafts they have built themselves, because they dare go on strike against their slavery.

The Liberty which exists under the British flag is a myth. It does not exist. This all the politicians know.

But they pretend there is liberty, and hypocritically talk about the glorious freedom we possess. It seems to go with the unthinking voters and keeps the politicians in their jobs.

And still the capitalist papers fool you with their lies and falsifications. Still they print columns for you about things that never happened, and nothing at all about things that did happen. Still they toady and bow and scrape to the capitalist class, and still you buy their polluted rubbish, and think you are getting your money's worth. The capitalists are firm believers in the efficacy of printers' ink, and their wallet is always open to the press who respond to their demands.

Do you want to be a Socialist and are frightened at what people think? Remember that the average person is just as frightened of what you may think of him as you are of his opinion. Announce your Socialism boldly, and people will admire you in their hearts.

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