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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 element" 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," of 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 wagons 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 toiled 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 cause to fear and be startled. 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 flaming 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.

Well may the livers upon the labor of others view the situation with alarm.

May Day in Nova Scotia was ushered in by labor unrest. At New Glasgow the men of the Albion and MacGregor Collieries struck work for the recognition of the recently established branch of the United Mine Workers of America. The returned to work pending an investigation by the Lemieux Conciliation Act for the peaceful chloroforming of rebellious slaves. At Sydney the painters for the Rhodes Curry Co. went out for a nine hour day and \$3 per day. Also the carpenters of Sydney went out. The quarrymen at Armdale and Smith's Corners are out. The Halifax Tramways employees have demanded an advance in wages. These strikes show the rebellious spirit of the slaves. A little more class consciousness among them and they will rush their legislators to Halifax and take over the control of the places in which they work.

Strikes occurred on May Day in Toronto among the construction iron workers, the cabinet makers, the glass workers, and the plasterers' laborers. The men say that with the increase in the rents and the high cost of living they cannot live on their present wages. If the workers of Ontario should capture the Ontario legislature they could confiscate the land and buildings now owned by the landlords and abolish the rents. They could seize the control of the slave pens and let the workers produce for use and not for profit, thus cutting down the cost of living and raising the rate of earnings of the working class by all that now goes in rent, interest, profit and waste under capitalism.

The J. W. Heweston Company, Ltd., Toronto, manufacturers of children's and misses' shoes, is going to Montreal. Seventy-five employees struck suddenly for a ten per cent. advance in wages. So Mr. Heweston is going to Montreal and have nice, peaceful slaves work for him. Unhappily for his dreams, the unrest in Montreal is just as bad as in Toronto. Heweston might as well make up his mind that the days of his robbery of the working class are numbered. The little job in his pocketbook through a ten per cent demand for increased wages is as nothing to the jobs that are coming to him and his class through political Socialism.

How the capitalists hate to dig their own graves!

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 sabotage. 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 Socialists are the workers who are 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 fittest and best? Or do you think four 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.

The training camps of the Canadian militia during the months of June and July will be scantily attended. The authorities declare that 50,000 will be under canvas, but we can assure the capitalist class that there are not so many fools who are willing to have their bodies stuck full of bayonet holes to protect the revenues of a Pellatt, a Forget, a Jothin, or a Strathcona. If the rebels feel that anybody is going to rob them of their legalized stealings, let them put their own carcasses in danger.

The Liberals at Ottawa are objecting strenuously to the gag rules the Tories are putting through. In Nova Scotia the Liberals have been in power for many years. At Halifax there is a gag rule worse than the Tory one at Ottawa. It was put into the rules by that great Liberal ex-Minister Fielding. The hypocrisy of the capitalist parties is so apparent that it is a wonder any honest man votes for them.

I must confess I believe that if by some juggling with space and time Julius Caesar, Napoleon, Edward IV, William the Conqueror, Lord Roseberry and Robert Burns had all been changed at birth, it would not have produced any serious dislocation of the course of destiny. I believe that these great men of ours are no more than images and symbols and instruments taken, as it were, haphazard by the incessant and consistent forces behind them; they are the pen-nibs into which the writing of the diamonds upon the drill that pierces through the rock. And the more one inclines to this trust in forces the more one will believe in the possibility of a reasoned inductive view of the future that will serve us in politics, in morals, in social contrivances and in a thousand spacious ways.—H. G. Wells.

Socialism is an economic and political movement, and does not interfere with morality only where economic conditions make people immoral, and thus leaves the churches plenty of room to use their influence in the spiritual realm.

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 labor comrades, Miss Sheffer and Miss Rosenstone.

Headed by a brass band of twenty-five pieces, the majority of the players being Socialists, the parade ended 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.

There was no hostility by the workmen who lined the streets as the procession passed. There was much sympathy shown the marchers. Some of those in the parade recalled the May Day Demonstration two or three years ago, when even the little children thought it their privilege to hurl missiles at the red marchers.

At the Colonial Hall, Clark street, a dance was held and refreshments served after the speaking. In another room Socialist speeches were made to a crowded audience.

If but one year ago a thousand listened on the Champs de Mars to the speakers and this year ten thousand gathered and applauded, what will not be the sentiment a year from now?

The great and outstanding feature was the number of young men and young women who took part. The new generation arising is Socialist.

There was no disorder, no disturbances. The young ladies conducted a tag day and were in no wise molested by the police. This shows that Socialism has arrived as a serious movement and one the authorities dare not attempt to suppress.

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

The dawn is breaking into broad day.

Capital in control. Capital is the means used to exploit labor. This means that the owners of capital will not operate mills, etc., unless they can skin the working class. A factory will not be operated unless it can be made to show unearned revenues for its owners. A railroad cannot show graft for its owners will be sold or abandoned. Houses which do not bring in a revenue will be allowed to fall into decay.

Yet you are not allowed to enter into a vacant house and live in it. The owner would eject you. A group of workers cannot go and operate an idle factory. The capitalist owners would arrest you for trespass.

Socialists say they want the means of production operated by the producers without rent, interest or profit going to the capitalist class. This sounds ridiculous to the capitalists. They say that it is impossible. Factories won't run, railroads will rust, and the people will starve in the midst of plenty.

What they say will not happen at all. But the capitalists cannot look at the problem with common sense. They cannot imagine themselves not owning the establishments.

Of course, as long as capitalists own, they will allow the places to rot down if they cannot derive rent, interest and profit from them. Socialists say that rent, interest and profit will be abolished and the capitalists think the means of production will rot.

Will it do no such thing. For the Socialists will take the ownership away from the capitalist class and vest it in the collective working class. Then the workers can run the mills, mines, railways, etc., and they can run them even if no rent, interest and profit is paid.

When the capitalists get hard up they shut down their mills and produce a panic. But under Socialism there will be no hard times, for the factory doors will always be open to the workers and bakers bread and make shoes and bake bread and mine coal, and no master class stricken with fear will be around to say them nay.

The capitalist owners may just as well make up their minds now as later, that their bugaboo tales can only make the shivers crawl up and down their own backs.

You, as a worker, produce say \$10 a day worth of wealth. You get \$2.50 per day of it, if you are lucky. Out of this \$2.50 say you save with much hard work a couple of hundred dollars. The Socialists ask you to join them and work so that the working class may get the full social value of what they produce. The capitalists, to frighten you, say we want you to divide up with us your poor little \$200. Nothing of the kind. We want to give you the full social equivalent of the \$10 worth of wealth you create each day. Under such a system you could save \$5,000 as easily as you can \$200 now. The capitalists get the greater part of what you produce, and then try to frighten you against it by saying we want to make you divide up. They know this is not true, but lie to you because it pays them to deceive you.

A Socialist candidate in Ontario went to his slave work the day the elections were being held. His conduct surprised the old party heeler. Why was he not out campaigning? Why was he not rounding up the weak-kneed followers? This candidate was not seeking office. He was as it were taking a census of the Socialists in the riding. He knew that every Socialist would vote for him, and he was not looking to get a big vote by silly conduct. That is the way Socialists act. That is why their vote is so impressive. It is a solid vote which knows what it wants and will be content with nothing else.

The moving picture show is working a revolution in people's thoughts. The fine palaces and wonderful gowns and extravagance of the master class are pictured in part. These scenes sink into the brains of the children and young people, and they are no longer contented with their poor pay and poor surroundings. They want more so they can spend more. Divine discontent wakes within them. This is good.

Every new election causes uneasiness among those who live by the labor of others.

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 pitied 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 pitied 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.

Under protection the cost of living is high. Wages therefore rise in proportion.

If reciprocity reduced the cost of living by flooding Canada with foreign commodities which sold for less money, then the employers of labor within Canada would have to sell their goods for less, and THEY WOULD CUT WAGES TO THE COST OF LIVING.

The workers would get a living wage only under either system. The master class would get similar profits in either case—that is all the workers produce beyond what it costs them to live.

This is the great issue which divided the two old parties at the last election. Was it not a great question? And many workers left for it in parliament in that election. These workers told their fellow workers that as long as the employing class controlled the wages paid the master class would get all the surplus the workers created. These candidates wished the producing class to send their own members to Ottawa to make the laws so that the working class should enjoy the wealth they create.

But the great majority of the workers, led by the able yahoos who were running in the interests of the capitalists, were too wise to listen to any such foolish arguments. No. The great question before them was whether they should cut the cost of living and their wages twenty per cent., or have the cost of living and their wages remain as they now are.

This was the great issue, and the wise working class resolved to remain slaves under the guidance of the Conservative party to the profit, ease, luxury and arrogance of the owners of capital.

Last year 3,865 railway employees were killed and 130,158 injured, on American railways. On account of this growing danger from accidents, the "safety first" movement has been started among employees. The adjusters state that from 60 to 90 per cent of the accidents were due to carelessness by those handling traffic. Of course the workers are alone to blame. They are supposed to be to blame for running too many trains on a single track and being forced to work too many hours without proper rest. According to railway rules they can "book rest" after working a given number of hours, but if the railway worker tries to make the company live up to this rule, he usually gets all the "rest" he wants.

Seven hundred men employed by the McKinnon Dash and Metal Works at St. Catharines, Ont., struck work on May Day. The men wanted a regular pay day. The practice has been to pay the men four times a month, but upon no regular day. When the men went out, the foundry men left a large quantity of metal, valued at \$2,900, in the furnaces and declined to run it off. This is sabotage pure and simple. It is what the striking workers have practised more or less since strikes began. Only when we name it and describe it, it causes a great flurry and fear among the employing class.

The machine produces the type of civilization. Have you ever tried to picture the future the aeroplane is preparing for us? The air craft is wiping out international boundaries. Frontiers will vanish before it. An aeroplane has travelled a thousand miles in twelve hours. And the air craft is just in its infancy. The elimination of frontiers will do away with customs houses and international jealousies. It will help bring about the world peace.

Numerous instances can be cited of two or more lodges of the same society in the same town or city holding nothing in common. They belong to the same society and are under the same laws and constitution, but the great dividing wall of class is between the two. The oaths and vows are pure hypocrisy.

Here is a case: In the town of Oshawa, Ont., are two lodges of Oddfellows, both strong in numbers. The Corinthian lodge is composed of professional men, merchants, and the class who are more or less on Easy Street. Phoenix, the other lodge, has on its roster the black-faced mechanics of that great industrial town. They are the slaves of the malleable iron works, the McLaughlin Co., the Pedlar People, the piano factory and other great pens. These two lodges of Oddfellows are far apart as the Orange and the Knights of Columbus. The members do not fraternize, they "knock" each other and entirely forget their protestations of Love, Friendship and Truth. In the Phoenix Lodge the bread and butter question is paramount; in the Corinthian Lodge the members seek the best means to make an easy living off the efforts of the working class, among whom are their brother Oddfellows of Phoenix lodge.

We cannot build a brotherhood bond against economic interests. Where a member goes into the lodges and takes their pretensions for truth, he gets sadly left in the end. While he is in his delusion, his true position in society as a slave or as a slave driver is obscured.

I knew a working class candidate who was a Mason. He ran for Parliament and he thought his fellow Masons would support him. They did not.

As long as rent, interest and profit lasts, the workers will be robbed, and the capitalists will rob. How can a worker and a capitalist, the victim and the thief, be united into any true brotherhood bond through any fraternal society? It is an impossibility.

The capitalists are forced to concentrate and monopolize and organize industry. The capitalist who lags behind goes bankrupt. But the very process of organizing industry, when it is completed, renders the capitalist unnecessary. He becomes simply a drawer of unearned revenues and is ready to be thrown off whenever the useful members of society so decide.

Calgary, Alta., will probably establish a municipal foundry to escape from the excessive rates charged the city. If municipal foundries why not municipal bakeries and tailors shops and municipal banks and public credit and municipal houses to get ahead of the landlord? All the public services could be run without paying toll to the capitalist class just as soon as the people want it so.

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 scientific and revolutionary literature in my quest after truth. Probably you could name the book I have failed to read. At any rate give us your opinion at your earliest convenience. Very truly yours—D.H.F.

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 unearned revenues. 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 a 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.

In Cowansville I have had some quiet amusement watching the various members of the Free Masons, and how they pulled together or apart, and how they try to work their society for business. I have watched the same thing in country churches.

A Visionary Brotherhood

Numerous instances can be cited of two or more lodges of the same society in the same town or city holding nothing in common. They belong to the same society and are under the same laws and constitution, but the great dividing wall of class is between the two. The oaths and vows are pure hypocrisy.

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C.N.R. NEEDS FORTY MILLIONS

The gentlemen who own the Canadian Northern Railway need forty million dollars more for their business. Where will they get it? Why, from the government, of course.

A press despatch says: The situation has been explained to Mr. Borden, upon whom it has been urged that the company is as much entitled to a loan now as the C.P.R. and G.T.P. were in past years. The greatly increased cost of construction, more particularly in British Columbia, has, it is said, made it impossible for the company to raise more money on bonds under the present financial conditions.

The application of the company for a cash or direct loan has the backing of strong financial interests. It is proposed that the government grant the Canadian Northern magnates a cash gift of \$15,000,000 and a guaranteed loan of \$25,000,000. The last clause of the press despatch is very impressive. Strong financial interests back the application. Sounds big and unselfish like. Business, you know, must be protected.

The "strong financial interests" who want this assistance given the C.N.R. are the interests of the five gentlemen who practically own and control the Canadian Northern Railway. The following is a partial list prepared by the Grain Growers' Guide, showing the various companies in which the five gentlemen, Mackenzie, Mann, Hanna, Lash, and Nicholls, are interested, and the paid up capital of each.

SIR WILLIAM MACKENZIE:

President Canadian Northern Railway	\$70,000,000
Vice-President P. Burns and Company, Limited	7,600,000
Dir. Canadian General Electric Company, Limited	7,600,000
Dir. Canadian Northern Railway	1,500,000
Dir. Dominion Steel Corporation, Limited	42,550,000
Dir. Dominion Securities Corporation, Limited	42,550,000
Dir. Imperial Trust Company, Limited	450,000
Dir. National Trust Company, Limited	450,000
Dir. Shawinigan Water and Power Company, Limited	10,000,000
Dir. Standard Lumber Company of Canada, Limited	4,000,000
Dir. Toronto Electric Light and Power Company, Limited	4,000,000
Dir. Toronto Street Railway Company, Limited	10,500,000
Dir. Toronto and York Radial Railway Company, Limited	2,000,000
Dir. Winnipeg Electric Railway Company, Limited	6,000,000
Chairman Rio de Janeiro Tramway, Light and Power Company, Limited	40,000,000
Total	\$246,658,183

Z. A. LASH, K.C., LL.D.

Vice-President Canadian Bank of Commerce	\$15,000,000
Vice-President Mexico Tramways Company	6,875,000
Vice-President National Trust Company, Limited	1,500,000
Vice-President Rio de Janeiro Tramway, Light and Power Company, Limited	40,000,000
Vice-President Sao Paulo Tramway, Light and Power Company, Limited	40,000,000
Dir. Bell Telephone Company of Canada, Limited	13,902,800
Dir. British America Assurance Company, Limited	1,400,000
Dir. Magann Air Brake Company, Limited	19,585,000
Dir. Montreal Railway, Light and Power Company, Limited	4,000,000
Dir. Toronto Electric Light and Power Company, Limited	4,000,000
Dir. Western Assurance Company, Limited	2,500,000
Dir. Western Canada Flour Mills Company, Limited	1,500,000
Dir. Canadian Northern Railway	70,000,000
Dir. Niagara, St. Catharines and Toronto Railway Company, Limited	325,000
Total	\$220,930,230

SIR DONALD D. MANN:

Vice-President Canadian Northern Railway	\$70,000,000
Dir. Montreal Railway, Light and Power Company, Limited	4,000,000
Dir. Winnipeg Electric Railway Company, Limited	6,000,000
Total	\$80,000,000

D. B. HANNA:

Third Vice-President Canadian Northern Railway	\$70,000,000
First Vice-President Electric Light Company, Limited	4,000,000
Vice-President Canadian Northern Prairie Lands Company, Limited	1,500,000
Dir. Magann Air Brake Company, Limited	19,585,000
Dir. Western Assurance Company, Limited	2,500,000
Dir. British America Assurance Company, Limited	1,400,000
Dir. Canadian Bank Investment and Savings Company, Limited	1,175,353
Dir. Rio de Janeiro Tramway, Light and Power Company, Limited	40,000,000
Dir. Western Assurance Company, Limited	2,500,000
Dir. Western Canada Flour Mills Company, Limited	1,500,000
Dir. Winnipeg Electric Railway Company, Limited	6,000,000
Dir. Toronto and York Radial Railway Company, Limited	2,000,000
Total	\$139,004,353

FREDERICK NICHOLLS:

Pres. Toronto and Hamilton Railway Company	7,600,000
Vice-President and Gen. Mgr. Canadian Foundry Company, Limited	7,600,000

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We have a New Method that cures Asthma, and we want you to try it at our expense. No matter what your case is of long standing or recent development, whether it is present as occasional or chronic Asthma, you should send for a free trial of our method. No matter in what climate you live, no matter what your age or occupation, if you are troubled with asthma, our method should relieve you promptly.

We especially want to send it to those apparently hopeless cases, where all forms of inhalers, douches, opium, preparations, fumes, "patent smokes," etc., have failed. We want to show everyone at our own expense, that this new method is designed to end all difficult breathing, all wheezing, and all those terrible paroxysms at once and for all time.

This free offer is too important to neglect a single day. Write now and then begin the method at once. Send no money. Simply mail coupon below. Do it today.

FREE ASTHMA COUPON

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Send free trial of your method to:

Pres. Canadian General Electric Company, Limited	7,600,000
Vice-President Canadian Northern Railway	70,000,000
Vice-President Electrical Development Company of Ontario, Limited	6,000,000
Vice-President Sao Paulo Tramway, Light and Power Company, Limited	40,000,000
Vice-President Toronto and Niagara Power Company, Limited	3,000,000
Vice-President Toronto Street Railway Company, Limited	2,000,000
Dir. British America Assurance Company, Limited	1,400,000
Dir. Canadian Northern Railway Company, Limited	70,000,000
Dir. Dominion Steel Corporation, Limited	42,550,000
Dir. Imperial Trust Company, Limited	450,000
Dir. Niagara, St. Catharines and Toronto Railway Company, Limited	325,000
Dir. Toronto Electric Light and Power Company, Limited	4,000,000
Dir. Toronto Street Railway Company, Limited	10,500,000
Dir. and Hon. Sec. London Electric Company, Limited	400,000
Total	\$131,056,393

These "strong financial interests" are of course backing the proposition to give themselves the control of \$40,000,000 more.

Why should they not get it? Is not Borden the executive head of the master class? Have these gentlemen not proved their right to the public through the way they have got their hands upon the business life of Canada?

As for the workingmen and working farmers, they have nothing to say with millions. It is their duty to work in the sphere in which they are placed, as wealth producers. It is the eminent right of the august gentlemen who control industry to take all the slaves produce above a bare living wage or income.

We Socialists want the working farmers and wage workers to capture the public powers so that the wealth created annually by the producing class may be controlled by the producing class.

This, no doubt, is nonsense. We need eminent gentlemen like the five mentioned above to live on us and take all our wealth we produce away from us. These gentlemen can handle millions upon millions and no harm is done, but for the common workingman or farmer to get five hundred or a thousand dollars a year more income, which he now produces and does not get, would no doubt break up the home, lead to free love, destroy religion and send our civilization hurtling back into barbarism. The anti-socialist writers, who get paid by eminent gentlemen who enjoy millions of Canadian revenues they do nothing to earn, say so and they ought to know.

CAPITALIST FARMING IN WEST

The price of farm equipment in the west for machine farming varies. Below, however, is the cost approximately of an outfit.

30-horse-power kerosene tractor	\$3,500
18-bottom plow	1,200
Disc harrow	45
Grain drill	50
Steel harrow (5 feet)	7
Wagon	10
Blender	45
Straw rack	25
Total	\$6,142

Many tractors, instead of one, are used on the big estates. The following are a few of the farmers who are using numerous tractors.

Tractors	
R. J. Middleton, Young, Sask.	5
Walter Land Co., Zealandia, Sask.	5
Fred. Egan, Saskatchewan, Sask.	6
Commercial West Growers Co., Kindersley, Sask.	7
Edward L. Rose, Harwell, Sask.	7
Gould and McGee, Armbrust, Sask.	7
Meadows, Man., Ont.	7
Total	42

Figure out how the penniless homesteader away from the railroads is going to compete with this machine production of wheat. The homesteaders are having a hard time of it.

The homesteaders see their handiwork and try to get into the machine game on credit. They have to pay high for their implements and high interest. They cannot meet their obligations.

The following commercial despatch from the west, published in the Toronto Globe, shows how the homesteading farmers are being put down and out.

Collections on implement paper in the western provinces maturing during the last six months have amounted only to from 35 to 40 per cent., varying according to district. In three or four years ago proportionally commensurate paper in the west redeemed when due has been steadily decreasing. This condition for some months now has been accompanied by the marked money stringency which has existed not only in the west, but also in eastern Canada.

The farmers cannot get along in good times, and when a little money tightness strikes them, they are forced to part with their farms.

Capitalism is taking away the little farmer's farm. It does the very thing which the standpat politicians say Socialism will do.

Study Socialism for yourself, and you will see it is the political movement you have been wanting.

In the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada held in Victoria in 1906 there were six reds who were Socialists. At Guelph in 1912 the Socialist delegates had grown to 87. How many Socialists will there be at the Montreal Congress next September?

The capitalist papers say Cotton's creates discontent. We hope it does. For the workers live in slavery, and true civilization cannot come to Canada until the workers become discontented with their slavery and rise and abolish it.

There is no slavery in Canada, oh no. Yet when an employer talks about the men who work in his factory he says, "My men." How can they be HIS men if there is no slavery?

The German Socialists polled four and a quarter million votes last election. What will their next vote be? That is what is worrying the Kaiser.

The married woman who is forced to live in the slums of the city has as good a right to vote to better her living conditions as her husband has. Does this not appeal to reason?

The White Man's Burden

By W. E. Hardenburg, in the New Review.

Among the most tragic of the many horrors that have cursed the human race under the baneful rule of Capital, nothing else can for a moment compare with the cruelty, lust and greed that have everywhere accompanied the contact of Europeans with the natives of the Tropics. It seems that under the goad of capitalist ambition, men who have had the advantage of modern education and the "moral benefits" of our Christian civilization, will readily throw off their humanity and yield to this insidious and demoralizing influence, which transforms them into veritable devouring beasts. And once the teeth of these human hyenas penetrate into the quivering flesh of their victims, it is almost impossible to make them loose their hold.

I. Take the case of the now notorious Putumayo atrocities. This series of monstrous crimes, far worse than anything reported from the Congo, according to the Chairman of the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines' Protection Society, was first exposed in Peru in 1907 by Benjamin Saldana Roca, a Peruvian Socialist, in the following words:

"They force the pacific Indians of the Putumayo to work day and night at the extraction of rubber without the slightest remuneration."

They rob them of their crops, their women and their children to satisfy the voracity, lasciviousness and avarice of themselves and their employees. They flog them inhumanly until their bones are laid bare; they give them no medical treatment, but let them die, eaten up by maggots or to serve as food for their dogs; they castrate them, cut off their ears, fingers, arms, legs; they torture them by fire, water, and by tying them up, crucified, head downwards. They cut them to pieces with machetes, they grasp children by the feet and dash their heads against walls and trees, until their brains fly out; they have the old people killed when they can work no longer, and, finally, to amuse themselves, practice shooting or to celebrate the sabbado de gloria (Easter Saturday). They discharge their weapons at men, women and children, or, in preference to this, they souse them with kerosene and set fire to them to enjoy their desperate agony."

Yet such was the power and influence of the criminal beneficiaries of this system that in less than a year Saldana Roca was bankrupt, forced to return to Lima in order to earn a living. And although he continued, insofar as was possible, his noble efforts there, it was absolutely without result, for the ruling class was deaf and blind to anything that threatened their possession of the disputed territory of the Putumayo or the curtailment of the blood-stained revenues derived therefrom.

In 1908, 1909 and 1910, it was the privilege of the present writer to take up and amplify Saldana Roca's work; and after great difficulties, he succeeded in arousing public opinion in England to such an extent as to cause the British Foreign Office to despatch Sir Roger Casement to the Putumayo, to investigate as to the truth of the allegations.

In June, 1911, it was known that Consul Casement's report fully corroborated all the above charges, and in July, 1912, his report was published in full. It not only confirmed the charges here mentioned, but even augmented them. In the meantime, an independent investigation, reluctantly undertaken by the Peruvian Government, returned with over 3,000 pages of testimony.

And now, after five years of constant agitation by various individuals and societies in England and Peru, what do we find? Not a word. The public mind is still in a state of torpor. No one Indian freed! On the contrary, Sir Edward Grey states that the amount of rubber exported from the Putumayo for the first four months of 1912 equalled three-quarters of the total output for 1911, figures which can only have been rendered possible by a continuance of the abominable system of forced labor. And the London Star of Dec. 11, 1912, says:

"The public mind is torpid. The Colombian Consul's dispatches in the later editions yesterday. The lurid eloquence which he employs in describing the abominations of the rubber traffic would inspire scepticism, were it not that his statements have received general confirmation from independent sources. Indians are still being kidnapped and 'sold' in the city like donkeys. Indian women are banded about as 'gifts' from one white blackguard to another. The same murderous ruffians remain in the company's employ—a guarantee that wretched Indians are still being soaked in oil and burned alive, hacked to death with hatchets and shot down by organized parties of bandits. . . . It is a satire on our civilization."

II. While as to the Belgian Congo it may fairly be assumed that the atrocities are over, it appears from an article by Mr. E. D. Morel in the "Contemporary Review" of December, 1911, that these horrors are beginning to make their appearance in the French Congo.

By 1900 nearly the whole territory consisting of over 500,000 square miles of forest, was divided among forty-four French and Belgian companies, and the native was deprived of the right to collect the produce of the country and sell it. The whole region belonged now to a group of merciless parasites in Paris. The results were the same as in the Belgian Congo—armed raids by the employees of the companies, punitive expeditions, the employment of many former Congo State criminals, and the general introduction of the methods formerly in vogue there.

In 1905 crimes and atrocities were reported as being of every-day occurrence—the same sickening tale of floggings, burnings, rapes, mutilations, tortures and starvation. De Brazza, who has been High Commissioner of the French Congo before the introduction of these methods, wrote: "Ruin and terror have been imported into this unfortunate colony. In the Ubanghi-Shari district, I have found a continuous destruction of the population." And in the French Chamber of Deputies it was stated that concessionaire agents were systematically raiding the country and torturing natives to death, "accompanied by acts of such atrocious bestiality as to be unprintable."

In the lower French Congo the system seems to have ceased having accomplished its evil results. But in the middle and upper Congo, it is believed to be still continuing, the French government having granted in 1910 "to companies convicted of long-sustained and atrocious crime, exclusive exploitation of rubber for ten years." And more significant still, in the same year, the French government suppressed the inspectors, through whom reports were coming out!

Referring to the Belgian Congo, Rev. John H. Harris says in his recent book, "Dawn of Darkest Africa," in regard to the present short-sighted extermination of both people and plants:

"It is a haunting thought that since the '85 scramble for Africa, the civilized powers who arranged the map of the African continent, ostensibly in the interests and for the well-being of the natives, have passively allowed the premature destruction of not less than ten millions of people."

III. The same gross exploitation of innocent and inoffensive aborigines, but apparently not characterized by such heinous atrocities as in the Putumayo and the Congo, is to be found in the Portuguese islands of S. Thome and Principe and in the vast Portuguese territory along the west coast of Africa, known as Angola.

These islands are situated in the Gulf of Guinea and fairly close to the mainland of Angola. The chief products are cocoa, coffee and cotton, which are raised on large plantations owned by a few whites. In order to obtain the necessary labor, it is the custom to cross over to Angola and there make raids upon the Negroes of the interior.

Today, out of a population of about 50,000 on the two islands, there are about 2,000 whites—plantation owners, government officials, and merchants. The remainder are practically all serviles, as they are termed—victims who have been hunted and captured in Angola and brought here to enrich the plantation owners.

It was about seven years ago that this slave system reached its zenith, and it became such a scandal that certain British cocoa merchants were compelled to withdraw their trade from these islands. During the last few years this export trade in slaves from Angola has been somewhat checked, but that it is still going on to a certain extent seems indisputable.

Thus Archdeacon Potter in a pamphlet entitled "The Christian Powers and Weaker Races," published in December, 1912, says:

"These people are certainly not free, and they have not been enlisted in the planters' service by their own free will. The death-rate is very high, the birth-rate is very low, and the people are being repatriated in any number, but continue in their slave condition to the end of their lives. . . . And still the evil continues, and the slaves are not made free."

The Rev. John Harris, in his recent book quoted above, agrees with Potter, Burt, Nevins and other travellers that both the mainland and the island are still rotten with slavery, and estimates that during the last twenty-five years no less than 200,000 men and women have been kidnapped from Angola.

IV. "Britons never will be slaves," runs the song. Considering the wretched and deplorable position of over thirteen millions of the inhabitants of the British Isles, the truth of this refrain seems rather dubious, to say the least about it. But when we review the conditions of the working class in some of the British dependencies, we see clearly that this idle cry of the master-class is on a par with that other hateful and hypocritical farraingo of cant about the White Man's Burden.

I refer to the question of indentured labor, which the Hon. Mr. Gokhale, in a motion in the Indian Legislative Council, proposes to abolish in toto. His motion was defeated, in spite of the fact that all the elected members voted for it. In his speech on this occasion (March, 1912), Mr. Gokhale said:

"Under this system those who are recruited bind themselves to go to a distant and unknown land for any allotted term, they do not know, and who they do not know them, to live on his estate, and to go nowhere without a special permit; to do any tasks assigned to them, however irksome. The binding is usually for five years, during which they cannot withdraw from the contract, or escape its hardships, however intolerable; they bind themselves to work for a fixed wage, invariably lower sometimes much lower, than that of free labor around them; they are placed under a special law, never explained before they leave the country, which is in a language they do not understand, which imposes upon them a criminal liability for the most trivial breaches of the contract instead of the usual civil liability attaching to such breaches. They are liable to imprisonment with hard labor for two or three months, not only for fraud, deception or negligence, but even for an impertinent word or gesture to the manager or overseer. Add to this that the victims of this system—simple, ignorant, illiterate, poor—are induced to enter on these agreements by wily professional recruiters, who are paid so much per head for the labor they supply, and no fair-minded man will deny that the system is a monstrous imposition in itself, based on fraud and maintained by force—a grave blot on the civilization of the country that tolerates it. The system came into existence to take the place of slavery after its abolition—a fact admitted by Lord Sanderson's Committee. It is a system under which the emancipated Negro seems to come. It has been repeatedly suspected of abuses, reluctantly resumed under pressure from planters. It was denounced in 1837 in strong terms by Lord Broughton, Mr. Buxton and others. A Committee of four sat in Calcutta to report. Three out of the four condemned the system altogether. Parliament adopted in a thin House the minority report. . . . From then till 1906 there was a constant succession of resumptions and suspensions."

In the March, 1912, number of the "Indian Review" appear these statements: "The majority of British capitalists seem to swallow and even conceal the evils of sending thousands of men, with a complement of thirty-three women for every hundred men, to distant lands, where it is considered justice to send people to go to work for the benefit of the completion of hard tasks, refusals to be treated at the hospitals, insubordinate language. For these crimes the prisoners of Mauritius treat 40 per cent. of their inmates to free board."

Mr. Bateman, an ex-magistrate of Mauritius, says: "The position of indentured coolies when charged in the courts is hopeless. Justice they get only by accident. They are deterred from giving evidence themselves, and unable to procure evidence. I was a machine for sending men to prison for the convenience of the employers."

Another illuminating phase of the heartless rapacity of the international capitalist class in its "altruistic" shouldering of the White Man's Burden—that is, in its feverish search for, and unscrupulous absorption in, new fields of exploitation, is revealed in Mr. Morgan Shuster's book on "The Strangling of Persia." Mr. Shuster says:

"Only the pen of a Macaulay could adequately portray the rapidly shifting scenes attending the downfall of this ancient nation—scenes in which two powerful and presumably enlightened Christian countries (England and Russia) played fast and loose with truth, honor, decency and law, one at least hesitating not even at the most barbarous cruelties to accomplish its political designs, and put Persia beyond hope of self-regeneration."

"The Persians are doomed to political annihilation and economic servitude. The world cannot hear their moral appeal. Morocco, Tripoli and Persia, three Moslem States, have been destroyed in one year by their enlightened Christian neighbors."

The instances enumerated above are not meant as a complete survey of this ghastly subject. They are but a few of the more notorious and best authenticated manifestations of the greed of the modern dividend-seeker, which brooks no opposition, feels no sympathy, knows no justice, which is forever menacing native peace and progress, forever seeking new victims to despoil. The whole question is very well put by Mr. C. Reginald Enock in his introduction to my book, "The Putumayo: The Devil's Paradise":

"The occurrences in the Amazon Valley which, under the name of the Putumayo Rubber Atrocities of Peru, have startled the public mind and aroused widespread horror and indignation—atrocities worse than those of the Congo—cannot be regarded merely as an isolated phenomenon. Such incidents are the extreme manifestation of a condition which exists itself in different forms all over the world—the condition of acute and selfish commercialism or industrialism whose exponents, in enriching themselves, deny a just proportion of the fruits of the earth and of their toil to the laborers who produce the wealth. The principle can be seen at work in almost any country, in almost every industry, and although its methods elsewhere are lacking in savage lust and ferocity, they still work untold suffering upon mankind."

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Appeals to Many People

The advance of Socialism and have not the time or are not in a position to help in propaganda openly. All that is necessary is to get the sub into the battery funds. It is as effectively appealed as if done by the remitter personally. The sub must be understood as being repaid by return mail, good or bad, or pennant as may be specified. The funds are used to send sub to the battery, and the remitter is at least worthy hustler with bundles of examples, and in any way which the ingenuity of the battery or the needs of the remitter can be met. The expenditures are published of the expenditures and receipts.

The sub has shifted from the Maritime to Alberta and Manitoba. In an effort to punch up the sub in these provinces, Alberta particularly has re-

Now as soon as the necessary funds are in sight. Present standing is as fol- lows:	
Expended on Alberta campaign	\$69.98
Balance from previous report \$36.69	
Contributed since previous re- port	\$6.79
	\$6.79
Shortage	\$4.28

This leaves us short \$4.28. Any friend
of the cause of the voter will be
particularly welcome to help. A new
chief will take command of the battery
and the work should go on with re-
newed vigor. This is my last appeal to
you for the Battery. Let me thank
many of you for generous response in
the past. The "voter" can be a
strong force from a hundred dollar
bill.—H. A. W.

Socialism Haunts Feast of the Plutocrats

A veritable bombshell was landed in the midst of our snug and easy-going capitalist gentry and their apologists by Vice-President Marshall last week. In a speech before the National Democratic Club at New York, Marshall warned the rich against the wave of socialism that is spreading in this country, and to startle them from sleep he declared in effect:

"Suppose a governor and a general assembly in the State of New York should repeal the statute of descents for personal and personal property, and the statute with reference to the making of wills on their death, how much vested interest would they have in the property which they sell from the estate?"

lands at the hour of dissolution? The right to inherit and the right to devise, the right to transmit one's property, but on the contrary, they are simply the privileges given by the State to its citizens."

"And then not close their eyes and dream that what has been, forever will be, for a man that a man hath will be given for his and he is not wise who a living plenty raises it get a little more."

"Karl Marx and hunger and a long and long for happiness are absent from the land. They are sitting as unknown as guests at every frugal meal. They are perturbing the waking hours and colored the American of America. They are who, after all, have the right to say what shall or shall not be."

"If I were the possessor of a made as

my mind that the government should continue to help me make it grow, or if I want to be a Socialist I would frown down upon the educational system in America.

"Men are refusing longer to look at the world through the hands of the few, and they are beginning to look around to see how mutual benefits may come to them.

"For instance, Marshall wants to preserve capitalism. He spoke in that spirit. But that the Vice-President of the United States should feel it his duty to warn the people of the country of an impending danger shows that the propaganda of Socialism is being carried on with a force and energy we scarcely realize. Let us rejoice!" The National Socialist, Washington, D.C.

North Bay Monte Cotton's

North Bay wants Cotton's

Local North Bay, Ont., No. 76 S.D.P. at a meeting last night suggested that Cotton's be moved to North Bay. North Bay is a railway centre, power is reasonably cheap, the slaves around there are broke.

But the cost of living in Northern Ontario, and the cost of producing Coal Oil, is too high. Can we produce a paper at 25 cents in North Bay? However, it is for the party to decide the question.

FINANCES OF COTTON'S

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

Subs. sub cards, etc.	\$979.26
Receipts for literature	15.50
Advertising	167.52
Job printing	112.10

Sale of STOCK \$7.00

Total \$967.48

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

In April the receipts from the distribution of Cotton's as a Socialist paper amounted to \$300. In March of the previous year, the receipts from this source amounted to \$880. This marks the decline in activity among the subscribers of Cotton's. The debt hanging over Cotton's rose by about \$300.

This condition portends grave consequences for the paper. It can be remedied only by getting those subscribers who were going to get, but have not yet, to buy subscription cards. Cotton's has a right to the battery, and will take a bundle.

EXCHANGES ON CHEQUES.
If cheques are sent as remittances
Cotton's Weekly exchange should
added to the amount.

THOUSANDS SELLING

War, What For? Kirkpatrick \$1
24 Lectures and Essays, Ingram \$1
Lectures and Essays, Voltaire \$1
Origin of Species, Darwin \$1
Riddle of the Universe, Haeckel \$1
Evolution of Man, Haeckel \$1
—Postage Paid—

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Itch, Salt Rheum or other
those nights are made sleep-
send you a trial of a south-
s, which I believe will cure
any obligation on your part.
or write me, giving your name, age and address.

J. C. Mottaz, R. F.

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Fort Wayne, Ind.

to me year Free Proof Treatment.

Age.....

TU QUOQUE

The tu quoque argument is a favorite one at Ottawa these days. Tu quoque is simply Latin for "You're another." Of course if you say tu quoque it sounds big and the men who say it are considered superior persons with great reasoning power. But if you say "you're another," it shows your low breeding. So our legislators at Ottawa use the high-brow principle with a lowbrow signification. Let us quote a few examples.

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.

You see the tu quoque argument of the "you're another" style of reasoning? As it comes from a learned judge, it must be all right. The people fall for it anyway.

Coderre absented himself from the House while the charges were being made. Of course that the charges were true or not did not seem to matter. As long as Doherty could say, "you're another" in many big words, that was all that was necessary according to capitalist political shoddiness.

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. An investigation was called for by the Liberals. They are morally certain that the land was not sold at that price, but at a much higher figure, the balance going into the Tory reptile fund.

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 to 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 as the Tories."

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 working-men.

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 time, and the private employers find their slaves kicking for more pay to be on an equal plane with the government employees. 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, working-men, 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 mercurized wax. Applied slightly, the wax will gradually remove freckles, pimples, blackheads, moles, patches, sallowness, red or yellow blotched, 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 mercurized wax and use this like you use soap and water. Many who have tried this simple and harmless treatment report astonishing results. If, however, a wash lotion made by dissolving an ounce of powdered salicylic in a half pint with hand 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 heir 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, 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 recreating 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 he 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 toiling 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 interested in the evils 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. The change 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 ask 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 greatest share 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 the 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 employees, 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 like 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 employees in proportion to 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 \$5 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 his dividends amounting to \$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 worker'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 a 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

are 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 correspondents, and to think 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. Sunday 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 elective, 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 the government. Just think what pulling and 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 battle-ships 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 arisen to claim their own. And who will say they may? 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 outstrip 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 that horrible barbarism of Russia, domiciliary 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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