

Total No. of Subs
for Issue of Feb. 17
4,899
Total Edition
Last Week... **6,000**
W. U. COTTON, Editor and Prop.

This is No. 76

COWANSVILLE, P. Q., CANADA, FEBRUARY 24, 1910

Sub Price 50c a Year—25c for 6 months

Cotton's Weekly

NOTE THE RED ADDRESS
LABEL on your Paper
if it is No. 77
Your subscription expires Next
Issue. You should renew at least
two weeks before your sub expires
so that you will not miss any
numbers.
H. A. WEBB, BUSINESS MANAGER

THE CANADIAN INSURANCE COMPANIES SIT AT THE GATES OF DEATH AND GROW RICH ON THE SUFFERING OF WOMEN AND THE WANT OF LITTLE CHILDREN.

LIFE INSURANCE

How many men there are who fear to die because they have a wife and children to support. When Socialism comes then the interest of each will be the interest of all.

But we are not living under a Socialist regime. We are living under the terrorisms of the capitalist era—softened a little by government paternalism. Under our present capitalist system the many suffer while the few riot in luxury. The many are living but a short way from want while the few have abundantly and to spare. The many depend upon the wage earnings of the head of the family while the few live off what they take in rent, interest and profit from the many. Should the laboring head of a workingman's family fall ill or die, then want descends like a black terror over the weak wife and young children. Should the non-working head of a rich family fall ill, or die, no suffering falls on the wife and children, save the natural suffering that comes to us all when family ties are broken. Over the heads of the laboring many hangs the fear of starvation. Our capitalist system makes it inevitable so.

The one ray of light for the laboring many, in this hell of competition and heavy labor, is that of life insurance. Our government boasts that it is a government of the people, for the people. Surely, one would think, the government has seen to it that life insurance is as cheap as possible. Surely the government has seen to it that the one refuge for the dear ones of a sick or dying worker is as easy of access as possible. Surely the government has seen to it that, in his last hour, a workingman—a man who has given his life's labor to producing the wealth of the country, be made comfortable in the knowledge that his dear ones will not suffer by his death. Surely the government has taken life insurance out of the competitive anarchy of the capitalist system.

Not at all. If you have thought that the government is a government to protect the people, you have been mistaken. The government is composed of as cunning schemers as arrant cowards, and as cold-blooded betrayers of the interests of the workingmen as any capitalist government of the world. The governments, not only this present Liberal government, but the past governments as well, have thrown the protection of the people by life insurance into private hands. No man can get insured unless he pays the heavy toll exacted by the profit-hunting-owners of the life insurance companies. If you have the price you can insure your life for a million dollars. If you have not the price you cannot insure your loved ones against your possible death to the extent of ten cents.

The government has handed over the agony of death to be dealt in by profit hunters for gold. The money changers and usurers and the rich plunderers of Canada have rushed to take toll of the fear of death in the hearts of the people.

The remedy? You want to know the remedy? There is only one remedy. Let the private control of machinery of production and distribution be declared illegal. Let there be social ownership and democratic management of the means of life. Then exploitation will cease. Then each man will produce his share of the wealth and the weak and the children will be protected from the buffeting of the winds of adverse fortune.

But as long as this present system of social production for private profit continues, there will continue the wild scramble for profits and the capitalist, ever a maniac for unearned wealth, will giber even over the graves of the dead.

The U. S. governments have been corrupt and unashamed. Now the Republican governors are bestirring themselves and are announcing that all graft charges are to be investigated. This may be merely the old bluff or it may be that the Republicans really see the growing power of the Socialists and are afraid.

Socialism is a theory of government based on the public ownership and democratic management of the means of production and distribution. Humanity is advancing in that direction.

The insurance profit is as nice a profit as ever a capitalist set eyes on.

Socialism will not abolish capital. It will simply change the ownership thereof.

It is the system of capitalism that produces the misery. Let the system be changed and misery will cease.

As long as the laws are made by capitalists in the interests of capitalism the capitalists are going to make the laws against the workers.

The Czar of Russia has decided to spend a half a billion dollars on the Russian navy. Laurier of Canada is doing his utmost to get Canadians to spend thirty million dollars on a navy. Everywhere the rulers betray the common people and lead them to slaughter rather than to life.

The brain of the workingman is built on the same principle as the brain of the man who does not work. But by a sort of hypnotism the man who does not work persuades the worker to divide up with him because of his superior ability. When the workers wake from their trance the loafers will be set to work.

Has a rich man, who gets a thousand times the income that a man who works does, a stomach a thousand times as big as that of the workingman? Has the rent receiver feet a thousand times larger than the feet of a workingman? Has he the need of a bed a thousand times larger than that of a workingman? Then why should he be given an income a thousand times larger?

The socialist philosophy is the most revolutionary philosophy because when a man becomes imbued with the spirit of the socialist philosophy he sees that the capitalist, with his law courts, and parliaments based on force, is unnecessary, and when the majority see that the capitalist is unnecessary, he must go, and the present dominant class in society will vanish.

Fielding has announced that the Georgian Bay canal will not be built as Canada cannot raise the money. Fielding and Laurier and the Liberal cabinet know this is untrue. The government ministers are trying to get Parliament to spend twenty millions for murder ships. The capitalist government of Canada is at the beck and call of the blood hounds of war.

What is interest? Interest is something that a man gets for nothing. The capitalist supporters cannot get away from the fact that interest is a dead weight upon the productive laborers. The capitalists declare that they get their interest because they are frugal and save their money. But the workers are more frugal than are the capitalists, and the workers do not receive interest. When men begin to use their reason interest will be abolished.

The Privy Council of Great Britain has maintained the decision of the Canadian courts that the striking plumbers of Winnipeg, Man., must pay their bosses the sum of forty thousand dollars as damages for striking. This should open the eyes of the plumbers to the fact that the capitalist government and capitalist courts will lambaste the workers and boost the capitalists. The only remedy is for the workers to capture the government and legislate the capitalists out of their possession of the means of production.

How would you workingmen like to be in one big union and squeeze every one who needed your services? Would you not put up your wages as high as you could? Why don't you do it? Because the laws are so made that you cannot. But the capitalists who employ you are working that trick on you. They charge you high prices for rent, and for food, and clothing, and everything you use. They grow rich and you grow poor and you wonder why. The answer is simple. They have captured the government and the government passes laws that make them rich and you poor. When are you going to capture the government so that you can make laws that will make you comfortably off and make them go to work?

\$3,000 INSURANCE

Are you a man who is laboring to keep your family in comfort? It does not matter whether you are a day-laborer, or a minister of the gospel, or a storekeeper or a government employee. Are you struggling along to keep the wolf from the door? Do you find it a hard task? Are you afraid that when you die your family shall fall into want? Then if you are in that state, I want to talk to you. I want to give you some information that will surprise you. If you are a man, it will make you think seriously. If you will think seriously then you will act. All I want and all that any Socialist can want, is to make you begin to think in your own interests.

How would you like to have an insurance on your life of three thousand dollars? How would you like to know that if you should die the government would give to those dependent on you the sum of three thousand dollars? Impossible you say? It is impossible as long as you hand over the productive machinery to the few to exploit. But if you will awake, get under the Socialist banner and join in the battle for social ownership and control of the means of production and distribution, then the three thousand dollars insurance for each man with a wife and family dependent on him would be a reality. Nay, more. Such a condition of affairs would be possible even now, did we have a government at Ottawa that cared for the welfare of the Canadian people. As it is, the great majority of you cannot afford insurance and you go out of the world with the fear that, after you are gone, your loved ones will suffer want.

Let me give you a few statistics and then you should use the gray matter in your brains in your own interests.

In 1901 in Canada the following male persons between the ages of twenty-five and sixty-five passed out of this world.

From 25 to under 35 years	— 2,432
“ 35 “ “ 45	— 2,176
“ 45 “ “ 55	— 2,410
“ 55 “ “ 65	— 2,957

Total between 25 and 65 years 9,975
The population of Canada in the last nine years has increased by thirty per cent. So the total deaths of male persons between twenty-five years of age and sixty-five years of age amount to about thirteen thousand at the present time.

In 1908 the total income of the life insurance companies operating in Canada amounted to \$40,279,383. The life insurance companies of Canada took that much money out of the Canadian people.

In 1908 there were thirteen thousand deaths of males between the ages of twenty-five and sixty-five years in Canada. The incomes of the insurance companies amounted to over forty million dollars. Does that give you any idea of what could be done? Listen.

If the revenues of the insurance companies were socially owned and socially controlled and used to relieve the distress resulting from the death of a person to those dependent on him, the revenues of the insurance companies would be sufficient to give three thousand dollars to the nearest and most dependent ones of the above mentioned persons, and still leave \$1,279,383 with which to carry on the Department of Insurance. \$39,000,000 would give \$3,000 on the death of each of the 13,000 persons dying and there would still be left over a million dollars as a fund for management.

Of course every male person is not married. Of the males over twenty-five years of age in Canada only 58 per cent. are married. Then there are many males who, although married, have no dependents, so that the sum of \$39,000,000 would be sufficient to give from three to five thousand dollars to the dependents of deceased males who are in need, and would still leave a large amount to relieve the distress of other persons in need.

Why does not the government begin a Department of Insurance if all this is true? Is that the question you want to ask? Are you as foolish as to think that the government of Canada is run for the benefit of the people of Canada? If you have that idea the sooner you get rid of it the better. The government of Canada is not run in the interests of

the people of Canada. It is run for the benefit of the few and to the detriment of the many. The government of Canada would no more think of preventing private individuals growing rich out of the fear of death that hangs over the people than it would think of undertaking the building of a railway line in which there is a chance of profit for the Canadian exploiters. There are many rich pickings in handling forty million dollars and the Canadian government sees to it that those pickings go into the hands of the few, although the people suffer in consequence.

What are you going to do about it? Are you going to sit down and fold your hands and let misery stalk through Canada because the Canadian government is recreant to its trust? If you are content to do that then you will go your own way and will continue to suffer the outrages practised on you under the present system. On the other hand you can enroll yourself as a member of the army of Socialists, and be reckoned with those who have pledged themselves to make exploitation cease from out this fair Canada of ours, and to introduce the Socialist system under which every man, woman and child can work, live or grow, with none to make them afraid, and with no fear of want before their eyes.

The Montreal General Hospital is in debt. The hospital is crowded with patients. The remedy proposed is to build a bigger hospital. Some rich men, no doubt, will furnish the funds necessary and they will be acclaimed as great benefactors. But is not prevention better than cure? Is it not better to have men and women free from disease than to have diseased men and women and attempt to cure them? Montreal can be made a model city. Its inhabitants can be made healthy. To do this there must be good shelter, warm clothing, good food, healthful work at short hours, and plenty of fresh air for all. This state of affairs cannot be brought about as long as the capitalists control the houses and mills and jobs of the working many. The capitalist landlord wants to pack as many persons into one house at as high rent as possible. The mill owning capitalist wants to work his hands for as long hours on as little pay as possible. It is to the interest of the capitalists to over crowd and over work the workers. Such conditions breed disease. The capitalist system is responsible for the conditions that make hospitals necessary. The very funds which go from the rich men to support hospitals have been gathered together at the expense of the health of the people who are forced by disease to attend the hospitals. Do away with the capitalist system and the need for hospitals would largely vanish.

The members of the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery of Kingston, Ont., have recently been performing some winter maneuvers. Each man, when sleeping outdoors, was furnished with five blankets and two rubber sheets. Soldiers are unproductive. All the work they do and all the food and clothing they use is done or used unproductively. Yet the Dominion government furnishes each man with five blankets. If the Dominion Government can furnish soldiers, who are parasites, with warm blankets, why cannot the government furnish the blankets of the whole nation? Why does not the government furnish the productive workers with warm blankets to protect them from the cold? The government can do it cheaper than can private citizens. Why does it not furnish the blankets? Because there are certain firms getting a profit from the buying of labor power of the workers and the selling of the blankets. If the government furnished warm bedding for the nation, the men who now get a profit on the sale of blankets would not get their profit. So the health and comfort of the whole nation is put in jeopardy because the government is controlled, not in the interests of the people, but for the benefit of the pockets of the profit takers.

Socialism will not abolish capital. Socialism will vest the title to capital in all the people. It will abolish the private ownership of capital just as the private ownership of the post office has been abolished.

FOOLISH OR KNAVISH

Our legislators and business men are looked up to as very wise persons. They may be wise persons. If they are wise persons then they are knaves. If they are not knaves they are very foolish people. Or else they are out to skin and begot the people for the money that is in it for themselves. The insurance legislation will prove this.

How do you think the insurance people calculate how many people are going to die? They employ men who pretend to be very wise. These men call themselves by the big name of Actuaries. It is the task of these men to find out when men are liable to die and how quick. They study big books, doctors' books, whisky books, mortality books, and prepare long lists of tables which take much time for a man to read. These tables are then given to the insurance agents and the insurance agents study the results the actuaries arrive at. Then the agents look around for some one who looks easy and who is willing to be separated from money. Then these agents go up to the easy mark and talk like a runaway engine to the victim. The victim may not be caught that time, so a dozen different agents of a dozen different companies waste his time in raising the fear of that man that he is just going to die and that the only way is for him to pay money to the insurance companies. The victim is landed. Many victims are landed. The insurance companies take three dollars from the victims and give back one. Such odds on a three shell game would make any gambler rich beyond the dreams of avarice.

It is all done by the actuaries writing books few people can understand and making people believe that the actuaries are very wise men. But the people are very foolish to be persuaded by the actuaries. And the insurance people are very foolish too to be persuaded by the actuaries. If the insurance people see through the actuaries then they are knaves and are knowingly playing a skin game on the people who insure.

The question is not, how many people are likely to die? The question is, how many people do die? Now the census reports give us this information. This being found out, the question is then to be answered, how many of them leave dependents who need to be protected from want? The third question then is, how can we protect the dependent? You see it is a very simple problem after all. The government could easily set the machinery in motion to provide the dependents of all who die with enough to keep them from want.

But the government will not do this. There are six M. P.'s who are directors on the Canadian companies. There are seventeen Honorables on the directorates. There are many men who hope to pile up unearned fortunes from that forty-three per cent. that the insurance companies nab out of every hundred dollars paid over. You see if the government took over insurance and was really serious about protecting the Canadian people from the misfortune of the death of the breadwinner, that forty-three per cent would not be garnered in by the insurance owners.

So the wise actuaries write in their big books, and the victims are fooled, and the price of insurance is placed beyond the power of the workers to afford and the insurance companies wax fatter and fatter, and the Dominion M. P.'s sit complacently in their seats, glad that the insurance companies are getting so many nice dollars in those wads of theirs.

What I want to know is, when are the workers going to rouse themselves and do something? The insurance graft and all the other capitalist grafts will flourish as long as the workers will allow it.

Have you noticed how often there have been rumors of consolidation of industrial concerns? Have you noticed how often such rumors have been denied and declared ridiculous by the heads of the concerns about to be consolidated? And have you noticed how frequently the consolidations, although denied, have taken place. These facts prove two things; first, that this is the age of industrial consolidation, preparatory to the ushering in of Socialism, and second, that the capitalist system produces a wonderful crop of liars.

Socialism stands for the abolition of the wage system.

Socialism will remove the incentive to slave driving.

No revolution can triumph unless it is born in the thinking powers of the revolutionists.

The reason why the capitalists do not like Socialism is because they know that Socialism is going to put them out of business.

The Montreal Street Railway is putting on a snow scraper that will clean their tracks and twelve feet of the street on the side as well. This work was formerly done by hand. The laboring man is finding that prices of necessities are going up while jobs are getting fewer. The tendency to higher prices and fewer jobs will continue until the laboring many vote themselves into control of the machines that were the cause of their losing their jobs.

In Montreal the question of the rights of tenants is agitating the public. Under the system of private ownership the landlords have imposed conditions and restrictions on the tenants that are heavy to be born. A cry is going up to have laws passed preventing the landlords making too hard conditions. Why not have a law passed confiscating the dwelling places from the landlords for the benefit of the people?

The Montreal landlords are highly pleased with the Board of Control. The new city government will reduce taxes and, as rents are going up, the landlords are going to have a nice time of it. Where the workers come in is in paying the higher rents and losing their jobs on the city pay rolls. The workers must wake up to the fact that they will be in bondage to the lords of rent till they confiscate the property of the capitalists and make the homes of the people places to dwell in instead of places for the squeezing of the workers.

"Brains can earn more money than a man who works with his hands can." Thus say many persons who do not think. Can a man by just thinking, think a pair of shoes for his feet? Can the hungry genius by thinking, produce a good meal for his hungry stomach? Thinking will not produce food, or clothing or shelter. The thinker can not do one thing that will support life without either laboring himself, or living on the labor of others. Then why should the man who thinks get a thousand times the income that a man who works with his hands does? Simply because the men who work allow themselves to be hocuspocussed into the idea that that unknown thing "brains" is the whole thing.

Are not food and clothing and shelter as necessary to mankind as are the roads and streets of the country? Are not men foolish, therefore, to hand over the food of the country to men who want to hold up the nation for toll? If a man cannot get food does he not starve? Do not men starve because they cannot get food to eat. And is it not a fact that men cannot get food to eat because men want to sell food for a profit? Why not make the food supplies of a nation the property of that nation, government owned, government controlled and government distributed? Then no man or woman or child need go hungry, but all could have the necessities of life and the great fear of want would be removed from the hearts of the people.

How would you like to go back to the old system of private post offices and pay twenty-five cents for the delivery of a single letter? How would you like to see two or three competing companies in your town operating two or three post offices, each office wasting energy in advertising for business and in duplicating or triplicating the necessary work by employing separate staffs to do the work one staff could do? You would not like it one little bit. Yet that is just what the capitalist competing system stands for. You will stand for a dozen stores that will compete and waste money by unorganized effort and you foot the bills. When Socialism comes all waste will be eliminated. All idle consumers will be eliminated, save those the workers want to support; and we will have the benefit of the economies of a single service managed as cheaply as possible for the benefit of all.

FORTY MILLION DOLLARS

In 1906 the wage of the industrial worker averaged about \$371. The average wage of the railroad worker in 1909 amounted to \$505, less than ten bones a week. The income of the insurance companies amounted to more than \$40,000,000.

To a workingman the sum of \$40,000,000 is just so many figures. He does not stop to think what it really means. It is just because the worker does not think that such questions benefit him, that the few are able to pick the pockets of the working class.

Let us just try and realize what these forty million dollars really mean. These forty million dollars will pay the wages of an army of industrial workers, one hundred thousand in number. These forty million dollars will pay the wages of an army of seventy-five thousand railway workers for a year.

A hundred thousand industrial workers means a city of five hundred thousand people. The insurance companies, therefore, have a revenue that, if paid in wages, would keep a city, larger than Montreal, going.

These forty million dollars will more than pay all the expenses of six post office systems, the size of that of Canada.

The forty million will pay almost one-half of the yearly expenditure of the Dominion government to keep the country going.

They will pay two-thirds the wage bills of all the railroads in Canada.

They will pay all the cost of the public works in Canada during the year 1908-09, including all the heavy expenditure in building the government section of the Grand Trunk Pacific.

ent Canadian army.

They will pay the expense of an army eight times the size of the present.

They would be enough to feed the unemployed workers of Canada, put them in good homes, and keep them busy at healthy work on short hours.

Why does not the government take over these revenues and manage them? Because the Canadian government is not established for the purpose of helping the people against those who want to get something for nothing. The government is established for the purpose of helping those who want to get something for nothing to get what they want at the expense of the people who do the productive work. That is why.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

The Canadian companies in 1908 received all told a revenue of twenty-eight million dollars. They paid nine million seven hundred thousand dollars to the policy holders, six millions in expenses, and the rest in taxes or dividends, or was put away for safe keeping.

The head office expenses were over a million dollars. The total expenses of the Dominion of the House of Commons and of the Senate, and all the incidental expenses connected with legislation amounts to but a million and a half dollars. So the twenty-three Canadian Insurance companies absorb enough in head-office expenses, alone to almost pay the cost of running the law-factory of Canada.

Parliament costs Canada thirty-eight dollars a minute when it is running. Yet the Canadian insurance companies spend almost as much in head office expenses.

The commissions paid to agents to get the business for the twenty-three Canadian companies amounted to \$3,850,000. This sum would have paid the total expenses of the Department of Inland Revenue. It would have paid the expenses of the Department of Justice twice over. It would have paid the expenses of the Department of Labor thirty times over. Yet the insurance companies tell the people how much good they are doing.

The insurance companies are wasteful, extravagant, inefficient, and unsuited to the needs of the people. The government should put them out of business. Will the government do it? No. The government stands for the protection of the legalized robbery of the workers, and the government members are cute enough to see that if one corner of the rotten structure is torn down, the whole capitalist edifice will tumble. So the Canadian government will not do a thing to bring relief to the workers who suffer. The workers are only good as food for powder in Laurier's tin pot navy or Borden's British murder machine. The workers are only good as food for mills and mines to have profits ground out of their hides. The workers have no right to live except they yield up the labor of their hands at the bidding of the labor-thieves. The government will give no relief. It is the task of the workers to achieve their own emancipation.

The workers die and their wives and children suffer. May be the worker is killed in some machinery in making profits for his boss. May be

he has been tramping the streets in thin clothes, hunting for a job, and the cold got into his system and carried him off. His wife and children suffer. A cruel world is this where the profit wolves snarl and foam over the profits ground out of the workers. If only the wife and children could be insured. How much better that would be. If only. But no. The profit wolves have grabbed insurance, too. The price is too high, and the dying worker, maybe, could not have afforded it, even if it had been lower. So there is no insurance for the workers. Insurance there is but it is only for the labor-thieves who can pay the price. So the Canadian companies work their will and make money. The poor die uninsured and the insurance companies pocket their twelve million dollars of swag and rejoice. What are you workers going to do about it? Let them rob you during life and let your wife starve when you're dead?

Oh, yes. There is the weekly insurance. The companies have looked upon the sad lot of the workers and have given an insurance policy that can be paid by the week. Are they not kind? Not a bit of it. The poor who pay by the week are the most profitable bunch of the lot. For every hundred policies taken out by the poor, only seventeen are kept up. The pinch comes. The insurance cannot be paid and the policy lapses and the poor person gets no benefit. The insurance companies have calculated on your being unable to pay. They have even had their wise actuaries figuring you out to see how many of you would not be able to keep your payments thus enriching the companies. Oh yes, the companies are generous—to themselves.

Laborers, Why Are You Slaves?

Yes, verily, verily unto all the world would I declare against the wrongs of my people, of the crimes committed against them.

Labor has produced every dollar of the world's wealth, every necessity, luxury, every instrument of development and diversion, yet she is too vilely common to come into the presence, to brush the garments of those who manipulate and concentrate her products. The laborers spend a lifetime in production but are retired on only enough for a meagre subsistence, the dead bone of life. Can mercy stretch until this crime is covered? Will men of brains and humanity continue to support a system so unjust, which gives some men such power over others? Must millions of men suffer for the necessities of life while others control millions the sufferers have produced? We are neither Christians nor patriots as long as such a system continues.

A just creative law would give man life only that he might develop and know joy, and every man has a divine right to and an urgent need of every comfort and opportunity that can come into life, and men are criminally indifferent when content without them.

As long as men will consent to live under unjust and unequal conditions just so long must myriads suffer the torture of the wronged. Laborers, you who toil in the mine, the shop, at the forge, etc., you whose lives know nothing but toil and oppression, go you not realize that a just God would give as much to one life as to another, that every man who is willing to do his proportionate share of the world's work is entitled to every blessing of life? Do you not know that old mother earth, if developed to her greatest capacity, would provide most bountifully for each and every one of her children, and that with our appliances of light, heat and machinery, if the world's work were equally divided none would need to labor more than four hours a day? This would give us all opportunities of development and diversion and in a few generations all lines of caste, of inequality might be obliterated.

Life and all its blessings are dependent upon the necessities of life and as these can be manipulated or used as the tools of speculation, slavery will exist in its worst form. The necessities of life should be produced for use only and not for barter and profit. What a fool is he who calls himself a free man with the employer's veto over his head, or who must sell his honor for material success as ninety-five per cent. of our business men do today.

Laborers, do you not realize that our country could not last a day had we not political organization and systemization, dominion, provincial and local and that nations will never be permanent until we have industrial systemization? This is the most meaning problem of humanity; it is the next one we must solve and the sooner we get about it the better. Justice must be made practical and only he is a patriot who is using his best brain and heart power in studying and promoting these principles. Civilizations cannot be permanent if built on the back of slavery.

Toilers and Idlers

Our Serial Story

Copyrighted, 1907 by John B. McMahon. (Continued.)

CHAPTER XII.

Speaking of disciples... He glared at the deserted stairway. "Were we speaking of disciples?" "No, oh no. Just to remark that she will go far. What odd changes in relations time brings! Am I profound? One protects and develops a raw simpleton like a father."

"I see. Is that all?" "But when she is equipped, self-conscious, mature, the parental role becomes absurd. Ha, ha, excuse my frank statement of a psychic curiosity—even the notion of recompense." Rensen walked away quickly. Ackley was guilty of sheer babble, but he did not know that.

CHAPTER XIII.

The Settlement House, a large building of yellow brick in renaissance style, had lights at the windows and sounds of a small orchestra, attractive to the ill-kempt passers-by who loitered in the chill October air. A line of autos and carriages drawn up at the side entrance gave speculation to nearby shopkeepers and tenement dwellers. Some of the latter did not scruple to elbow their window sills. Other spectators stood on a roof. The proprietor of the corner saloon, wiping hands on his apron, chatted a moment with a policeman at the door, saying they had a great show on and he kept a fine brand of whiskey for the swells. By mistake a great joke—the bartender gave some to a 'bo who called for a nickel drink. The policeman sighed. A pair of dress-coated men in opera hats crossed the street, and the proprietor entered to serve them.

Rensen, because of his attire, was at first refused admittance to the House, being told by the door-keeper that this was patrons' night; the likes of him might come next week. He explained that he was an usher. For he had become acquainted with the manager through reading the latter's pamphlet on "Present Problems."

The manager was a strong young man of frank face and ready manners, skilled in piloting the uptown visitors and no less in keeping order among the juvenile East Siders. He led the visitors through the gymnasium, with its polished wood floor and raftered ceiling, horizontal ladders, bars, rings, punching bag, chest machines, and else; the locker room, marble baths and swimming tank; the reading-room with its books in glaze covers, and table covers, and table games lying about; desk-filled class rooms; and the basement restaurant where a glass of milk cost two cents and dinner ten cents. The manager exhibited everything with a cheerful offhand humor; he did not wish to receive any subscriptions yet, thinking the visitors would give more after the entertainment.

"The place is so clean," said Gracia Blake-Lawrence, affably, when the procession regained the assembly room. She had made fair use of the young man's arm.

"Thank you. We have a system—'Yes, and isn't it surprising how interested people are in these settlements. One's friends—why, a girl in my set actually lived in one of them. I couldn't believe it."

"That happens. The young men are also interested. We have some millionaires' sons who come here twice a week."

"Indeed. Do they find something to do, Mr. P?" "They teach a boys' class, eat a ten-cent supper and play checkers."

"Really? How extraordinary—I mean it is so noble. Can you tell me some of their names?"

Gracia's father, his look remote from midnight revel, the pink-nailed, portly ideal of a patron, turned to them and said jocularly:

"That's a capital idea—those sons will live longer for denying their stomachs twice a week."

"Poor papa! If you were only not too old to learn such new tricks."

"My dear! you know I am a self-sacrificing victim of cooks. Would you have the cooks starve?"

The manager laughed, saying it was a point. He replied to the inquiry of an elderly woman with Arabian lace around her gaunt neck that one needed no disguise to go slumming, except a waterproof case on an accidental pair were emptied from above.

As for a memorial tablet on an ice-water tank, certainly the donor was right, and it was quite appropriate. "Oh, no fear of that. The Jews would drink out of the same cup, having little in common with the Brahmins."

"You sweet thing," cried Gracia as among the passing group of children, dressed for the comedy, a freckle-faced, twin-braided girl danced along with gayety. "What a nice dotted muslin. Have you ever acted before?"

Peggy Day, of the freckle face and twin braids, paused and stared at Gracia from head to foot.

"Won't you come here, little girl, and tell me your name?"

Peggy's snub-nose moved slightly; she turned her back and marched off.

The manager was a trifle embarrassed, for he had just been speaking of the affectionate grateful natures of the East Siders.

Soon the audience became seated on the assembly room benches, lately disinfected. The green velvet curtains parted on the improvised stage, the footlights flared, the orchestra of five pieces struck up a lively march. Rensen, who had kept himself in the background, was rather surprised to recognize Madeline Tenney in the post of piano accompanist. She played with a vim, coolly self-possessed. The seal broadcloth with white linen at throat and wrists was very becoming.

"An original comedy in three acts, Thomas Tatters, the American Napoleon," haltingly squeaked Mar-

cury, otherwise a little girl with stiff skirts and a blue sash. The hero was a curly-haired little fellow about nine years old. His voice was clear, he gestured often and accurately.

In the first act he was selling newspapers on the Bowery and had a taste for knowledge. He read all his papers, went to night school, refused to play craps. Not even a band of flower-wreathed maidens, bound for a May-day frolic in the park, could tempt his austere industry. "I will be a self-made man," he told them; "there is room for me at the top." Money accumulated so fast that he hired other boys to work for him, sending them out with newspapers and bootblacking outfits. This step he epitomized, "I worked for money; why not let it work for me?" He began to study law and learned how to bribe a policeman without violating any statute.

A few years elapsed. Thomas was clerk in a Wall Street office. Tempted to play the races, he said, "I will not speculate in any game without collateral." He was taken into partnership because of his diligent shrewdness and his large investments in standard securities. Beautiful women tried to entrap him with social and artistic pleasures; he said that he had to be fresh every morning to watch the ticker. They suggested a trip abroad, to renew and enlarge the mind. "It is not necessary," he said, "since Europe will come to me." He became a director in thirty companies. The early legal knowledge proved valuable, though subordinates handled most details. "Every law has a loophole," he said, humorously.

In the last act the politicians wanted Tom Tatters to run for governor. He laughed at them. They offered the presidential nomination. "Gentlemen," he said, "are you aware that I can make fifty thousand dollars, which is the President's salary, in a week?" Money kept accumulating. Some rivals squeezed in a corner, brought in valises full of greenbacks. Syndicates of all sorts yielded vast sums. The crowning enterprise of his life was to build a railroad encircling the earth. The workmen went on strike. He told their representatives, "You have no right to stay the wheels of progress. It is my railroad. I will treat you as individuals." So the men apologized and withdrew. Wages were reduced. Thomas proceeded to endow libraries, colleges, hospitals and museums. Next thing ambassadors from three European emperors came to beg financial aid and offer the hands of three imperial daughters in marriage. The President of the United States sent a messenger on a like errand, but offering the hand of a Senator's daughter. "At last! This is the moment of my life!" exclaimed Tom Tatters, striking the bosom of his frock coat. "I am an American patriot; therefore, I shall first extend assistance to my native country. I shall save it from bankruptcy." He wiped his eyes and added as an afterthought, "Yes, there is room at the top—play for me, anyway." A boy came with a wireless message. The President gave thanks in the name of the American people, while Congress respectfully begged the privilege of continuing to represent "Thomas's interests."

There was a final love scene with the Senator's daughter—Peggy Day, in a rainbow silk frock and a necklace of diamonds. She coyly whispered that she had always loved Thomas and he was an example to all young Americans. At the end of her speech the Senator's daughter frowned strangely and fidgeted; she paid no attention to his reply; suddenly the freckles were lost in fiery color, she stamped her foot and gasped: "It ain't so. You're not a patriot—you hire scab labor. I belong to the union and I wouldn't marry a thing like you!"

The audience, long convulsed and weary with laughter, could scarcely appreciate the new point. Tom Tatters wept. "Y-y-you're awful mean to spoil the play, P-P-Peggy!"

"I don't care," she breathed defiantly. "I won't have nothing to do with a scab."

The manager rushed out and made the lovers join hands, willy nilly, assuring the audience that they lived happy ever after. The orchestra played the "Star-Spangled Banner."

Tea was served. The visitors praised and petted the little comedians. A group of men, returning from a visit across the street, lit cigarettes and agreed that the comedy had just enough spice. Such an up-to-date piece was much better than last year's operetta. Of course the ladies might not take in its fine points, the details of finance and politics.

Rensen, avoiding the Blake-Lawrences, approached Madeline and spoke of her piano playing. She laughed, saying it was an impromptu effort; the regular accompanist had failed to appear. After a few words of generalities he moved off. Something, or other made her laugh a great deal.

A moment later a girl with a tea-tray—she was swarthy, with short black curls, somewhat gracefully boyish in face and figure—came by, and as she passed Madeline made a movement that spilled a cup of tea. The seal broadcloth, from the knees downward was drenched.

"I believe you did that intentionally!" (To be continued.)

WANTED.

Lists of farmers all over Canada for propaganda work. Will comrades try to get copies of municipal reports, etc., giving names of farmers in their districts, and send to Cotton's. This is urgent.

Socialism will give the whole human race abundant access to the higher things of life.

The next issue of Cotton's will be important to every loyal Socialist.

Socialism will develop the true individuality.

SLUMP!!!

O you see that slump? And did you see the slump last week? They were two pretty big slumps. I have been warning you that unless you backed me up in the fight that I am making on the organized plunderers whose representatives at Ottawa misrepresent the people of Canada, there would be things doing against Cotton's. The Ottawa gang have had their eyes on Cotton's. They did not like to touch it because they had burned their fingers with the Appeal to Reason and they thought Cotton's could fight in the same way.

But they have been watching the circulation and they see that it is dropping. So through the postmaster general they have given orders to the local postmaster to make Cotton's pay sixteen times the amount of postage it was formerly paying on a lot of its circulation.

Under the Canadian postal laws the postmaster general makes the rates for a large part of the postage. To crush Cotton's he has raised the rates on me to sixteen times the ordinary rate on a large part of my circulation.

I put out a Worker's Issue and exposed the robbery practised on the great mass of the Canadian people. In this issue I am exposing the robbery practised by the Insurance Companies. It was after the Workers' Issue and after the announcement of the Insurance Special that the postal authorities landed on me with a ruling direct from Ottawa to the local postmaster.

Do you know what this means? This means that the radical press of Canada is in danger. This means that upon Cotton's Weekly develops the fight for a free press in Canada. This means that the banded plunderers of Canada want to put the Socialist press of Canada out of business.

But they have reckoned without Cotton's Army. Of myself I can do little, but with the army for human liberty liberty that is backing Cotton's against the betrayers of the liberties of the Canadian people, I can make the Postmaster General Lemieux and a reactionary Liberal Cabinet look live the bedraggled calf followers of a beaten army.

Are you with me, Comrades, in this fight? If you are, prepare for action. There are certain things, I want—YOU—to do. Write to your member of Parliament asking him "WHY THE POSTMASTER GENERAL HAS RESOLVED TO CRUSH COTTON'S WEEKLY BY UNJUST, DISCRIMINATORY, AND EXCESSIVE POSTAL CHARGES?" Just ask the question. Letters to Members of Parliament can be sent free of postage if they are mailed during the session of Parliament and are addressed to the "House of Commons" Ottawa. Your postage, therefore, will cost you nothing.

Get busy, write yourself. Get your friends to write. Get your union or your Socialist local to pass a resolution protesting against charging an excessive postage on Cotton's.

Go after your neighbor and get subs. Take a bundle yourself and distribute them. Roll in the subs. They are needed.

Next week I will open a broadside on the postal department. Get a bundle. The fight is on. All who are interested in the welfare of the Canadian radical press must join the fight.

I have stood a lot from the department. My complaints have not been attended to. All complaints against me have been promptly forwarded. If you do not get your paper, see that your sub has not expired, then write to us, and also write to the Postmaster General, Ottawa. The letter goes free without postage. Demanding that the Postmaster General see to it that you get your mail. You are a resident of Canada and are entitled to get your mail. The postmasters, including Rudolph Lemieux himself are your servants, and their masters you are entitled to make them do your service.

The fight is on and I am going to force the fighting along the line. The time has come to fight the Postmaster General, and if necessary, the whole Liberal Cabinet. You readers are going to back me up. You are going to write that letter and get your friends to write that letter to your Member of Parliament.

Send those letters, roll in those subs. The army is going to back up Cotton's in this its hour of peril from a reactionary postal department. I am depending upon every member of the army and every lover of freedom to protect Cotton's against government attacks and to keep the red banner of human liberty raised aloft, and flaunting in the face of the enemy.

WATCH FOR THE NEXT ISSUE.

Following is the circulation of COTTON'S for the issue of last week Feb. 17th.

	OFF	ON	TOTAL
Ontario.....	19	18	158
Prov. of Quebec.....	21	14	736
British Columbia.....	98	24	591
Nova Scotia.....	6	5	511
Alberta.....	108	12	517
Saskatchewan.....	13	11	347
New Brunswick.....	1	—	263
Manitoba.....	1	12	310
Elsewhere.....	1	—	57
Yukon Territory.....	—	5	21
Prince Ed. Island.....	—	—	10
Newfoundland.....	—	—	8
Total.....	270	101	4899

Loss for week ... 169

Total issue last week 6,000.

THE PEOPLE'S POEMS

THE FACTORY CHILD

By HERALD MONROE

Why do the wheels go whirling round,
Mother, mother?
Oh, mother, are they giants bound,
And will they growl forever?
Yes, fiery giants underground,
Daughter, little daughter,
Forever turn the wheels around,
And rumble, grumble ever.

Why do I pick the threads all day,
Mother, mother?
While sunshine children are at play,
And must I work forever?
Yes, factory-child; the live long day,
Daughter, little daughter,
Your hands must pick the threads away
And feel the sunshine never.

Why do the birds sing in the sun,
Mother, mother?
If all day long I run and run—
Run with the wheels forever?
The birds may sing till day is done,
Daughter, little daughter,
But with the wheels your feet must run—
Run with the wheels forever.

Why do I feel so tired each night,
Mother, mother?
The wheels are always buzzing bright;
Do they grow sleep never?
Oh, baby thing, so soft and white,
Daughter, little daughter,
The big wheels grind us in their might,
And they will grind forever.

And is the white thread never spun,
Mother, mother?
And is the white cloth never done—
For you and me never done?
Oh, yes, our thread will all be spun,
Daughter, little daughter,
When we lie down out in the sun,
And work no more forever.

And when will come that happy day,
Mother, mother?
Oh, shall we laugh and sing and play
Out in the sun forever?
Nay, factory-child, we'll rest all day,
Daughter, little daughter,
Where green grass grows and roses gay,
There in the sun forever.

—Century.

O Slave, Be Wise

By G. A. TOBY.

The tyrant gold now sits enthroned
High o'er the hopes of man;
A god is the oppressor crown'd
Whose vassals lead the van.
And helpless slaves are lash'd beneath
That monstrous iron wand,
While freedom scarcely dares to breath
Or justice lift a hand.

O'er justice high is built a shrine
Where man might plead in vain,
Beneath the traitor's heel supine
Truth's crushed to earth again.
While o'er that fair but prostrate form
Is falsehood's dagger drawn;
The law shields the assassin's arm,
But holds his victim down.

"Divide and rule" his motto is;
The blind are easy led;
But union's strength, O slave, be wise,
Ere this last hope has fled,
Within thy strength there is a power
Fear'd even by thy foe;
Arise! thy strength this very hour
Would crush the tyrant low.

Unionist Combination

MANY comrades have been writing in asking me to put out a new Unionist Combination. After a careful search we have selected the following little books, which explain all the different phases of Unionism, by the best present day authorities. Eugene V. Debs, Wm. E. Trautman and others. All these books are pertinent to the man under the machine. Here they are:

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

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

SUB PRICE OF COTTON'S

Six Months, 26 copies 25c
One Year, 52 copies 50c
Three Months, club of 5 50c
Three Months, club of 10 \$1.00

In the Socialist commonwealth the men who survive can only survive by making the lot of their fellows happier and better.

We can confidently expect Socialism to result in a wonderful elevation and purification of the home and family.

The small merchant, the small manufacturer and the farmer are the abject slaves of the big capitalists. They are not their own bosses.

If you are a lover of a free press the next issue of Cotton's will stir you up.

THE F

THE

J. D. Clune
John Staple
Comrade, O
J. E. D., N
H. H. Walk
Wm. Wark,
This issue
Comrade,
Alta., bec
Comrade,
Alta., beco
Comrade,
Ont., add
I want sub
Comrade,
gow, N. S.,
years.
I am depen
in Subs. I
fore.
Comrade
Alta., takes
Cotton's for
Com. Albe
increases th
two half ye
B. C., take
months.
Comrade I
Ont. order
for propaga
Comrade I
Ont., sends
taka a bun
Comrade
Sask., sen
yearlies.
Have a lo
see if you
Put them in
Comrade
Falls, Ont.
gress of Soc
paper for a
Comrade I
takes two hu
ers' issue.
Deeds to La
Comrade I
Man., cap
These will f
fight again
Comrade
now, Sask.
and sends th
with the sp
From Ott
gathered by
who knows
for Socialis
Comrade I
Alta., forw
there will b
the same pl
Comrade
Alta., send
in the estab
cialist press
Comrade I
City Color
scription an
to boost So
Comrade
Alta., renew
a half-year
wider audie
Comrade I
and persuad
trial subscri
seed of Soc
good ground
Comrade I
felt ashamed
renewal so
three other
year.
TITLE D
good issue
others. Ask
per 100. S
copy.
A Victori
in two tri
hundred cop
classes to b
Cotton's to
Will every
a new sub
have a chan
action. T
at stake.
Cotton's.
Comrade
Park, B. C.
and a year
these are to
hiders me to
—A Comra
that three
flat-footed f
fighting Cot
price of C
Weekly for
An Amher
ing a big
forwards to
And tells t
cause the S
to hum in C
Comrade
Ganda, Ont
and twelve
just in tim
the right of
have a free
Com. W.
sends along
dred copies
and says
more. He v
flood the tv
and Fort W
Comrade
Ont., takes
Insurance S
if the prod
all the peo
would have
which ever
I want C
so powerful
ement dat
sub huster
er by givin
circulation
You can do
United ac
part of ev
Army Hest
forth that
down. Cott
saw edge f
the next is

THE FIRING LINE

THE TOP NOTCHERS

J. D. Cluney, Gow Ganda, Ont. 15
John Staples, Victoria, B. C. 10
Comrade, Ottawa, Ont. 10
J. E. D., Nova Scotia 10
H. H. Walker, Shelburne, Ont. 6
Wm. Wark, Dudsvelt, P. Q. 6

This issue Ten Thousand copies.

Comrade D. McMillan, Mannville, Alta., becomes a subscriber.

Comrade Aaron Raskin, Tolman, Alta., becomes a subscriber.

Comrade J. F. Lahti, Toronto, Ont., adds a year to the list.

I want subscribers. Can you Socialists give them to me.

Comrade John McKay, New Glasgow, N. S., takes the paper for two years.

I am depending on the Army. Pour in Subs. I need them now as never before.

Comrade W. H. Kyle, Strome, Alta., takes one hundred copies of Cotton's for propaganda purposes.

Com. Albert Jesserick, Montreal, increases the Montreal sub list by two half yearlies.

Comrade John Staples, Cloverdale, B. C., takes ten copies for three months.

Comrade E. Biddleston, Preston, Ont., orders a bundle of Cotton's for propaganda purposes.

Comrade H. H. Walker, Shelburne, Ont., sends along six halfers and takes a bundle of last week's issue.

Comrade Mike Reilly, Mildred, Sask., sends in the price of three yearlies.

Have a look around the house and see if you can find some Sub Cards. Put them into action at once.

Comrade A. S. Peckham, Niagara Falls, Ont., wants to see the progress of Socialism. So he takes the paper for a year.

Comrade C. H. Robinson, Toronto, takes two hundred copies of the farmers' issue. Says that the "Title Deeds to Land" is a good article.

Comrade H. H. Bilton, Elkhorn, Man., captures two half yearlies. These will fall in line and take up the fight against the postal authorities.

Comrade John Bergquist, Muskow, Sask., captures two yearlies and sends them along to be enthused with the spirit of economic liberty.

From Ottawa come eight yearlies gathered by the efforts of a Comrade who knows how to work and vote for Socialism.

Comrade Peter F. Olsen, Red Deer, Alta., forwards a year and says there will be more on the way from the same place.

Comrade F. Blake, Edmonton, Alta., sends in two yearlies to help in the establishment of a strong Socialist press in Canada.

Comrade Channing Sweet, Denver City Colorado, renews his subscription and forwards four dollars to boost Socialism in Canada.

Comrade Roy Carter, Killam, Alta., renews his sub. and forwards a half-yearly to spread Cotton's to a wider audience.

Comrade Wm. Wark, renews his sub and persuades five friends to become trial subscribers, and hopes that the seed of Socialist thought will fall on good ground.

Comrade S. R. Waters, Galt, Ont., felt ashamed to send in his solitary renewal so hustled round and got three others to take Cotton's for a year.

TITLE DEEDS TO LAND is a good issue to hand to a farmer or others. Ask for No. 74—only 50 cents per 100. Smaller bundles 1 cent per copy.

A Victoria, B. C., Comrade sends in two trials and an order for a hundred copies. Wants the working classes to be awakened and banks on Cotton's to do it.

Will every reader of Cotton's land a new subscriber. You will never have a chance to do more patriotic action. The liberty of the press is at stake. Watch the next issue of Cotton's.

Comrade Wm. Coulter, Central Park, B. C., forwards two halfers and a year. He informs me that these are hard nuts to crack and orders me to crack them if I can.

A Comrade from Kelowna, writes that three or four have come out flat-footed for Socialism since getting Cotton's and forwards the price of two hundred of Cotton's Weekly for the Insurance number.

An Amherst Comrade has been doing a big stunt for Cotton's. He forwards ten yearlies all in a lump. And tells the staff to cheer up, because the Socialist cause is beginning to hum in Canada.

Comrade James D. Cluney, Gow Ganda, Ont., forwards six yearlies and twelve halfers. These subs come just in time to join in the fight for the right of the citizens of Canada to have a free press.

Com. W. J. Carter, Port Arthur, sends along the price for four hundred copies of the Insurance Special, and says he will try and send for more. He wants enough Cotton's to flood the twin towns of Port Arthur and Fort William.

Comrade James Stapley, Lindsay, Ont., takes a hundred copies of the Insurance Special and remarks that if the producing classes should get all they earned, the idle classes would have to go to work or starve, which ever they preferred to do.

I want Cotton's Weekly to become so powerful that the capitalist government dare not touch it. Will the sub hustlers give Cotton's that power by giving Cotton's the biggest circulation of any paper in Canada? You can do it if you want to.

United action is imperative on the part of every member of Cotton's Army Hustlers. The flat has gone forth that Cotton's is to be kept down. Cotton's has been feeling the raw edge for some months. Watch the next issue.

Comrade S. E. Penn, Nanton, Alta., persuades a neighbor to separate himself from a quarter for a half yearly sub. Those Socialists who step out and get that neighbor to become interested in Socialism are one of the best kinds of propagandists. Were all readers of Cotton's to do the same trick, Canada would be won for Socialism in five years.

There is only one other paper in Canada that has had anywhere near the trouble to obtain regular deliveries through the post office as has Cotton's. Needless to say it is a Socialist paper. Now comes the orders from the gang at Ottawa backing up our suspicions. Get busy hustling subs and watch for the next Cotton's.

Comrade John Robb, Hughenden, Alta., sends along a half yearly. I like to see these single subs come in from small places. When a single sub comes in I know that there is a Comrade who is hammering Socialism into his neighbors and getting them, one by one, slowly but surely. The single sub from a small town shows that a new mind is awakening in an unpropitious environment.

A half yearly from Comrade H. Martin, Berlin, Ont. Comrade Martin forwards the voting list of his country with addresses attached. I want the addresses of the individual members of the working classes of Canada. This is one way of getting them. Lists, without the address of the workers are practically useless. I want the names and addresses of the working men of Canada.

Comrade C. H. Ashby, Toronto, Ont., writes, sending in his sub, and a quarter for the agitation. "This is my first shot. Will do all in my power for the great little weekly. First heard of Cotton's from my brother P. Ashby. Glad to see he is in the ranks. What is in the blood must come out. Many here do not see the light, but the truth must prevail."

Comrade David Dalrymple, Sydney Mines, N. S., forwards a yearly sub and wants a bundle of the Eye-opener edition. This edition is exhausted, so will send the present Insurance Special. I neglected to credit Comrade Dalrymple with two dollar's worth of subs received the third of this month. The names were received and the paper is going forward.

Comrade C. W. Wood, Selkirk, Man., writes, "Have just received yours and admire your courage. It's really refreshing to find one paper in Canada that has red blood enough to be original in its views and to start the people thinking. Send your paper to the two papers in my town, and see if you can wake them up. Lift the lid off the capitalist hell. If anything can sting the moulders of thought into life it is Cotton's. So jab them well."

Sub Cards are Cotton's Weekly paid in advance subscription cards, printed on Canadian postal cards. The purchaser has merely to sign his name and address, and drop in the nearest mail box, and Cotton's will do the rest. Cards good for a year's sub are 50 cents each; cards good for six months are 25 cents. All friends of Cotton's should have a stock on hand at the present time, as a protest against the arbitrary action of the postal authorities.

Comrade Jas. A. Wright, Montreal, renews his sub and writes, "While I do not belong to the militant school of Socialist propaganda, I nevertheless sympathize with your efforts as I do with all organized efforts for awakening the masses to a sense of their rights. I cannot say I always find myself in agreement with your views and methods. However I feel you are honest in your desires and anxious to present the truth as it appears to you and are not afraid to advocate it, which, after all, is deserving support."

Comrade B. J. Seaman, Sackville, N. B., renews his sub and forwards another yearly from a person who has become sufficiently interested to pay for his own sub. That is the best kind of a capture to make. Make a man pay for his Cotton's and he will read it closely. Has he not given two good quarters for the paper? Sure he has. Then he feels that he must read the paper closely to get his money's worth. Simply economic determination at work. So go out to that neighbor of yours and persuade him to separate himself from two bits, or even one bit, for knowledge that will make a new man of him and show him the way of making this earth a heaven, here and now.

A Comrade in Berlin, Ont., writes, "I am highly pleased with your paper. Only it is too cheap. I hate to see you lose two thousand dollars a year on it. If I were able I would send you a hundred dollars to help out." It is my settled policy to take no money unless for Socialist literature. I do not want to take any money for which I do not give value. I would rather have a reader capture twenty yearlies who pay for the paper and send me the ten dollars than to have one hundred dollars contributed to the support of the paper. I would take the ten dollars and hand out the dope for a year. I would return the hundred dollars. So if you want to help me spread the doctrine of Socialism, get that neighbor to subscribe. Get the man next you in the factory to subscribe. Spread Socialism, I am here to write, talk, and fight for Socialism. Spread Cotton's broadcast over the land, and make the fellows who subscribe pay for it themselves. After they get Socialism into their heads, they will thank you for what you have done for the rest of their lives.

MY WORKER'S ISSUE got the banded plunderers of Canada mad clear through and through. They are using the postal department to slug me out of business by unjust and excessive postal rates. Will the Army stand for this? Order a huge bundle of next week's issue. Fifty cents a hundred. Order by telegram if necessary.

CLASS AGAINST CLASS

The Socialists did not divide the people into classes. Capitalism divided the people into classes.

The Socialists have merely been honest enough to recognize this fact and act accordingly, instead of blindfolding themselves and making believe that there were no classes.

It is the mission, the logical and historic mission, of the working class to bear the brunt of the fight for the overthrow of capitalism and the introduction of Socialism.

It is its mission to do so because it is to its proximate interest to do so.

The Socialist movement is based upon the class struggle between the working class and the capitalist class.

The term, class struggle, sounds harsh to those who have never heard it before. Gentle natures would prefer not to have any class struggle.

But we have to deal with facts instead of wishes.

The classes exist.

It is not our fault that they exist.

We wish they did not exist.

But they do exist.

And the capitalist class is constantly gnawing at the vitals of the working class.

We can't wipe the classes out of existence by closing our eyes and ignoring their existence. We can only invite disaster that way.

The only way to wipe them out of existence is by the oppressed class conquering the oppressing class and abolishing it.

It is to the proximate interest of the capitalist class to continue the capitalist system, so that it can keep on exploiting the working class out of the bulk of the product of its toil.

It is to the proximate interest of the working class to destroy the capitalist system and introduce Socialism, so as to abolish exploitation and secure the full product of its toil.

The interests of the two classes are, therefore, utterly antagonistic.

I repeat that the reason the brunt of the burden of abolishing capitalism and introducing Socialism is placed upon the shoulders of the working class is because it is to the proximate interest of the working class to do so. Because it is the only class that has nothing to lose but its chains, and has a world to gain.

This is the line of battle.

The working class against the capitalist class.

To be sure, Socialism is ultimately to the interest of everybody. But people as a rule are swayed by their proximate, not by their ultimate, interest.

As for the minor economic groups, the farmers, small business men, etc., the only sensible thing for them to do is to ally themselves with the class with which their interests are the most nearly identical, which happens to be the working class.

The class struggle will continue until we win.

Then, class distinctions will be abolished by abolishing the economic injustice which causes them.

J. M. W.

The plutocracy rob the workers until the workers sink below the living line and become subnormal through lack of the necessities of life. Then the jails of the plutocracy close round the unfit because they have been made unfit and criminal through the robbery practiced on them.

When labor is plentiful the laborers can starve. But when laborers become scarce, then laws are passed compelling the workers to work for the wages the labor thieves want to pay. The history of British legislation contains many fine examples of laws that lambaste the workers into slavery to the bosses.

Parliament, as at present constituted, is a quarrelsome club for the disputing over the swag taken from the workers as to its division among the labor thieves.

Socialism will prevent an able man rising through the enslavement of his fellows.

The capitalist cares for the worker in the same way that the sheep owner cares for the sheep he is about to shear.

NATIONAL MOVEMENTS

National movements are to the fore. The beginning of the twentieth century has witnessed the progression of capitalism over the face of the world. The spread of capitalism has awakened the so-called backward nations, and the bold spirits within these nations are hungering to exploit their fellow citizens. The basis of the modern nationalist movements is this desire on the part of would-be capitalists to live off their fellow-men.

Ireland has been most shamelessly exploited by absentee landlords and capitalists. The Irish at home have had no chance to get the revenues that arise from the exploitation of Irish workers. Hence the Irish nationalists are clamoring for home rule and Ireland for the Irish. The nationalists want an Irish parliament, an Irish system of exploitation. The peasant Irish feel the pinch of poverty and are backing the nationalist movement, ignorant of what it leads to.

In India the same nationalist spirit is being felt. The Swadeshi movement is a nationalist movement to benefit Indian exploiters. The Indians feel the terrible drain of Great Britain and think that if the money that goes to England could be spent by Indians in India all would be well.

In Japan, Persia and Turkey the movement is a little different. In these three countries the old methods of economic production with the resultant dominance of a particular master class had become outworn. So the capitalist era burst through the integument of an outworn system.

The history of these nationalist movements can be read in the light of the history of the French Revolution. The same cries for freedom and justice and equality are being raised. The same result of the enslavement of peoples desiring to be free by the capitalist controllers will follow. The only hope of escape lies in the rising Socialist movement now threatening the capitalists of all the Western European countries. If the social revolution triumphs in Germany, France, and England, the countries now experiencing a furor of nationalist enthusiasm, may step into the glories of Socialism.

HOW WE EXPLAIN PEOPLE'S ACTIONS

Underlying the whole literature of International Socialism is the principle described in different phrases as Economic Determinism, Historical Materialism, or the Materialistic Conception of History. The names may sound hard, but the theory itself is simple enough, so simple that the reader may wonder why it had to be discovered, or why any one should ever have doubted it. Yet the theory in any developed form was first stated in the Communist Manifesto, by Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, issued in the year 1848.

What it means is this: If people are to live, they must eat, and if they are to live in a climate like that of the northern parts of Canada, they must have clothes, shelter and fuel. Not only is this true now, but it has been true for thousands of years. So, no matter how different people may be otherwise, they are all alike in this, that they all want the things that we call the necessities of life. But they have not always been able to get them in the same way, and the way in which they do get them makes all the difference in the world about their way of thinking on almost every subject.

For example, here in Quebec sixty or seventy-five years ago, the way our grandfathers got their living was to go out on government land, take up a homestead, which became theirs after doing a little work on it, and go to raising corn. There was no expensive machinery; there were no railroads; their labor was not productive compared with labor today, but what they did produce was theirs to keep. So it was usually the case that any one who was willing to work could live in comfort and gradually get together a little property, and it was natural to think that if one man here and there remained poor he must be to blame for not working so hard as the others, or for wasting what he had earned.

Now the grandchildren of these same farmers have in many cases worked along in the same fashion as their grandfathers, but things have gradually become easier for them. Railroads have been built, machinery has been manufactured which does most of the work that used to be done by hand; millions of laborers who own no land have come into the country and are exchanging their labor in many forms for the food these farmers raise. So now it is no longer necessary for these fortunate ones to do the same hard work their grandfathers did. They can rent

their land and live from the labor of the tenants, or they can sell it and with the money buy in some form or another some of the tools that the landless laborers have to use, and so live from their labor. But all the while it is perfectly natural for them to cling to the ideas of their grandfathers, which were formerly true, but have ceased to be true, namely, that if a man could not earn enough to live in comfort it was because he was lazy and shiftless, and that those are comfortable who are useful to the community.

Meanwhile a new set of ideas has grown up among the great mass of the people who were not so fortunate in having grandfathers who got here first. They realize that they are working hard and producing vast wealth they do not get; they realize that something is wrong, even though they cannot tell just what it is; they are discontented and ready to rebel as soon as they can see what is the matter, and when they realize what Socialism means, they will join us in the fight.

All through history, the way people got their food has shaped their ideas. At first it was so hard for them to get their food that they could think of little else. Sometimes food was even so scarce that they had to eat each other, or the most highly developed tribes would have died out. Then cannibalism was "right" because it was necessary.

But gradually men learned by applying labor to land to get more food from the land than was required to feed the man who did the digging. Then it became "wrong" to eat prisoners taken in war; the "right" thing was then to make them work for the benefit of their captors. Thenceforth human progress became rapid, for from that time there was a class of men who did not have to think exclusively about how to produce enough food to keep them alive the next day or year; they could begin to apply their brains to the more complete conquest of the earth. The sentimentalist says slavery was always and eternally wrong; the Socialist says that slavery was necessary in its time, but that its time has gone.

Now for the first time in all the history of the universe man's command over nature has reached the point where if the labor of all were intelligently applied for an average of two or three hours a day, every one would have enough and to spare.

This is not a fine-spun theory; it is a straight-forward statement and explanation of known facts. Ideas do not make facts, but facts make ideas, and the ideas born of these facts that we have just been examining are some of the ideas that go to make up Socialism.

The most concise and oft-quoted statement of historical materialism is found on page 8 of the Ker edition of the Communist Manifesto, by Marx and Engels. A fuller statement starts on page 45 of "Socialism, Utopian and Scientific," by Frederick Engels. The most adequate discussion of the principle that has thus far appeared is "Essays on the Materialistic Conception of History," by Antonio Labriola. A valuable work explaining how morals, laws and political institutions grow out of and are determined by economic conditions is "The Economic Foundations of Society," by Achille Loria. This same principle is applied to the history and the present state of the country by A. M. Simons in "Class Struggles in America," and by Austin Lewis in "The Rise of the American Proletarian."

—CHAS. H. KERR.

The Banner Collection

We have made a slight change in the titles of the books in the Banner Collection, but it is a change for the better. The Banner Collection of books is the best obtainable for the beginner in the study of Socialism. Socialism is explained in a simple and interesting manner. The books are neatly bound in paper and can be carried in the pocket without any inconvenience. Here is the list:

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

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

THE EYE-OPENER EDITION is exhausted.

THE TIME IS RIPE

YOU have heard the words, "The time is Ripe and Rotten Ripe for Change," and with the spirit of these words ringing in my ears, I say to you the Time is Ripe for action on the part of the Agitation Battery. The Fish has gone forth that Cotton's is to be crushed, but with your help I'll turn the tables in a manner little expected by the Ottawa gang.

I have been appealing to you for Funds to enable the Agitation Battery to send copies to the Canadian Papers. I must get them interested in the coming fight for a free press. They must go on the list right away next week. Everything hinges on this.

A great many of you have in your hands detailed information as to what the Battery wants to do—and you have the machinery at hand to do it with. Will you do it right away as soon as you have read this article.

I expected some action by the postal authorities, but I did not expect it so soon. Cotton's has been harassed for months in deliveries in some quarters, and well a good many of you know the trouble you have getting your papers.

Here is all you have to do: Take a Dollar Bill, or more, fold it carefully in a piece of brown wrapping paper, fill out the blank on this page, plunk it all into an envelope and slip into Cotton's by the next mail. You will never have done a more timely thing or put a dollar or five or ten to a better use. Cotton's is on its mettle. Get into the fight. The freedom of the Socialist press is at stake. Watch the next issue.

W. U. COTTON.

Here's a promising start made on the Battery funds. Boost it for next week.

C. Sweet, Denver, U. S.	\$4.00
A. Soper, Aylmer, Ont.	1.00
B. Liss, Berlin, Ont.	1.00
W. T. Farrell, Hespeler, Ont.	1.00
J. Harvey, Bridgeburg, Ont.	1.00
D. Johnston, Weyburn, Sask.	1.00
S. E. Haight, Swift Current, Sask.	1.00
Previously Acknowledged	\$10.00
Total on hand	\$18.00
Amount needed, \$375.00.	

There is a great time coming some day. It will be a great day for the workingmen when they free themselves from the robbery of the ages.

All dead things will stink if kept long enough. The stench that arises from capitalism is proof enough that it ought to be buried.

Comrade Hustler—Do you want the distribution of Socialist literature stopped? "Certainly not," you will yell at once. Well, get busy on the Firing Line of Cotton's. Watch the next issue.

Socialism will prevent a man becoming diligent in the business of slave-driving.

"The destruction of the poor is their poverty."

All Socialists are intense individualists, as you will discover if you mingle with them.

Comrades, if you cannot land subs, will you send us in the names of every open-minded man you know. Everything counts just now.

Socialism will provide conditions wherein the best will have a chance to survive. The best are now killed off, or submerged.

Lists, Lists, Lists, of wage-slaves and farmers are eagerly wanted by Cotton's.

The great overwhelming bulk of the industries have not been earned by the men who own them.

Wage Workers who Understand what SOCIALISM

means are usually Socialists. Better look into the question for yourself. Write your address on the lines below, mail or the coupon with 10 cents, and you will get a hundred-page illustrated magazine and a 64-page illustrated book that will help you decide very quickly which side you are on.

Name
Address
P. O. State
Send five cent stamp. Address
Charles H. Kerr & Co., 120 Kinzie St., Chicago.

Press Fund--Agitation Battery

COTTON'S WEEKLY, Cowansville, P. Q.

Find enclosed \$..... for which put me down as a Backer of the Agitation Battery, in view of the attempted suppression of Cotton's.

Name
Street or Box
Postoffice Province

HEAD OFFICE WASTE

There is one thing the apologists of the capitalist like to do. They like to impress upon the people how much cheaper and better private enterprise is than social enterprise. They like to declare that the individual system of doing things is better than the social. They declare that, while it is true that the capitalists take their toll of the business done in the shape of rent, interest and profit, nevertheless the capitalists render such important services to the community that they should be paid their toll. I am going to give facts and figures that will answer the statements of the capitalist apologists. These figures and comparisons will show what a tremendous drag the capitalist is on the advance of the community.

In 1908 the business of life insurance was carried on in Canada by thirty-nine active companies, of which twenty-three are Canadian, six British and ten American. Canada has a population a little over seven million. In this small population thirty-nine insurance companies are out after business. They each maintain separate head offices. They each have a separate board of directors. They each spend a lot of money soliciting insurance. They each get but a small portion of business and they each want large profits. The result is that life insurance has been made an expensive luxury.

What would you think of the government of the Dominion, were it to establish thirty-nine different systems of postoffice service to cover the territory of Canada? What would you think of the government were it to pay a lot of expensive officials to run thirty-nine separate establishments; where one establishment would do? You would say the government had gone crazy and the whole bunch of Cabinet members would be hustled off to the padded cells of an insane asylum. Yet you, allow thirty-nine insurance companies to establish thirty-nine separate insurance systems in Canada, and not only that but you allow these insurance companies to charge enough to make a profit of nearly one hundred per cent. on the business done. You are easy and the insurance profit-hunters know it.

Do you want to know the cost of these thirty-nine companies? They come high. It is impossible to get the total cost because the head offices of the British and American companies are outside Canada and are not reported. But the cost of operating the twenty-three Canadian companies amounted to \$6,117,942. That is the cost of having twenty-three Canadian companies each trying to get business and each keeping up its separate organization.

The insurance companies are expensive and unnecessary. The people themselves could insure themselves cheaper and better than can the insurance companies. In this article head office waste alone is being dealt with. Let us examine that waste more closely, with particular reference to the Canadian companies.

Each of these twenty-three companies keeps up a separate head office and each pays a lot of expensive officials. To show the waste of these separate offices let us compare the head office salaries paid by some of the insurance companies with the salaries paid by some of the Departments of the Canadian government. The salaries paid to the officials at the head office of the Canada Life Insurance Company in 1908 amounted to \$154,129.95. This is but one of the twenty-three companies. The salaries paid by the Customs Department for the whole of Canada amounted in the same year to \$161,384. The Sun Life Insurance paid in salaries at the head office \$121,928.76. The Mines Department at Ottawa paid in salaries only \$118,312.00. The Great West Life Company paid in salaries to the head office staff \$99,206.09. The Finance Department at Ottawa paid \$99,562.02 in salaries and handled all the financial business of Canada with the staff employed. The Manufacturers' Life paid \$74,860.88. The Inland Revenue Department at Ottawa paid \$74,079.66. The Confederation Life paid in head office salaries \$71,000.00. The Auditor-General Department at Ottawa paid \$77,123.76 in salaries. The North American Life paid \$49,616.82. The Secretary of State Department at Ottawa paid \$50,547.95 in salaries. The Mutual Life paid \$49,318.58 in salaries. The Department of Labor and the Department of Trade and Commerce, together, paid but \$52,000.00 in salaries.

So we see the separate insurance companies of Canada maintaining expensive establishments. We see single insurance companies duplicating each other's organizations, and each spending as much in salaries to handle but six or seven per cent. of the insurance done, as do the government departments for handling all the affairs of the Canadian people along special lines. Is not that waste? I defy any insurance man to prove that

the insurance companies of Canada are not incompetent, wasteful, extravagant, inefficient, and a drag on the productive energies of the working people of Canada.

The twenty-three companies paid in head office salaries alone the sum of \$864,806.87. In addition the directors took \$80,000.00 unto themselves in fees. Auditing cost another \$20,297.07, or a total of \$965,000,000. This is but twenty-three of the thirty-nine insurance companies doing business in Canada. The total salaries paid in Canada by the Dominion government, for carrying on the affairs of all the people, including the 50,000 dollars paid the Governor General, including the salaries of the cabinet ministers and the Governor-Generals, amounted in 1908 to two and three-quarter million dollars. The head office waste of the twenty-three insurance companies would pay one-third of the salaries paid by the Dominion government.

What is the remedy? The public ownership and democratic management of the means of production and distribution is the only remedy.

What the Socialist system will be in detail no man can foresee, in the same way that no man could foresee the particular way political democracy would work out in various countries. But there is one central idea that the Socialist state will conform to, and that idea is the public ownership of the means of production and distribution democratically managed. At present we have the private ownership of the means of production and distribution automatically managed by the few for the benefit of their pockets. The C. P. R. is not run for the benefit of the people but for the pockets of its owners. In so far as we have private ownership with autocratic management we have a bad system. In so far as we have public ownership with democratic management we have a good system. If we know that it is good to have public ownership and democratic management, let us have the courage of our convictions and apply the principle to all the means of production and distribution for the benefit of the people of Canada. Let us nationalize our railway systems and our water powers and our shoe factories and cotton mills and elevators and street railway systems and our wheat areas. Let them be democratically managed and the benefits we now derive from public roads and water works and post office and canals and fire protection will come from all the means of production. The only reason that we do not have the public ownership and democratic management is that the people do not take the time to reason. When men and women begin to reason they old, outworn profit system will vanish from Canada.

Rent, interest and profit are no more necessary than are the payment of feudal dues or taxes to the extinct Roman empire or tolls to the Grand Lama of Thebet. But because certain persons have a great interest in receiving large incomes for rendering no services whatsoever, these persons hire other persons to write falsehoods about the necessity of paying rent, interest and profit. And these persons get members of parliament elected to enact laws legalizing rent, interest and profit. So the really productive workers are kept in bondage and have to pay money to the men and women who render no service for what they get. But the workers who produce the wealth that is taken from them by the receivers of rent, interest and profit are the ones who should see to it that the system by which they do not get what they earn should be made to cease. It is only when the people who work organize themselves and vote for the abolition of rent, interest and profit, that the system of private graft will be done away with.

Did you ever study the anarchy of private business compared with the organized effort of public bodies? A dozen insurance agents will endeavor to pull business for each one of their companies. The same man will be argued with by each of the dozen agents. They will waste his time and their own. If finally he is landed and becomes insured he has to pay the waste of all their times and the waste of his own time. Compare that state of affairs with the city organization for the prevention of fires. The city organizes a fire system in which the city is divided off into sections and each section is protected by its own fire apparatus and in case of need by the fire apparatus of the whole city. The fire apparatus is not run for profit but for the need of the city. No man derives rent, interest or profit from the fire system. Then if a public fire protection system is good, why not have public protection against hunger in the same way.

WATCH FOR NEXT WEEK'S COTTON'S.

LISTEN, YOU WORKERS

Are you a workingman. Then read the following and get your ears tickled. I am going to talk to you about millions of dollars, millions that rightfully belong to you because you produce the wealth of the world. I am going to talk to you of millions of dollars which you can get if you will only go the right way about it. If you go the wrong way about it then these millions will never be yours, but will continue to be the property of those who now enjoy them. These millions are but a fraction of the millions you can get, and which rightfully belong to you.

Last year the insurance companies in Canada received an income of forty million dollars. As the working classes produce all the wealth, you working men were the ones who earned these forty million dollars and you should be the ones who received it. But you did not get them. Someone else got them and the insurance companies got them from the people who got them from you. The insurance companies got them for agreeing to pay a certain sum of money to the heirs of the men should the men die.

There are four questions, first, where did the insurance companies get the money, second, how did they spend it, third, what could be done with the sum of money, and fourth, how can it be done.

The insurance companies got the money mostly from men and women who are living either directly on the productive workers as parasites, or from those who are living as parasite workers on the parasite rich. The money mostly came from the receivers of rent, interest and profit, or from the classes employed by these parasite profit getters, such as lawyers, brokers, land agents, and the like. As the average sum taken in return for insurance from each of the insured, amounted to fifty-three dollars, it is plain that the average workingman could not afford to insure. So that the forty million dollars are taken from the workers by the non-producers and handed over to the insurance companies and the workers get no benefit from the insurance. The money comes from the workers, but they get absolutely nothing in return for it.

How do the insurance companies spend the money. For every hundred dollars the insurance companies get it costs them \$21.25 to get it; they pay back, not to the workers, but to the people who took the money from the workers, the sum of \$33.86; they pay \$7 cents in taxes; and they put \$44.02 into their wad and keep it. The people who take the money away from the workers to give to the insurance companies only get one-third of it back again. They are almost as simple as the workers who gave up all the money in the first place and got nothing back at all.

What could be done with the forty million dollars the insurance companies get annually? The heirs of every male person who dies between the ages of twenty-five and sixty-five years of age in Canada could be given a sum of three thousand dollars and there would be left a sum of one million dollars with which the salaries and expenses of managing and delivering the insurance could be paid.

How can it be done. Let the workers who produce all the wealth, and see to it that they own all the wealth and that the wealth be managed in the interest of the workers. If they will do this then wealth undreamed of by the workers will be owned by and used in the interest of the workers.

How do you like to think in millions, you working men? You get from seven to ten dollars a week and your bosses enjoy the millions you do not get but which you earn. The power lies with you whether you shall continue to be exploited out of all you produce save a bare living, or whether you shall become the rulers of Canada and the owners of your own wealth.

The Worker's Collection

Here is a New Collection of Books for the Worker Manual or Brain. These books are to follow up the Banner Collection, and lead right up to where the student of Socialism can take up the heavy work. The books in this list are too well known to need much comment. Every Socialist knows them and they are all right. There are no better published. Clear and logical in every particular.

1. Introduction to Socialism—Richardson 5c
2. Socialism, Utopian and Scientific 10c
3. Science and Socialism—LaMonte 5c
4. The Evolution of the Class Struggle 5c
5. Communist Manifesto—Marx and Engels 10c
6. Wage Labor and Capital, Marx 5c
7. Values, Price and Profit, Marx 5c

Fifty Cents is the price for this excellent bunch of seven books. Two shiny postcards or a Fifty Cent Postal Note will take them from Cotton's Book Department. Be sure and ask for the Worker's Collection.

U. S. A. RATES.
Single subscriptions, per year \$1.00
In clubs of 4 and over to same postoffice 75c
Five copies in one wrapper to one address \$2.50

Register your protest by hustling Subs for Cotton's.

THE INSURANCE AGENT

This Insurance Special is not an attack upon the insurance agents. The insurance agent is a man with a wife and family to support and he must needs do many things that he knows could be done better for the benefit of humanity. Yet what is he to do? The capitalists have so arranged society that many men must do things they do not like. The insurance agent is forced to work and is not free to do that which he would like. The Socialist movement will free the insurance agent, as it will free the day laborer, and will give him a chance to earn his living by productive industry. This chance the insurance agent does not possess at present. It is the system that is to blame, not the agent.

A bill to prevent race track gambling is now being discussed at Ottawa. One witness before the special committee appointed to examine into the matter has a list of fifty men who have been ruined by race track gambling. Some papers are quoting this fact as proof positive that race track gambling should be abolished. If it is sufficient then the whole capitalist system should be abolished. Thousands of men are ruined annually by the capitalist system. Its crimes are innumerable. At the judgment bar of impartial reason the capitalist system stands condemned. Will the House of Commons bring in a bill to abolish capitalism and introduce Socialism? Not as long as the people do not rise on them. Just as criminals fatten and grow rich on crime when undisturbed, so capitalists fatten and grow rich on capitalism which they have legalized. Just as criminals will fight against police so will the capitalists fight those who are endeavoring to pass laws that will take their ill-gotten gains away from the capitalists. And just as criminals will band together and capture a city government for the protection of criminals, so the capitalists have captured the Canadian governments and are running them in the interests of capitalism—Capitalism may ruin thousands of Canadians, but the governments will not put a stop to it. It pays the legalized criminals too well.

There is one thing the Socialists know means nothing to them or the advance of their principles. When a person says, "I sympathize with Socialism and am a Socialist but—" the Socialists know that such a person is useless.

How would you and your fellow workingmen like to control the mill in which you work? How would you like to dig coal out of your own mine? How would you like to run the mill or mine or factory or department store? That is what Socialism aims at giving you the right to do. Let the title to the means of production be vested in all the people, and let the people enact a law that no one should enjoy the revenues of the means of production without performing some sort of useful labor, either mental or physical. Then let the man or woman on the job have a say in how the production of wealth shall be carried on. That is Socialism. Just how the system will work out in detail will depend on how the workers want the system to be managed. But there are certain fundamental rules to which the system must conform. There must be social ownership and social control, and the workers must form the society that will control.

Once upon a time the wagon roads of Canada were privately built and privately owned in many places. No one could travel over the roads without paying a toll. The people saw how foolish that was so they abolished the toll gates and toll roads and ran them and threw the roads open to the people to travel on without money and without price. The toll owners did not like to see the roads become public property. Their tolls were no longer being paid. But was it not better for the people to have free roads that the travel of the people should be free even though a few men did not get their former incomes? In the same way will it not be better for the Canadian people to own their own railroads and make them the instruments for the people's welfare rather than that the roads should be made dear to travel on and a few men have private yachts and wine cellars and incomes they do not know how to spend wisely? In the interests of the income receivers themselves the railroads should be confiscated from them.

BUNDLE PRICES.
10 copies per week, for 3 months \$1.00
25 copies per week, for 3 months \$2.50
5 copies per week, for 6 months \$1.00
5 copies per week, for one year \$2.00
10 copies per week, for one year \$4.00
Bundles not less than one hundred, at the rate per 100 50

Socialism will remove the incentive now actuating so many persons of growing rich at the expense of their fellow men.

When Socialism comes there will be free government insurance. As long as capitalism lasts insurance will be beyond the reach of the working class.

The end and aim of Socialism is to get rid of the useless capitalists and to let the laboring many control the machinery of production and distribution.

The capitalist insurance game is one of the nicest games for the accumulation of unearned wealth that was ever practised on the Canadian workers.

The wages that go into the pay envelopes are but a fraction of what the workers earn. How could the homes of the parasite be built if the workers were paid all they earn?

It is the duty of every Socialist to hit the capitalist between his economic eyes. But it is the duty of the Socialist to do the hitting with a loving heart.

Let the workingmen of the Dominion not grow uneasy over the fact that they cannot afford insurance. Let them be content to learn from the lips of the politicians that Canada was specially created for the capitalists and not for the workers.

The incomes of the life insurance companies doing business in Canada total over forty million dollars. The workers are the ones out of whose work this vast sum is taken. It is not taken out of their pockets because the bosses see to it that the money never gets to the pockets of the workers.

necessary to the conducting of the affairs of the mill you work in, he speaks a half-lie and a half-truth. As long as there is competition and graft and economic anarchy, there is work for the little bosses to do. But private ownership and competition, and the bosses that develop under such a system of robbery of the workers are totally unnecessary. Some little boss with a pull on a corrupt government may be the means of a few workers in a small village getting jobs to do to produce something that is not necessary. But the whole bunch of bosses could be chucked out of the factories and the factories could be expropriated to the great advantage of the working class.

To struggle is a good thing. So says John D. Rockefeller and so says Theodore Roosevelt. Yes, to struggle is a good thing. We Socialists know that. So we intend to do good to those who do not like us. We are going to do good to men like John D. Rockefeller and Theodore Roosevelt and other rich men. We are not going to let them live on the interest of their money. When a man has interest and can live without work there is no necessity for him to struggle. So we Socialists are actually going to do the parasites a favor. We are going to give them a chance to struggle and produce their share of the wealth they consume.

Cannibalism is now regarded as a horrible crime. There was a stage in the evolution of human society in which cannibalism was regarded as the proper mode of living. We have outgrown that stage. We no longer regard it as proper to live off the bodies of our fellow men. In the future years our descendants will look back upon many of our customs of the present day with horror. Now our big men live off the work of others. It is considered honorable and worthy to live off the labor of others, to have others build houses for the rich to inhabit, and the rich to do nothing. The day is coming when humanity will regard it to be as great a crime for a strong person to live off the labor of others and with as great horror, as we now regard the crime of living off the bodies of other human beings.

Andrew Carnegie has established a pension fund for aged professors. One of the clauses in the pension fund gift is that no denominational college professor shall get a pension. The religious colleges have been deeply provoked at this clause and declare that it is commercialism's blow at the church. The church ministers should know that in this world those who pay the piper call the tune. If Andy pays the piper he has a right to say which piper shall be paid. The remedy is to so arrange the ownership of the means of production and distribution that the careers of the Carnegies shall not be possible. If the careers of the Carnegies are made impossible, then it will be impossible for Carnegies to dictate what a man shall think before a pension be given him.

WORKERS CANNOT INSURE

Now, Mr. Workingmen of this Dominion of ours, how would you like to get insured? The government could insure you dirt cheap. You are robbed right and left. The landlord robs you. The banks rob you. The capitalists rob you. After having robbed you of all they can, or dare, they give you a few dollars a week, just to keep you contented. All the rest they consider their dues. They need it in their business, so you cannot have it.

There is one class of people who need an insurance against leaving their loved ones unprotected for should they die. That class is the working class. The working class do not own their own homes. They pay rent. The working class do not have bank accounts. The banks will hardly let a workingman inside the bank doors. The workers do not draw money in interest. They are the class out of whose pockets the interest money is drawn. The working class possess but one saleable article—the labor power of their hands. That labor power perishes when the worker dies. The support of the family ceases with the death of the wage earner. If there is one class that needs insurance against the death of the father, that class is the working class.

But the working class cannot get insurance. Private control has raised the price of insurance beyond the reach of the working class. The average premium paid on each insurance policy in Canada amounts to fifty-three dollars a year. How many workingmen can afford to pay a lump sum for an average insurance policy. Fifty-three dollars amount to over one-tenth the annual income of the railway worker. Fifty-three dollars amount to one-seventh the annual income of the industrial worker in Canada. The workingman cannot afford to pay from one-tenth to one-seventh of his wages for insurance against death. Insurance has become the luxury of the well-to-do. Insurance, under the capitalist regime, is paid for by the class that does the least work, needs insurance the least, and does the most to prevent the workers getting insured.

There may be an occasional worker who finds that he can pay the money to become insured. But the worker who can do this is the one who has no dependent wife or child. A workingman is given a small wage. He can spend that wage in getting insured or in getting married and bringing up children. He cannot do both. But it is not the unmarried worker who needs the insurance against death the most. It is the worker who has a wife and children who should be insured. Yet the wage of such a worker is all needed to feed and clothe the family.

I might write in a sarcastic vein and give the cynical thought, that controls the minds of the capitalists. I do not desire to do that. This is a serious question. Upon it hinges the future welfare of the Canadian workers.

The Canadian government has handed the trade of taking toll of the weak over to groups of men who are in the trade for the money they can make. These men grasp millions. The workers are denied necessary relief. Laurier and his gang of capitalist exploiters are busy in preparing guns to kill. They strut at Ottawa and the people suffer. They fasten the chains of capitalist domination still more harshly upon the working classes, till the iron links sink into the quivering flesh of the victims. No relief can come from capitalist government without a great movement for the workers.

Let the people of Canada awake. Let the cry go forth that we Canadian citizens shall no longer live in bondage to the profit-hunting capitalist task-masters. Let the workers, in their hundred thousands, move forward to the overthrow of the present system of the buying and selling of the means of life, with profit the motive force. Let the Canadian people decide that the time has come for the abolition of the rent-takers, and profit-takers, and interest-takers from this Canadian land. Only then will the bondage of the workers cease and they shall walk forth in the newness of an economic life they dream not of at present.

Paid in Advance

Every copy of Cotton's Weekly is paid for before it leaves this office. If you get Cotton's through the mail with a colored address label on it, numbered, your subscription has been paid by some friend who wishes you to look into the truths of Socialism. You need not hesitate to take Cotton's from the post office as no bill will be rendered, and the paper will be promptly discontinued when the subscription expires.

Socialists are not out to raise the wages of the workers. Socialists are out to give the workers all they produce.

LOOK FOR THE NEXT ISSUE.