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## Cotton's Weekly

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This is No. 125

OWANSVILLE, P. Q., CANADA, FEBRUARY 2, 1911

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### The Postmaster-General and the "Co-operator."

The Postmaster General of Canada runs the post office for the benefit of the labor thieves. He will not give a square deal to non-capitalist papers.

On Thursday the nineteenth day of January there was held in Montreal the banquet of the Montreal section of the Manufacturers Association. At this banquet was present the Honorable Postmaster General of Canada, a person by the name of Rodolphe Lemieux. Cotton's readers are familiar with this gentleman from the articles published last year.

This gentleman would be absolutely unimportant were he not Postmaster General of Canada. He runs the department at Ottawa which has control of the mails, which says whether matter can go through the mails or not and at what rates it shall travel. There is a law governing the management of the department. But the Postmaster General cares little for the law. He runs the department with a high hand, saying what papers shall have postal regulations and what persons shall not.

At the banquet in Montreal of the Manufacturers the Honorable Lemieux was present. He spoke. His address delighted the gathered labor thieves. He declared that he was the dear friend of the manufacturers of Canada. This won applause. He declared that he had always been their friend and always would be. This won more applause. But Lemieux oversteps the mark when, out of his love for his friends the labor skimmers, he uses the postal department to crush out those publications which the manufacturers do not like while, throwing open the mailing privileges to those papers which do not antagonize the manufacturers.

There is a little monthly publication published at Brantford, Ont., in the interests of the co-operative movement. This is the Canadian Co-Operator. It is published by the Co-operative Union of Canada. It calls itself "A magazine of social and economic progress."

This paper has appeared regularly for four years. It has applied for the right that all publications have of sending its numbers through the mails to subscribers at one-quarter of a cent a pound. Its request has been refused. It has been refused without reason. Rodolphe Lemieux, out of his friendship for the profit hunting manufacturers refuses to give the Co-Operator the right that every other publication enjoys in Canada. It must put a one cent stamp on every copy that goes through the mails.

Why does the Honorable Lemieux refuse to give the Co-Operator the mailing privileges that it should have by law? The answer can be found in his speech at Montreal. He is the dear friend of the profit hunting manufacturers. Therefore, out of his private friendship for these gentlemen, he uses his public office in an illegal manner to crush the co-operative papers.

In the last issue of the Co-Operator that came to this office was an article giving an account of the labor co-partnership established at Guelph. The first paragraph of the first article reads as follows:

"The citizens of Guelph, Ont., have or their hands an empty factory. It has been offered to capitalists on attractive terms as to rental and it occurred to Mr. Samuel Carter, the president of the Co-operative union of Canada, and of the Guelph Co-operative Association that it might be used to advantage by the inauguration of a Labor Co-partnership institution."

This is not pleasing to the manufacturers. Why should labor work together co-operatively? What business have the workers uniting to cut out the profits of the manufacturers? It is outrageous from the manufacturers' standpoint. And Lemieux is their dear friend. The Canadian Co-operator gives news and advises how the manufacturers profits may be eliminated. So Lemieux, the dear friend of the manufacturers, makes the Canadian Co-operator put a cent stamp on each copy sent out. This is a charge of eight cents a pound instead of a quarter of a cent a pound.

LEMIEUX OUT OF HIS FRIENDSHIP FOR THE MANUFACTURERS HANDICAPS THE "CO-OPERATOR" BY CHARGING IT A POSTAL RATE THIRTY-TWO TIMES GREATER THAN HE CHARGES THE CAPITALIST SHEETS.

You know how Cotton's was treated last year. I was getting letter af-

ter letter from the postal authorities every few days. A move was on foot to take away the postal privileges of "Cotton's." The Army opened on Lemieux and the postal authorities got scared and quit. That fight is not over. But let us take up the fight for the Co-Operator.

Write to the Postmaster General Lemieux and tell him he is not fit to run the postal department. Ask him to resign. Write your member and see if you can get justice for the Canadian Co-Operator.

At the last meeting of the International Socialist Congress at Copenhagen a resolution was passed endorsing the co-operative movement. Let us see if the Army back of Cotton's Weekly cannot compel Lemieux to give the Co-Operator the rights it possesses under the Canadian Postal Act.

Lemieux is acting in a wholly illegal and high-handed manner. Will Cotton's Army stand for the repression of radical papers by an upstart postmaster general who tries to stamp out radical thought because he wants to help the labor skimmers?

The following is an outline of the case against the Postmaster General, published in the last issue of the Co-Operator. The editor of the Co-Operator declares that maybe Lemieux is entirely innocent in the matter. He has far more faith in Lemieux than I have.

### THE POSTMASTER GENERAL DISCRIMINATES AGAINST THE "CANADIAN CO-OPERATOR"

Fellow Co-operators—  
When you wish to send printed matter through the mail the post office collects from you 1c for every 2 oz.

Publishers, however, can use the mails at 1c per lb. and under certain circumstances free of any cost whatever.

The manufacturer of literature is the only manufacturer who gets the transportation of his commodity nearly or absolutely free of expense. He is not favored because of his good looks. The intention of Parliament in granting such exceptional privileges at the cost of the state was to provide facilities for the dissemination of useful or educational information.

Were the newspaper publishers of Canada required to pay the cost of the circulation of their productions the majority of them would be immediately put out of business.

At the inauguration of this journal I applied on behalf of Canadian Co-operators for publishers privileges in respect of every member of a Co-operative Society in affiliation with the Co-operative Union of Canada, of which this journal is the official organ.

The Postmaster-General declines to grant such privileges because there is no specific appropriation from a member's profits for the journal. Each Society pays for the "Co-operator" out of its common funds.

While four or five partners in a grocery store could pay for the trade organs which disseminate articles against Co-operation, out of the common revenue before the distribution of profits and while it would be possible for a large departmental store to pay for subscriptions in one cheque of hundreds of employees, one hundred workers who are partners in a Co-operative Store, and who wish that their subscriptions should be paid out of the common revenue before declaration of dividend are mulcted to the extent of a cent per copy for their monthly journal.

Some years ago the Postmaster-General presided over a House of Commons Committee on the Co-operative Bill, and he expressed himself as an enthusiastic believer in its principles. The Bill on that occasion not only received the unanimous endorsement of the committee but passed the House of Commons without a dissentient voice.

It cannot, therefore, be said that the purpose for which this journal is conducted is not in the public interest, nor can it be denied that the publication is a bona fide one. It is of sufficient public interest to justify one department of State at Ottawa to subscribe for three copies monthly, and another department for two copies and one provincial department at Toronto for one copy, each subscription having been made without solicitation.

I then called the attention of the Post Office Department to the fact that the fraternal insurance societies of Canada were using the mails at

(Continued on page 3.)

### HOW IT IS IN MONTREAL FOR STREET CAR MEN

(The following letter is from a worker who was eight years a conductor of the Montreal Street Railway. He knows the conditions. We therefore publish his letter verbatim.)

332 Panet St., Montreal  
January 1911.

All the citizens of Montreal, at least very nearly all, know the power of the Montreal Street Railway Company and its millions which make dance at the pleasure of the company's aldermen. But few know the rules governing the employees and the miseries they suffer.

To wear a uniform may be tempting to many, but it must not be forgotten that a uniform often covers a real slave. As with all corporations it has the influence that makes the political administrative machine walk as wills the company.

Let me give you the slave condition of the employees. Once the aspirant to the position of conductor or motorman is accepted he must work a month WITHOUT PAY. When he is finally permanently employed he becomes a veritable cadaver (if I may use the expression) in the hands of the company, by signing the following contract, which the company imposes on him:

"I promise to take no action against the company for discharging me, and it may dismiss me without giving any reason."

Each employee is obliged to give security by leaving ten dollars with the company the interest upon which the company enjoys.

When a new man has worked a month without wages he becomes what is known as a "spare man." He can, however, thank Providence if in the course of a winter he has the chance of getting one "extra" a day.

With this meagre wage he must furnish himself with a winter and a summer suit. With the return of the good season work increases. But we be unto him who has the misfortune to make the least mistake, as he will not be overlooked in the reports. He is watched and followed by an army of spies, men and women, often rapacious, and whose reputations are nearly always doubtful.

Finally the poor employee is permitted to advance. His uniforms are now paid for. He begins to save a little by close economy, when, lo, he is fired without reason or explanation!

Now what becomes of him? Used to work that is relatively easy, without income after having sacrificed considerable time, often ruined in health in the service of the company, he swells the army of the unemployed and the fact of having been in the employ of the street car company closes advantageous positions to him as it does to many.

There may be black sheep among the tramway employees, but as a rule they are courteous and honest. Before passing a rash judgment on him, one ought to ask if he is really blame-worthy, whether it is not those at the head of the company who are to blame.

We are generous enough to admit that there are those in the company who have the respect of the employees. The blame lies first on the system that gives power to the spy to exercise his jealousy or to satisfy his vengeance. If the company is ignorant of this we now gladly tell it that often its hired agents, whose mission it is to watch the employees, would defile the mirrors into which they looked.

The public generally is not aware of the condition of the tramway employee. The politicians say nothing about it, and you must not talk politics to the tramway employee, as he dare not encourage you. He must watch his car and see that no fares get away. He must not have an opinion. He cannot say a word, without immediately out come majestically, notebooks, pencils and his number is registered. His least movement, his jokes, are carefully noted. Every intellectual effort is denied him.

Do you doubt it? Ask him some questions about politics, or the labor movement, or unionism. Note how quickly he changes the subject. Eyes follow him. Ears hear him. Traps are continually set for him; and he invariably ends by falling into them. In public meeting he removes the number from his cap for fear his name will appear in office next morning. He is a puppet which the com-

pany makes jump by pulling the strings.

I ask, therefore, for these cadavers a little sympathy and respect for we are taught to respect the dead.

Do not bear down too hard on these human machines. Do not condemn the innocent for the guilty.

When anyone lodges a complaint against an employee why should he not put up a guarantee of good faith which would go to the accused if the charge against him prove false? Why refuse the accused the chance to be confronted by his accuser, or acquaint him with the name of his enemy? The accuser ought to be brave enough to make himself known.

Perhaps then we would have an extraordinary phenomenon to study, and the employee would no doubt publish the result in the "Canard."

The employees hope secretly for the union, but they fear the consequences. They have perhaps reason for it. In the city of Quebec they are braver. They are but a handful but still the union exists.

The public here is led into error concerning unionism. It must not be confounded with a mere aid society. It is more than that. In the United States the street railway employees have a magazine specially devoted to their interests. It is called "The Motorman and Conductor." A well known workman recently declared that "the street car men of MONTREAL were the most difficult to organize," and that "when the street car employees of Toronto and Winnipeg went on strike it was the street railway men of Montreal who went to those towns and scabbed on their fellows, with the consent of the street company here."

Without altogether approving what the unions do I believe were the men more united, more courageous, they would not permit their workers to be thrown into the street, often without reason or cause. This, too, when their own interests have been defended by these men. It is a shame. Workmen whom the company had promised to reinstate were refused positions to which they were justly entitled. They had done nothing but defend their comrades in misfortune. They had sacrificed their time and money for their comrades. The company can bear brilliant testimony to this fact.

We declare to the street car employees that in spite of their misfortunes, of the bad conditions imposed upon them by the company, they have friends who are ready to stand in the breach and defend them against these injustices. Also they have "Cotton's Weekly" a paper that is always ready to help the workers.

We hope there are still men of heart and gratitude and courage among the street railway men of this city who will move in this matter and that their friends will be able to resuscitate the cadavers in 1911.

Elzéar Boulay.

The Toronto authorities are appointing inspectors to inspect the slums of Toronto and clean them up. Now is not this just awful! When Socialists talk of municipalized homes, of houses built for the people at cost, the capitalists look horrified. Yet here is the capitalist politicians of Toronto appointing inspectors to go poking into the homes of the poor, to enquire about drainage and light and cleanliness. You see, Capitalism is a sham. It pretends to stand for individual effort. Yet it orders how houses shall be built, what rules the poor shall observe and it goes about investigating the home life of many workers. Capitalism howls against Socialism, not because it wants humanity to progress, but simply because Socialism will give a square deal to those who do the useful work of our cities.

According to the Toronto reports the unemployed have been pouring into the city and are burdening the charitable agencies. In winter time in Canada work slackens. The wage slaves who have been hired at a bare living wage during the summer months are turned loose without any means. They become what are legally known as tramps. The tramps and unemployed are blamed for their condition. But it is not the fault of the men. It is the fault of the system that robs them when they work and frequently denies them the opportunity of laboring with their hands. Let us change this system and replace it with Socialism that will give everyone an opportunity to work and will give the worker the full social value of his labor.

### What About It, Workers of Montreal?

When in Montreal and travelling on the street cars I have often watched the conductors and motormen. In bitter cold weather they must stand in the cold. I have talked to them and some of them told me that they work seven days a week and that it was many Sundays since they had spent a day with their families. I have travelled with the goody goody people on the way to church who took the street car, worried the conductors and made more Sunday work, all in order that they might go to Sunday school and tell little children about the necessity of keeping the Sabbath holy. This is one of the reasons why I say that our churches do not preach Christianity and that our church members most of them do not know what Christianity is.

The Street Railway Company was given a franchise. It makes millions. These go to those who do not operate the cars. They go to the parasite owners. The wage workers are slaves, made to work long hours, work for a month without pay, are sacked without reason and are continually spied upon.

The side of the wage slaves of the Montreal Street Railway is not given in the capitalist press. Both the Star and the Herald have been hammering the Street Railway Company. But these papers talk about the dear public, how the public is being plundered by high charges for transportation. The capitalist papers will not give the side of the men. The men are wage slaves. They create the wealth. Should the capitalist papers fight for the slaves then capitalism would be endangered. So the case of the slaves does not get before the public.

The street railway company is doing very well. It has 138 miles of single track. It has five million dollars bonds against it drawing four and a half per cent. The interest on this amounts to \$225,000 yearly. It pays ten per cent on its common stock of ten million dollars. This amounts to a million dollars a year. It has a cash reserve fund of three million dollars.

The net income of the street railway company over expenses is between a million and a half and two million dollars a year. Its stock sells at 220 per share. The labor skimmers consider that the ten million dollars of stock is worth twenty-two million dollars. And the railway makes its employees work a month without wages.

Read the stock reports of the Montreal papers. You will find that the Montreal Street Railway is highly praised. It is considered a good buy. There is much unpaid labor which goes to the parasite owners. Therefore the capitalist sheets praise it. It is capitalized at fifteen million dollars. This works out at \$108,000 per mile. The market value of this capitalization is \$200,000 per mile. The capitalization of the steam railroads of Canada amounts to only \$55,000 per mile. The Montreal Street Company, nevertheless cannot afford to give its employees a square deal. The workers have to give one month's work without pay.

I do not know the number of employees of the Montreal Street Railway, but in 1909 there were 10,557 employees of the electric railroads in Canada. The net profits of these street railway companies amounted to \$6,070,656.11. Thus if you divide the number of employees into the net profits you will find that the electric railways of Canada in 1909 made nearly six hundred dollars out of the labor of every man employed. As the Montreal Street Railway Company is one of the most prosperous, it is safe to conclude that it cleans up \$700 a year net profits on the labor of every employee.

You street railway men of Montreal, you who are spied upon, you who work week in and week out seven days a week, you who do not get a chance to see your families once in a dog's age, do you know that you are very profitable to your masters? They make seven hundred dollars a year out of each one of you. The capitalist papers will not tell you this fact, because the capitalist papers do not want the workers to find out how very very profitable you are to them. They try to make you believe that that seven hundred dollars a year taken out of each one of you does not come out of you but is created by some strange process out of the heads of the owners by mere thinking.

You are robbed of seven hundred dollars a year. You want to organize. Your masters the owners of the Street Railway Company do not want you to organize. If you should form a strong union then you could demand investigations before you were sacked. You could do many things, principally among which would be to reduce that seven hundred dollars a year which each of you make and don't get. You could get some of that.

Under Socialism rent, interest and profit will be abolished. The workers owning their own jobs on the street railway companies would get all that was coming to them. For this reason the capitalists oppose Socialism.

Socialists fight the battle for the workers on the political field. The unions fight the battles on the industrial field.

Now the Socialists of Montreal can assist railway workers in their fight against their exploiters the owners of the street railway company. They can help the workers by teaching them political action.

The aldermen gave the franchise to the street railway company. The provincial government protects the owners of the street railway company against the workers.

Why not send a deputation to Mayor Guerin of Montreal and the controllers asking them to revoke the franchise of the street railway company on the ground of the robbery of the workers? Why not petition Guoin and the capitalist politicians for laws giving to the workers the control of the means of production?

Do you union men want to see the Street Railway men organized? Every new union makes the workers that much stronger. In Philadelphia in the recent strike the workers stood as a solid band against the street railway company.

Why should not the workers of Montreal in their Trades and Labor Council, in their Socialist organizations, in their unions, call upon the Mayor and Controllers of Montreal to investigate the slave conditions of the street railway workers?

Do you know, workmen of Montreal, you have not yet learned to use your power. You have the votes. You produce the wealth. Yet you submit to robbery. You do not go to your politicians with demands. You stand humbly aside while the politicians, municipal, provincial, domination, chain you to slave tasks while those who profit by the wealth you produce live on the large well-paved streets, own automobiles, and enjoy luxuries, while you do not get the opportunity of seeing your family even on that day of rest which the preachermer of your city gabbles about without doing anything for organized labor so that labor may enjoy it.

Workmen of Montreal. Are you content? Do you like the life you are compelled to lead? If you do not like it, if you desire to double your income, or even make it three times as large, you can change your present conditions. Study Socialism. It is the philosophy that will free you. Its slogan is "Workers of the world unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains and a world to gain."

Stand together! Help the street railway men. The fight lies on the political field. Interview Guerin. MAKE HIM YOUR SERVANT. You can do it. If he refuses. You have the votes. Organize yourselves and next election, TURN OUT THE PRESENT GANG AND PUT IN REVOLUTIONARY WORKINGMEN TO RULE MONTREAL.

You toiling many of Montreal who are asleep, Awake! Arise! For the sake of your wives and children submit no longer to slavery and robbery. The world of wealth you have created lies open to you. Seize it.

It is said that England has seventeen billion dollars invested in foreign securities. This means that foreign countries pay the rich of England an annual tribute of \$680,000,000. That tribute is worth keeping. If England did not have a mighty fleet that could blow Montreal or Bombay into smithereens the heavy tribute would cease to be paid. For this reason Britain pays well for her fleet. Millions can be hunger smitten at home. That does not worry the capitalists. They are keeping their eyes out for their tribute. Our little two-penny politicians at Ottawa are shouting for a navy to help England and they runt around and declare they are hollering for patriotism and liberty. Fough!



## WHAT WILL HAPPEN UNDER SOCIALISM.

## THE DEVIL STORY

There is a delightful French story, told with that utter abandon and non-moral moral that only the French know how to use, about the devil and all his imps. This story is a favorite one of children at Sunday school picnics.

One portion of the story deals with a blacksmith who has a purse blessed by St. Peter. Through a subterfuge the blacksmith gets the devil and all his imps to make themselves small and climb into the purse. When all the devils are in. Poverty, the blacksmith, shuts it quick and not a devil can get out.

At once a strange thing is seen. There are no more wicked angels roaming round the world to tempt people to become bad. All the people become good. No one will play cards any more nor play dice nor gamble nor play billiards. So those persons who used to make billiard tables and playing-cards and dice and gambling paraphernalia find their occupations gone and become poor. No lady would wear feathers or bright hats or peekaboo waists or hobble skirts but all dressed themselves simply and in a seemly manner and all the dress-makers and milliners became poor. No one would drink whisky and other like stuff nor go to horse-races. So whisky makers became poor and jockeys wandered round starving. No one would smoke tobacco, nor go to the theatres nor buy naughty Sunday papers, nor lie nor steal nor go to law. So the tobacco makers became poor and starved and the actors and actresses and stage managers and ushers all became hungry and wretched as they could make no money, and the lawyers found their business gone and went around in rags and the judges and sheriffs and jailors and constables and court criers had nothing to do and could make no money and so began to starve. The judges instead of being fat and sleek became thin and hungry looking.

Now all these people having nothing to do and making no money had a bad effect on trade. They could buy nothing and so tradesmen began to become poor. Things reached such a crisis that the king and his counselors met and tried to find a remedy. For even the priests were starving. The people had all got so good that they did not need to go to church to learn not to swear and not to smoke. They did not need preachers to pray for them and so the preachers could make no more money and also began to starve. But kings and kings' counselors are not human beings. They have to cease being human when they get so that they have to look after the public welfare. So the king and his counselors devised ways and means to make people bad again so that the country could become prosperous. Sunday schools were opened to teach little boys to swear and pick pockets and to teach little girls to tell lies and to make faces. But as soon as the children got old enough to reason they stopped swearing and making faces and other like things. For there were no devils to tempt them.

The country kept getting poorer and poorer and the people kept getting more and more miserable till at last the king disguised himself as a beggar and went round the country trying to discover a remedy. Finally he came upon a blacksmith running hot knitting needles into a purse and could smell sizzling flesh. It was Poverty giving the devils a taste of their home life. The king found out the story and begged Poverty as a loyal subject and as a man who loved his native land to let the devils loose. The patriotic appeal touched Poverty's heart. He let the devils loose.

They spread over the world and began to tempt people again. The theatres opened up. Men wanted to smoke. People began to steal and the judges again put on their wigs and earned their fat salaries. Everybody began to be wicked and everybody began to be employed at dress-making, tobacco raising and all that had been stopped. The country grew wicked and prosperous. The priests had a lot to do and the nation blessed the blacksmith for turning the devils loose again upon his native land.

Is this a foolish story? It looks so because it is told about impossible conditions for the delight of children. But do you know, I have had grown men, men who thought themselves very, very wise and very, very practicable, argue like that to me. "Socialism is impossible. Under Socialism who will employ the people? The people will become poor under Socialism. You can't make it work for who would buy the things made under Socialism?"

That is the kind of conversation they employ. And it is just as foolish as the argument in the story about the devils. They think that

jails make trade good that warfare makes trade good, that judges with fat salaries to spend make trade good. They think that if we abolish policemen and commercial travellers and competition among a dozen retail stores in the little villages that many people will be thrown out of their jobs and there will be hard times.

Both in the devil story and in the argument of capitalist apologists against Socialism it is overlooked that labor can be made to do many things. It can be turned to making an artificial lake for a multimillionaire, or it can be turned to building wider streets in the crowded quarters of our cities. It can be turned to making cigars that cost a dollar each for J. P. Morgan to smoke, or it can be turned to producing pure milk for the babies of our cities and distributing pure ice on hot August days.

Under Socialism labor will be organized. Labor power will not be bought and sold in slave pens as it is now. It will not be controlled by the capitalist class to produce a bare living for slaves and luxuries unknown to the ancients for the masters. Labor power will be carefully conserved as the most precious gift of man. It will be turned into creating happy comfortable homes for all. Maybe Morgan will not smoke dollar cigars under Socialism. Maybe Stratheona will not be able to dress up five hundred men and send them to kill people in South Africa. But the lives of little children will be made happy and fathers and mothers will be able to enjoy home life without fear of the rent collector or bill collector and without that fearful dread of losing the job that only gives a slaves pay.

Have you been arguing against Socialism? Then read the devil story, digest it, and never, never again show your ignorance by arguing against what will be the greatest boon to man that has ever come to this earth.

Did you ever study the doctrine of evolution? Did you ever begin to read Darwin's Descent of Man with your mind firmly made up that Darwin was all wrong? If you have done this you will get a great surprise. Darwin flings fact after fact at you. You say in the beginning, "That does not prove the theory." You say later on, "That fact may not be true." But the facts keep coming faster and faster till you are overwhelmed with them. That is the way with a study of Socialism. You say, "There is nothing in Socialism. This is a pretty good system." Then when you read Socialist literature fact after fact, example after example is hurled at you, till you become convinced that this system is rotten to the core and that it is only the goodness in man that keeps any sweetness left in life at all. Then you begin to study human nature and the Socialist remedies. You feel that they won't work, that they are not in harmony with human nature. But fact after fact with regard to human nature is hurled at you. You see that the evils you have been blaming on poor human nature are really due to the capitalist system. You finally become convinced that Socialism is in thorough accord with human nature and you come to see the sweet reasonableness of the co-operative commonwealth. Then you become filled with the uncompromising spirit of the early Christians to conquer the old and introduce the new for the good of humanity.

It would look as though the dangerous matches will be abolished in Canada. The ill workers suffer in the match industry is thus described in the "Survey." "For the head of the ordinary double dip parlor match, the tiny round tip is made of a poison worse than deadly to many workers in match factories. Stealing insidiously through a tiny crack in a tooth, it rots the tooth, rots the jawbone, requires mutilating operations and sometimes results in death after lingering years of suffering. But there is a harmless substitute, sesquioxide of phosphorus, for the poisonous white phosphorus." The added cost is but five per cent. In England the workers have compelled the government to pass a law to prevent the match workers rotting to death. In European countries the workers are protected. In Canada they are just becoming protected now. Shall we be overly much obliged to the Laurier government because, fourteen years after its ascension to power, it passes a little law to stop the dread disease of phossy jaw? This is better late. But think of those fourteen years.

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## BUNCOME &amp; SCRAPP'S

By R. W. NORTHEY

A WRITTEN ENTIRELY FOR "COTTON'S WEEKLY"

## CHAPTER V.

Old Man Harris gets the Surprise of his Life.

(Continued.)

"Thank, God!" exclaimed Mrs. Harris with streaming eyes. "It was just in time. Oh, Miss Wimple, I don't think I could have lived much longer if this hadn't come. I couldn't make six dollars a week so far as it did only a year ago. Everything got so dear, and the rent was raised from a dollar and a quarter to a dollar and a half, which left only four dollars and a half for the two of us to live on. We long ago determined never to go into debt, although I daresay it would hardly have been possible to get credit if we had wanted to. We hadn't a cent left in the house today, as Henry had paid our last fifty cents for medicine. Oh, Miss Wimple, I pray God you may never know the misery and bitterness of poverty such as we have had to bear. Poverty is mean and degrading. It destroys all the nobler feelings and finer sensibilities of our being. It kills out all that is best in us and leaves only the wolfish instinct of fighting for a bare existence."

"And yet we have had a lot to be thankful for, Mother," said Mr. Harris. "We have had our little home and the privacy of our own fireside; we have had clean clothes, clean food, however scanty it was, and we have always had a clean bed to sleep in. There are millions of people in the world who haven't got any of these blessings, and yet they continue to exist somehow."

Old man Harris was certainly an optimist. But it was quite true that their condition was a state of almost great mass of slum dwellers in this system of things, and Baker's Row, the quarters, was quite respectable and ranked high in comparison with the ramshackle old rookeries in the congested quarters where the very poor were forced to swarm like rabbits in a warren.

"It is a terrible charge against our civilization," said Miss Wimple, "that there is really no reason why it should exist. There is more than enough produced for the whole of humanity to eat and to wear. It was not so a hundred years ago, but the vast and wonderful improvements in productive machinery have made it so today. One would have thought that these improvements would have cheapened the cost of things to the workers and raised their standard of living, but it seems to have had the opposite effect, because the great majority of the poor are poorer and far worse off than were the poor a hundred years ago. It is quite common now to read in the papers of people dying of starvation in the streets of wealthy cities, of whole families on the verge of starvation all through the winter. Just think of it, the irony of it! Dying of starvation in the midst of plenty! Families on the verge of starvation with a stone's throw of stores and warehouses full to overflowing with the very things they are in such dire need of! Only the other day I read an account of several carloads of California oranges being taken out to sea and thrown overboard to prevent their coming on the market to lower the price. Oh, God! the fiendish cruelty of it, when there are thousands of babies and invalid children gasping out their little lives in the hot, fetid slums for want of an orange. I have read of hundreds of bales of cotton being burned in some of the southern states to prevent a drop in the price, and it was only a short time ago I read of a whole trainload of potatoes being destroyed to keep them off the market. So it is not because the supply is insufficient that people have to live on the verge of starvation. It seems ridiculous to say it, but one can only come to the conclusion that people starve and go ill because there is too much food and too much cotton. In fact there seems to be too much of everything grown and too much manufactured."

"It does seem paradoxical, Miss Wimple," said Harris, "but it is quite true. When the factories have produced too much clothing or too much of anything the market becomes overstocked and they can't sell their goods unless they cut their prices down to a figure that would leave them little or no profit. So they close down and keep their stock till better times return, caring nothing for the misery of the workers thus thrown out of work, and whose buying power is at once destroyed. As they (the workers) are deprived of buying anything by their loss of wages, other manufacturers soon begin to feel the pinch, and they too, have to close down or run on half or quarter time, thus throwing thousands more out of work, and of course, as soon as their wages stop they have to stop buying too; and so conditions become worse and worse until the volume of business drops to a small fraction of the nominal amount, while the market still remains glutted. This is what is known as a panic and recurs about every decade, but latterly has been more frequent. As the trusts become more and more powerful they will be able to curtail the output whenever and wherever overproduction begins to show itself, and thus prevent a panic in future. The factory owners will not sell their products unless they can make a profit. So with the fruit men who destroyed the oranges and potatoes and the cotton growers who burnt the raw cotton. You see, Miss Wimple, if they can't make a profit they might as well go out of business, as they would soon become bankrupt. These fruit men and cot-

ton growers no doubt had to keep up the price to make any profit on the stock they already had on hand. To have allowed the oranges and potatoes to come on the market just at that particular time when it was overstocked would have lowered the prices and reduced their profits or obliterated them altogether. So to get their profits they simply had to destroy the surplus oranges and potatoes."

"But wouldn't it have been more Christian-like to have given away the oranges to the poor rather than have destroyed them?" asked Mrs. Harris. "And the potatoes, no doubt there were hundreds of poor people who would have fetched them away without any expense to the giver. To wantonly destroy fruit and vegetables is nothing less than flying in the face of a beneficent Providence that has given them such a bountiful supply."

"Oh, fruit-handlers haven't got a surplus of Christian-like qualities, not so that you could notice it," laughed the old man. "But don't you see, Mary, that if they had given away the oranges and the potatoes they would have practically destroyed their market. Everyone they gave to might be a possible buyer. Besides, they would have had to investigate before giving, because owing to the many tricks in trade they might be giving to parties who were merely stool pigeons for other dealers, so that the fruit would eventually come on the market at such low prices as to ruin the sale of the stock they sought to protect. No, there was nothing else they could do. The surplus stock had to be destroyed, entirely obliterated, to keep up the price of the rest. As to Christian-like qualities, there is no room in business for anything of that sort. Business is Business, and as such it is entirely opposed to true Christianity. In fact, no business man who follows the rules can be a consistent Christian, and usually the business man who does the garb of Christianity in his business does so for business purposes. There may be one or two here and there who are sincere, but these men are ignorant of the depths of infamy to which business has sometimes descended."

"You appear to understand the whole matter pretty well, Mr. Harris," said Miss Wimple. "I have thought very much about the inequalities existing in society and tried to discover the reason why such things should be, but I had not discovered that profit was the cause of all this competition, fighting and trickery. Then this thing, Profit, whose name should begin with a capital P, is a real king in the business world, since it is for his sake that intelligent men will lie and cheat and rob and deprive their brother of his livelihood. He is the creator of the wealth of the rich and the poverty of the poor, and yet he is a fraud from the very beginning, because he could not exist unless he continually obtained something for nothing."

"That's right, Miss Wimple, that's profit exactly. He's king all right. I wish you could hear Alan Maynard one evening. You would easily learn all you need to learn on this question, for you are pretty well advanced in the theory of it already. He speaks every Friday evening at the corner of Green and Main—it's only two blocks from here. I thought he was an anarchist the first time I stopped to listen, and I felt he had only got his deserts when the police arrested him down town one night for obstructing the street. But when he came out here and mounted his soap box at the corner of Green and Main streets his words fell on good ground and I listened till the truths he preached began to penetrate even my old capitalist brain."

"Then this Alan Maynard is the Socialist soap-boxer you mentioned just now?"

"Yes, Miss Wimple. He's a great man, a real man. He preaches the same doctrine Christ taught, and yet he's an atheist, or I should say he does not believe in the Christianity the churches teach."

"Then I hope you won't have anything to do with him, Henry," said Mrs. Harris.

"Oh," said Miss Wimple, "that's no detriment to a man now-a-days. When so many of the financial swindlers and money grabbers are members of the churches and rob the poor under the cloak of religion it is the real honest man who has the courage to repudiate the Church and the works of its sycophants. It does not take a very intelligent mind to discern that a great deal of the pulp of religion of today, especially where the wealthy congregations assemble, is mere lip service; the preachers themselves are worshippers of the golden calf. Of course there are good true men in the Church as well as outside of it, but they have not been able to accomplish anything for the upraising of the poor. By their fruits ye shall know them, and if we judge the Church by the fruits of its labors for nineteen hundred years, surely we can come to no other conclusion than that the Church has been a lamentable failure."

Looking at her watch, she said, "It is getting late, and I'm going to wash this china before I go, because I know Mrs. Harris would not care to entrust that delicate job to a mere man, and she is not able to do it herself. If you will bring me a pan of warm water, Mr. Harris, I will do it here, as the light is getting dim in the kitchen, and Mrs. Harris will be able to tell me where each piece belongs as I put them back on the shelves."

(To be continued)

The Montreal Manufacturers held a big banquet the other week. They declared that they were interested in the welfare of Canada and that their prosperity meant the prosperity of all. They were good fellows who were working for the good of everybody. On January 18th this same bunch of labor skimmers sent a deputation to Ottawa to oppose the demands of the British Columbia manufacturers to have the railway charges east over the Rockies reduced. The Montreal Manufacturers want to cabbage and hold the trade of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan. If the railway rates over the Rocky Mountains are reduced the Vancouver manufacturers can compete. The Montreal labor skimmers do not like this. You see, the Montreal manufacturers are looking out for themselves. When they tell how they are working for the good of others you may know that they mean they are working others good.

Some say that Socialism is against Christianity. Others say that Socialism is the fulfillment of Christianity. This puzzles many persons. But just stop and think. What is Christianity? There is the Christian woman who goes down to the slums and lives in the slum neighborhood just to do good to the people of the underworld. There is the record of the Inquisition that burned and tortured and killed men and women for daring to have ideas different from those of the Inquisitors. Both call themselves Christianity. Is it not possible to explain the conflicting statements of the attitude of Socialism to Christianity to the conflicting brands of Christianity that are put forth in the name of the one and only true religion? Even the dictionaries recognize that the ethics of Socialism and the ethics of Christianity are one.

Jim Hill talked about the necessity of financial caution. The American papers are discussing the need for reducing expenses. A period of industrial stagnation has been prophesied for 1911. As capitalism becomes decadent, as the wages of the workers sink in comparison with his productive powers, the quicker does the market become overstocked with goods produced by the workers which the workers cannot buy. This means unemployment and discontent among the workers and the spread of Socialism. There is one way to give the workers work under such conditions. That is to bring about a war between rival countries. Then the workers can be set to work producing useless armaments of war for useless soldiers to go and use against others. The social revolt is close in the States. That is why the capitalists are endeavoring to stir up a great war with Japan.

We hear a lot about how big railroad presidents earn their salaries. They have to work hard. Competition must be met. Traffic must be gotten away from other railroads. Parliamentary attacks must be met. If the railroad president is not on to his job his railway loses its traffic and becomes bankrupt. So it is said that a railway president earns his money. Take the case of Alexander J. Cassatt and the Pennsylvania railway. This road had no entrance into New York City. It had to have one or lose its traffic to other railways that had. So Cassatt worked and schemed and financed till the new Pennsylvania entrance was made and a terminal was reared in the heart of the city. It cost a hundred and sixty million dollars and the work of financing and fighting for the terminal and bearing the heavy burdens of the road killed the president from overwork. So it is said that the big men earn their salaries. So they do, under capitalism. But is the struggle necessary? Two prize fighters pummel each other for a big purse. One gets hammered up and the other gets nearly killed. The prizefighters earn their money, but the struggle was not necessary. So with these big men. Cassatt was killed by overwork financing a private enterprise. The American government is spending hundreds of millions of dollars on the Panama canal and no one is being killed from worry. The fight for traffic on railroads would be eliminated under sane social ownership. Because no matter which way the goods went the people would be served equally as well. The big men who are paid big salaries are doing useless work in fighting each other for business. The necessity for the struggles will be done away with under Socialism.

Always keep a copy of Cotton's in your pocket to hand to men with whom you converse. Best way to keep supplied is to order a bundle. Seven copies for a year costs \$3.00, and a copy of "Facts" comes free.

After reading this paper do not throw it away or lay it aside in a corner. Pass it on to somebody else, first marking a few of the best articles. Light your fires in the morning with capitalist papers.

## A LITTLE CLIMB

Say, Comrades, when are you going after the plute system and chew it up in real earnest?

Here we have been hanging round the ten thousand mark for six months.

It is all right to try and wear your enemy out when there is a chance of wearing him out, when he is cut off from his base of supplies.

But here your enemy is perched on your backs, reaches over and takes the food out of your hands and leaves you the scraps, takes all the nicest clothing you produce and leaves you the coarsest.

You cannot wear the enemy out. You have just got to throw him out.

Cotton's is telling you to unite and throw him out. Cotton's is telling you to wake your fellow workers and get them all united for the job.

You began well. You piled up a sub list of ten thousand in a year and a half.

Then you kind of got tired. For the sub list has been hanging round the ten thousand mark for the last six months. It has got no forwarder. Have you wakened all the wage slaves you could? Could you not have gone on doubling your efforts with a doubled army of revolting wage slaves?

You are starting 1911 in the same old podogger way that you wound up 1910 in. Some of you, a very few of you, are doing all you can.

But the rest of you, you are asleep on the job of bringing about your own freedom. But you bet you just hustle on the job of producing surplus values for your masters.

No, I am not going to praise and call you good fellows and smart when you submit to wage slavery without a hell of a struggle, you slave spirited wage slaves.

## Circulation Statement

Following is the statement of circulation for the issue of January 26.

	OFF	ON	TOTAL
Ontario.....	111	133	4080
British Columbia.....	123	44	1421
Alberta.....	57	45	1215
Nova Scotia.....	77	59	1134
Prov. of Quebec.....	5	72	1037
Manitoba.....	34	19	955
Saskatchewan.....	15	68	673
New Brunswick.....	3	4	138
Elsewhere.....	7	24	159
Yukon Territory.....	2	0	52
Newfoundland.....	0	0	21
Prince Ed. Island.....	0	1	14
Total.....	434	469	10,599

## Gain for week 34

Total issue last week was 11,400

I was talking to a traveller the other day. He told me that he had been on the road for eight years and that when he had asked hotel keepers how the roads were they had always told him that they were not good. They wanted his trade. They wanted to keep him so they could sell more meals and more drinks. This is nothing but an example of economic determinism. Our conduct is governed by our economic interests. The Socialists recognize this truth and know the correct remedies for the evils that afflict.

The Banner Collection of Books is the best combination offered for the new reader on Socialism. Seven attractive books for only 50 cents.

## SOCIALIST DIRECTORY

Condensed Cards for Locals inserted under this heading at \$1.00 per month.

LINDSAY, ONT. Socialists meet every Monday Evening at 8 o'clock, above Dominion Bank entrance, William Street. All socialists, residents or visitors, heartily welcome.

Between G. R. Small and George Edward Smyth—Resolved, "That Socialism Will Increase Human Happiness." St. Joseph's Hall, 18 St. Catherine Street East (corner St. Elizabeth Street), Toronto, Feb. 5, 1911. P. Q. 138

## INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM

Of interest to Socialists and all Wage Earners

The advocates of Industrial Unionism meet every Thursday at St. Joseph's Hall, Room 5 (entrance by St. Elizabeth St., corner of St. Catherine St.), Montreal. Free discussion at every lecture.

The following are the subjects, by various speakers for the month of February. Cut this out for reference.

- Feb. 2—Some Recent Developments in Industrial Life.
- Feb. 9—"Historical Materialism."
- Feb. 16—"What Means This Strike?"
- Feb. 23—"Industrial Unionism vs. Craft Unionism."

Come and bring others. 125

## AGENTS WANTED!

In every town and village to take orders for guaranteed pure Maple Syrup and Sugar; also for Workmen's Overalls and Suspenders, etc. Good commission; write for information. CHAS. A. BULL & CO., E. T. Furuturo & Furuturo Mail Order House, Cowansville, P. Q.

## WANTED—Working Housekeeper

one to cook and poultry. Must be reliable and fond of children. State age and wages wanted. Address: VAN, Collingwood East, British Columbia. 126

## A BARGAIN IN PRINTING

One Thousand Good White Bond Letterheads, padded if desired, and 1,000 No. 8, D. B. Bag Envelopes, printed in red type, printed in Red or Blue. They carry the Banner home every time. Ten different kinders. Send for Samples: 12c. per 100; \$1.00 per 1,000. \$3.75 in lots of 4,000 assorted. enc. per 1,000 assorted

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## Are You a COTTON'S GUMMED STICKER?

Be sure and get some of COTTON'S GUMMED STICKERS! Stick 'em on the back of your letters, and every other old place they can be seen. Our Stickers are made of the best gum, and are printed in Red or Blue. They carry the Banner home every time. Ten different kinders. Send for Samples: 12c. per 100; \$1.00 per 1,000. \$3.75 in lots of 4,000 assorted. enc. per 1,000 assorted

On Saturday trial is the best by Comrade who forwards ammunition in cards. The sad determining the italist fortress see it tumble and the capital of it to go to

On Monday that more in the shop. On Tuesday came again with winter than real Socialists



## THE FIRING LINE

### THE TOP NOTCHERS

(Counted on a basis of five halfers for a dollar.)

Alain Burke, Montreal ..... 45  
Steve Hrynk, Cardiff, Alta. .... 27  
A. Soper, Aylmer West, Ont. .... 17  
P. Lapierre, Toronto ..... 15  
Robt. Johnston, Kewatin, Ont. .... 15  
H. H. Stewart, Newcastle, N. B. 15

A yearly from Comrade F. Jennings, Independence, Alta.  
Comrade Jas. E. Cook, Springhill, N. S., forwards a sub.  
Comrade J. H. Wood, Montreal, forwards a yearly.

Comrade S. Pope, South Oshawana, Ont., makes five halfers see capitalism in a new light.

One plunk from Comrade C. C. Besant on sub cards. And that is the way the sub list keeps climbing.

Two yearlies from Comrade B. Daniels, Longueuil, P. Q. Little old Quebec is rubbing her feudal eyes and is seeing red.

Comrade Frank E. Edney of Sherbrooke, P. Q., leads in a halfer to be warmed and enthused for the war on exploitation.

Comrade John V. Hull, Port Moody, B. C., gladdens the heart of the bulldog with a sight of a yearly and a halfer.

A yearly and six halfers from Comrade A. J. Gordon, Lachine, P. Q., shows that the Quebec wage slave is willing to think for himself.

Comrade A. Soper, Aylmer West, Ont., brings in seven subs, all yearlies. That kind of work means building solid and sure.

Comrade J. R. Ernst, Block House, N. S., adds another brain that is being enlightened. He forwards a halfer.

The expiries are heavy just now. Look as though we would again dip below the 10,000. Come boys, get out and do something on subs.

Comrade John Kerr, Swanton, Sask., puts a charge of mental dynamite under the plate ideas lurking in the heads of a yearly and two halfers.

Comrade F. Hyatt, Organizer, forwards two yearlies from St. John, N. B., and says that Socialist newspapers are an excellent remedy for brain fog.

Comrade Robert Johnston, Kewatin, Ont., forwards six half yearlies and three yearlies and takes a copy of Facts. And the sub list climbs towards the twenty thousand mark.

Comrade R. H. Lowe, Toronto, forwards two halfers. The sub hustler that brings in one halfer may have had harder work getting that one than another had getting five. They all count for Socialism.

New Brunswick heard from Comrade H. H. Stewart of Newcastle awakens two yearlies and eight halfers. When the sub hustlers start out to make Socialists they can make things hum.

Comrade Martin Nash, Dominion, N. S., introduces three yearlies and six half yearlies. The capitalist politicians will not be able to fool the wage slaves of Nova Scotia much longer.

Comrade Frederic Lapierre, Toronto, takes fifteen half yearly sub cards, and a copy of Facts. That is the kind of work that is putting Cotton's sub list where the plate will have to stand on a tall step ladder to see the top of it.

Comrades, take notice that copy for any particular issue must be in by the preceding Saturday. The present issue takes over two days to run, and we cannot do better till we land a new press.

A halfer from Comrade J. A. Campbell, Bala, Ont. These subs picked up one at a time show that those who cannot do much still are working away plugging the Socialist philosophy into the minds of the few within their reach.

Twelve yearlies are swung into the army of working class revolt per Comrade Steve Hrynk, Cardiff, Alta. The capitalist system might just as well make up its mind that it has to get out of Canada. Cotton's Army is after it with a smothering sub list.

"Enclosed please find fifty cents for my renewal. I will have to get to work again and get more subs for our paper. Everything is coming fine. Greet all the comrades and let us put our shoulder to the wheels and have Cotton's to fifty thousand by 1912." Comrade R. B. Vogen, Dundurn, Sask.

Comrade R. C. MacDougall, Sydney, B. C., forwards the price of five half yearly sub cards and wants to know if price must be remitted for sub cards before the subscribers receive their paper. No. Subscriptions go on the list as soon as the sub cards are received in this office with name and address of subscriber.

"Am sending you three yearlies along with my own renewal to let you know I am behind you in the fight. Credit me with two dollars on Facts. Do not publish my name as I have to lie low for awhile. I got these on the quiet from the men here in the shop. I'll get more." Just a Brockville wage slave.

Four yearlies, eleven halfers and a trial is the bunch gathered together by Comrade Morrish, Berlin, Ont., who forwards a request for more ammunition in the shape of sub cards. The sappers are at work undermining the foundations of the capitalist fortress. Pretty soon we will see it tumble down in a cloud of dust and the capitalists all scurrying out of it to go to work.

On Saturday Comrade A. Burke sent in fifteen halfers from Montreal. On Monday the mail brought in fifteen more halfers from Comrade Burke. On Tuesday Comrade Burke came again with seven yearlies. Last winter when talking with the Montreal Socialists I asked them why the

sub list did not go up and they explained it by the backward state of Montreal. But Comrade Burke can go out and rustle thirty-seven subs in three days.

NOTICE—The forms for Cotton's Weekly close every Monday morning. Copy should be in on Saturday for the coming issue.

### ABOUT RENEWALS

Cotton's does everything possible to land renewals. Every expiring subscriber gets an expiry notice in his last paper; then a letter, with renewal blank by mail; and if that does not bring them in a further sample copy is sent. List of expiries are sent every month to hustlers in the various towns. Comrades who get these lists, will help wonderfully by giving their aid and enlisting others, to land renewals. A personal call and a proffered sub card or offer to send the sub will bring many over the counter.

Cotton's leaves no stone unturned to interest people in subscribing and renewing subscriptions. It is working night and day to get people to read, learn and inwardly digest the economic truths of Socialism. Every hustler who works for Cotton's can rest assured that he is getting full cooperation from this end. In fact, the Socialists of Canada are getting \$100.00 worth of work for every \$50.00 sent in. You may not see just how this is, but at some future date we may enlarge on this. Just remember that every 50 cents you send to Cotton's does a dollar's worth of work for the cause. And Cotton's is the only place in Canada where you can get this kind of service. Its advantage to every Socialist in Canada to use it.

Chas. Lester

The present capitalist system is a mass of contradictions, and to explain to the wage slave where he comes in is a matter of difficulty to the would-be propagandist. Social reformers of every description are trying to engage the attention of our class in order to induce them to go in for some quack cureall, some get-there-quick proposition, that the educator along Socialist lines often has his meeting turned into discussions upon questions that don't in the least matter.

It is apparent that the worker's lot in human society is steadily getting worse, both relatively and actually. The worker knows that. He can quickly perceive that his wages in dollars do not buy what they formerly did. He is ready to admit that, and if you patiently explain to him the reason you will be amply repaid by the interest he will take in your further arguments.

He must then have it clearly shown to him that he does not sell his labor, but his power to labor, his human energy, his life, himself. Then carefully develop the intelligence you have stimulated by getting him to understand that his wages, the price of his labor power, are governed by supply and demand, and show him how the perfection of machinery must result in the supply of workers being in excess of the demand. Explain to him that he must get a living, if possible, try to enable him to realize that his value as a commodity entitles him to no more. Show him he can't get any more. Make him see that he gets his value as a whole. He can soon be convinced of that, because he is a live wage plug, and if he's alive and able to work, if he can find the elusive job, he's got the value of his labor power from the capitalist class up to now. If he is dead it is no use talking to him.

The next proposition to place before him is the fact that the articles required to produce him the things he buys with the money he receives as wages are sold, like him, on the whole at their value. He will want to know how the capitalist makes his profit. Then expose the trick. The capitalist buys him at his value, makes all his profits in the process. Show him that the goods produced belong to the capitalist because he had sold himself to the capitalist beforehand. His human energy was the property of the capitalist when he produced the wealth. The capitalist made the best use of the worker because the worker was his property. All the worker is entitled to under this system he has received, i.e., the value of his labor power.

His labor, the wealth that is the product of his toil is not his and never can be under capitalism. It is the property of the capitalist who buys him. The human energy in the worker's carcass is the property of the capitalist when the wealth is produced. Therefore the worker, strictly speaking, produces nothing but labor power which he is compelled to sell to the master class in an overstocked market at its cost of production.

Then drive it home to him that he is a slave. Burn it into him, and if there is a glimmering of a potential manhood in him, you've got him for sure.

### ACITATION BATTERY

The Agitation Battery is marking time. The boys are anxious to get ahead with their publicity campaign. They can't do much till the funds are in the ammunition box.

This campaign involves quite a sum, but it is an investment that will pay over 100 per cent.

Wake up, you comrades who want to help in good propaganda work, and cannot place subs or bundles. Start things going. A frayed and ragged old dollar bill will deliver a hard slap at capitalism. Now is the time.

## Socialism in Canada

### VANCOUVER SOCIALISTS ACTIVE

Enderby, B. C. Jan. 19th, 1911.

Editor Cotton's Weekly,  
Comrade Slave—In your issue of January 12th, appears some statements by W. J. Currie of Vancouver. It is not my intention to go into any matter of dispute between members or ex-members of Vancouver local, a local of which I am not a member. I know nothing of Dr. Currie's heresy or anything else. Allow me, however, to correct certain statements in re the Socialist Party of Canada in Vancouver.

The facts are these. Local Vancouver is at present carrying on larger meetings than ever before, hiring one of the largest theatres in the city at a rental of fifty dollars per night. The attendance and collections at said meetings are at present on the increase. The local literature sales are at present larger than at any previous time and the membership of the local is such that dues stamps are purchased in quantities of up to one hundred dollars at a time.

Thanking you in anticipation for giving me the same privilege and publicity as Dr. Currie,  
Yours for the revolution,  
Gerald Desmond.

### RESOLUTIONS RE JAPANESE MURDER

Resolved that,  
We the Socialists of Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada, and vicinity hereby express our horror at the announcement of the Japanese scholar Dr. Kotoku, his wife and twenty-four others to death, and whose chief crime seems to be the translation into the Japanese language of the works of Karl Marx, and their distribution amongst the Japanese people.

We further wish to warn the Japanese people that should the evidence be forthcoming that our comrades did not resort to exorbitant violence, we shall call upon the British Government to cease further international relations, withdraw our Ambassador from Japan and give the Japanese Ambassador at London his pass ports.

We further request the citizens of other cities and communities of the British Empire to express their indignation at this outrage, if such it prove to be. We must not allow another Ferrer to be martyred, for the cause of Justice and Liberty.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this be sent to the Japanese Ambassador at London, England, also to the Christian Socialist, the Western Clarion, Cotton's Weekly, The Appeal to Reason, and The Ripsaw.

Carried unanimously.  
Signed in behalf of the Christian Socialist Fellowship—President A. McDonald, Secretary C. R. Stewart.

### HAMILTON SLAVES AWAKING

Dear Cotton's—

Just a line to let you know that Hamilton is putting in a few liks for the Social Revolution.

On January fourteenth and fifteenth the "Marx Club" started something which we hope to continue during the balance of the winter season, a series of regular Sunday afternoon propaganda meetings to be addressed by various local and out-of-town speakers. Comrade F. Haselgrove of London was the speaker on the respective dates above mentioned and his lecture upon the subject, "Socialism; why it offers the ONLY solution of the labor problem" proved one of the most instructive delivered here for some time. Comrade Haselgrove is a member of the Canadian Socialist Labor Party.

On Sunday January 29th, Comrade Wm. Davenport of Local Brantford, S. P. of C., spoke under the Club auspices, his subject being "Some Questions which non-Socialist Workmen Should Answer." All meetings, both propaganda and otherwise, are held at the Club Headquarters, 34 James St. (opposite City Hall). Readers of Cotton's are invited to attend.

J. J. C.

### A SUGGESTION

North Battleford.

Dear Cotton's—  
Will you kindly publish the following suggestion in your valuable paper?

The controversy between local Toronto and others has degenerated into mere abuse. When we study the matter we have no need to call each other Judas Mosses and other vile names and the movement does not gain anything when the foremost members descend to such depths.

It might be argued that wage slaves are only in their natural element when so engaged, but all Socialists who have the welfare of the movement at stake deplore the fact that valuable space in the party paper, the Western Clarion, is taken up in this manner—space which might be used to better advantage.

When we examine this controversy carefully we find that it is neither Baritz, McKenzie, Gribble, or any other individual who is at fault. It is not even local Toronto that is to blame. The cause lies in the structure of our organization. The country in which we operate is large and the movement is growing. Vancouver, the headquarters of the Party, is situated at the extreme end of the Dominion. Now however fair the Dominion Executive might be, it is a difficult matter for them to keep fully in touch with matters, say in the Maritime Provinces. Information which might be useful when it starts is apt to be useless when it arrives.

The Dominion Executive is elected by a small number of Comrades. It is not a representative body. As the movement grows the movement will assume different features in different provinces. It is also likely that the Dominion Executive will have more and more trouble to reconcile the conflicting elements. The Dominion Executive may curb the expansion of

the movement through lack of information.

Most of the combatants agree that we cannot have a dominion convention. Why does not some simple minded rebel suggest that each Provincial Executive shall act independently of the D. E., that is, cut out the Dominion Executive until we can afford to call a Dominion Convention?

Charles Lester.

(The above communication refers to Party affairs. There is a Socialist Party of Canada with head offices at Vancouver. The Party owns a paper, the Western Clarion. This paper is taken up to a great extent with squabbles between different Socialists. The Party is governed by a Dominion Executive. This executive has held office for seven years. It is not democratic. Referendums on questions are rare if they are ever issued. Consequently there is much dissatisfaction with Party affairs. I get many letters from Socialists who have found it advantageous to act independently of the S. P. of C., as run from Vancouver. The Winnipeg Socialists have seceded to a great extent and formed a Social-Democratic Party. At Millet, Alta., they call themselves Christian Socialists and are organizing on the basis of the Christian Socialist Fellowship. In Hamilton it is the Karl Marx Club. Nearly all the Ontario Socialists have removed from the control of the Dominion Executive. As Comrade Lester says the movement is expanding in Canada. It looks to me as though the Socialists of Canada will have to get together and reorganize themselves into a party where the rank and file will rule, where democratic principles will be applied.)

### HOW SLAVES ARE TREATED.

Cobalt, Ont. Jan. 23rd, 1911.

Cotton's Weekly, Cowansville.  
Dear Sirs—I wish to call your attention to the way some of the labor skimmers along the government road, the national transcontinental, are stealing the labor of the country with the direct help of the government. Slavery days are supposed to be a thing of the past, but I am sure you will agree with me that they have returned in a much worse form after reading this letter over.

The company referred to in this letter are "Foley, Welch and Stewart," who have contracted to build a big section of the road to the east in Cochrane. An agent of this firm came to Haileybury and hired men to work on a steel gang at the rate of \$2.50 per day and board.

We left Cobalt and started to work. They rolled us out at four a. m. every morning and gave us a breakfast in cold, dirty dining cars, which consisted of burnt oatmeal, bad meat, cold tea, etc. They worked us on at that rate and sometimes 2.30 p. m. before we got dinner. We were allowed a half an hour to eat and were worked so late that some nights it was after ten before we got our supper.

After seven days of this we were obliged to leave as we could stand the pace no longer. On applying at the office for our time slips we were only allowed ten hours a day at twenty cents an hour and we had to pay our board out of that which was sixty-five cents a day. This with our transportation from Cobalt left us in debt to the company. The fares from Cobalt cost the company one cent a mile, but they soaked us three cents per mile. Also we paid one dollar per month for medical fee but we never saw the doctor and when we were told he was in Cochrane and that they had no hospital. Also they docked us twenty-five cents a month for delivering our mail. These charges were all compulsory. Also they charged us one dollar for giving us the work although we were not hired through an employment agency.

When we said we were going to quit they said we could not as we were in debt to the company and if we did leave we would be arrested at Cochrane for jumping and sent to court to work on the government road at Matheson.

We left and walked forty miles to Cochrane. On arriving there we went to see a lawyer, W. H. Worke. He informed us that there was not much use in trying to get a J. P. in town to take the case up as none of them would take a case against the company that he had been turned down so often that he thought the only thing to do was wait till the assizes in the latter part of October. But as this was in September we could not see our way clear to wait in Cochrane for three months. This lawyer told us he had some forty odd cases against them when the assizes came off and that he could have had another hundred could he have found a J. P. to take them. He gave us a note to a J. P. by name of J. McDonald, asking him to take the case.

I delivered this note personally. The Justice of the Peace told me he was going to have a holiday and was not going to be bothered by law. When we tried to explain the fix we were in, that we had money coming to us but could not get it and that otherwise we had none he became violent and told us to go to the devil and said "to hell with the law," and told us to get out in language which I cannot repeat. We were informed that this was the reception we would get from the rest of the J. P.'s in town.

We determined to go to the Company's office in town and either compel the company to arrest us or to hand over the money that was coming to us. That we were right in our demands is shown because they did not arrest us although we almost begged them to do so and eventually they gave us a check. Although we did not get all that was coming to us still it was enough to take us out of a part of the country where labor thieves and government officials go hand in hand.

Our lawyer also told us he had written to the Hon. J. J. Foy the

Attorney General making complaint of the way law and justice was being administered in Cochrane by his representative, but up to that time no attention had been paid to the complaints.

You can use this letter in any way you choose as we have stuck strictly to the facts of the affair and could back up with witnesses all the charges made.

Wishing you every success with your valuable paper I will close by saying that your paper has done wonders for the great cause among the workers of this country.

Yours respectfully,  
A. Robertson.

(The national transcontinental is costing the Canadian people two hundred million dollars. This goes into the pockets of the contractors and the contractors are not willing to give the wage-slaves even the cost of their keep. The cost of the transcontinental has been investigated about overcharges for work done. But the condition of the wage slaves is beneath the dignity of the members of parliament to deal with. "To hell with the law" say the J. P.'s of Cochrane. J. J. Foy will not interfere with his hellish menials. Will the wage slaves of Brockville, Brantford, Berlin and other Ontario places, particularly Hamilton through their labor member, Allan Studholme, tell the Hon. J. J. Foy, Attorney General of Ontario, that he is neglecting his duties and that he is a special agent of the labor thieves when his J. P.'s are allowed to tell the workers "to hell with the law" when the workers want their slaves pay, and then turn the wage slaves who have not got their slave's pay into tramp convicts on the Matheson roads because, forsooth, they have no "visible means of support.")

### THE BUNDLE BOOSTERS

Many people have been started on the way to Socialism by reading a stray copy of Cotton's, put in their way by some bundle booster. Let us assure you that the Bundle Boosting Way is proving very effective propaganda. We could tell you of many instances of good results.

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C. G. Johnson, Greenwood, B. C. 15  
E. P. McCurrey, Porcupine, Ont. 14  
E. V. Fisher, Inverness, N. S. 10

There is much bad food confiscated in Montreal every year. Last year the health officials confiscated 650 lbs of veal, 86 lbs of mutton, and 317 lbs of pork at the abattoirs. At the markets there was confiscated 39,710 lbs of beef, 36,350 lbs of veal, 12,269 lbs of mutton, 19,810 lbs of pork, 11,267 lbs of sausage, 8,802 lbs of poultry, 5,408 lbs of bologna, 1,350 lbs of kidney, 1,000 lbs of tripe and 7,761 lbs of liver. 10,561 lbs of bread were confiscated as well as 201,325 lbs of vegetables and fruit and 25,532 lbs of fish. Thus a hundred and ninety tons of bad food was on the market to be sold. This was stopped by the municipal inspectors. How much was sold that was unfit is not known. Bad food produces disease. Why then do people want to sell it? Do they want to injure their fellow-men? Not at all. They sell it for the profit that is in it. If all the people took it upon themselves to provide food for all the people, then no individual would suffer should bad food not be sold. There should be no desire then to hurt other people by giving them food unfit to eat. But then that would be the co-operative commonwealth and that would never never do. Don't the plate papers tell you that Socialism is impracticable?

On January 10th of last year the Toronto World in reporting the condition of the Farmers Bank said: "The annual statement of the Farmers Bank of Canada was published yesterday, and the result of the year's operations is another tribute to the careful management given this, one of the youthful members of the Canadian chartered banks. General manager Travers has come to be looked upon as one of the best informed and most conservative bankers in Canada." Now the Farmers Bank is a wreck and Travers occupies a felon's cell for his wild use of other people's money. This is "what happens under private initiative and capitalism. The man who is successful is praised. No matter what he has done he gets the glory. If he is a rogue and his rogery makes him rich then he becomes a pillar of the capitalist state. If he is unsuccessful then he goes to jail. Is not this a rotten system that makes the test of greatness to be successful rogery?

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## World Wide Struggle

Taft is considering the pardoning of Fred D. Warren.

The German Reichstag has refused to grant the Kaiser immunity from taxation.

The Western Federation of Miners has affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

In the past ten years the U. S. government has spent two billion dollars for war.

The British Labor M.P.'s are holding out for the payment of members of the British Parliament.

The Californian bosses are not blaming Haywood for the explosion in the building of the Los Angeles Times.

The workers of Montevideo, Uruguay, South America, have returned a Socialist Congressman to the Uruguayan house.

The Mexican rebels are winning more skirmishes against Diaz, and the area of revolutionary activity is being extended.

The American courts have decided that the federation of the New Orleans labor unions is a co-spiracy in restraint of trade.

The strike is still on in the Hearst mine at Homestake. The scabs employed are reported to have about wrecked the mine.

The Californian fruit growers have a scheme on foot to replace the Asiatic labor in the orchards with that of white school children.

Comrades of Grand Junction, Colorado, have bought a page in the Daily News of that city, and are editing it to good advantage.

The Chicago Daily Socialist has five thousand dollars gathered on its campaign for twenty-five thousand dollars to make it an eight page daily.

Twelve of the Japanese Socialists were hanged. The trial was secret. Japan takes her place along with Russia as the home of barbarism and tyranny.

There are sixty million dollars worth of cotton mills running in India employing 234,000 workers. Asiatic labor is hurting the Lancashire cotton mills.

The Socialists of Chicago have nominated Comrade W. E. Rodrigues, union painter, as their candidate for mayor of that city. The voting takes place in the spring.

The Los Angeles unions are planning to acquire an industrial farm to take care of strikers. The unions are planning a general strike for next year to unionize the city.

The official Socialist vote of Texas shows that in seventy-two counties the Socialist vote exceeded that of the Republican Party, and in two counties the votes were tied.

Mayor Seidel of Milwaukee has had John I. Beggs, president of the Milwaukee street railway company, arrested for refusing to equip the cars with enclosures for the motormen.

James H. Maurer, Socialist member of the Pennsylvania legislature, nominated Jos. E. Cohen for U. S. Senator from Pennsylvania. In the voting in the legislature Comrade Cohen received one vote, that of Comrade Maurer.

John P. White, of Oskaloosa, Iowa, is the new President of the United Mine Workers of America. White received 98,000 votes and Lewis 72,000. The new President will swing his influence more for Socialism and the recognition of the class struggle than did the former one.

The Socialists of the Italian chamber of deputies passed stinging resolutions condemning Japan for the slaughter of the twelve thinkers by secret trial. The government minister for foreign affairs, as an antidote, delivered an official statement expressing Italy's warm friendship for Japan.

Victor Berger, Socialist Congressman, is preparing a bill to grant an old age pension to all workers over sixty whose incomes have been less than one thousand dollars a year. The pension to be twelve dollars a month. The plan would take a hundred and forty-four million dollars a year. This could be easily managed as the U. S. spent last year \$125,000,000 on the navy, \$155,000,000 on the army and \$144,000,000 on pensions to those alleged to have been engaged in the civil war. It is not likely that the capitalist politician will vote for Berger's measure.

A hundred men were advertised for in Toronto to go and work in the woods at \$2.00 per day and board found. Lumbering is hard work. It is rough disagreeable work. The pay, two dollars a day, is small. A laborer in this sum on cigars for his friends. Yet nearly three hundred Englishmen answered the ad. It turned out to be a hoax and these three hundred fled away, sick at heart because a chance to work long hours for a couple of dollars a day was denied them. Is not this a senseless system which denies the chance to work to those who are anxious to labor for the means of life while it heaps up vast riches upon those who do not work themselves but who simply own the means with which others must work to produce wealth? Under Socialism the means of wealth production will be socially owned and the inequalities of millionaires and paupers will vanish.

Here is a suggestion. Pick out ten houses in your neighborhood, take a bundle of Cotton's Weekly to cover them, and late Saturday night or early Sunday morning, systematically place a copy under their doors.

Complete samples of Eureka Leaflets for a 2-cent stamp.



## WHAT WILL HAPPEN UNDER SOCIALISM.

## THE DEVIL STORY

There is a delightful French story, told with that utter abandon and non-moral moral that only the French know how to use, about the devil and all his imps. This story is a favorite one of children at Sunday-school picnics.

One portion of the story deals with a blacksmith who has a purse blessed by St. Peter. Through a subterfuge the blacksmith gets the devil and all his imps to make themselves small and climb into the purse. When all the devils are in. Poverty, the blacksmith, shuts it quick and not a devil can get out.

At once a strange thing is seen. There are no more wicked angels roaming round the world to tempt people to become bad. All the people become good. No one will play cards any more nor play dice nor gamble nor play billiards. So those persons who used to make billiard-tables and playing-cards and dice and gambling paraphernalia find their occupations gone and become poor. No lady would wear feathers or bright hats or peekaboo waists or hobble skirts but all dressed themselves simply and in a seemly manner and all the dress-makers and milliners became poor. No one would drink whisky and other like stuff nor go to horse-races. So whisky makers became poor and jockeys wandered round starving. No one would smoke tobacco, nor go to the theatres nor buy naughty Sunday papers, nor lie nor steal nor go to law. So the tobacco makers became poor and starved and the actors and actresses and stage managers and ushers all became hungry and wretched as they could make no money, and the lawyers found their business gone and went around in rags and the judges and sheriffs and jailors and constables and court criers had nothing to do and could make no money and so began to starve. The judges instead of being fat and sleek became thin and hungry looking.

Now all these people having nothing to do and making no money had a bad effect on trade. They could buy nothing and so tradesmen began to become poor. Things reached such a crisis that the king and his counselors met and tried to find a remedy. For even the priests were starving. The people had all got so good that they did not need to go to church to learn not to swear and not to smoke. They did not need preachers to pray for them and so the preachers could make no more money and also began to starve. But kings and kings' counselors are not human beings. They have to cease being human when they get so that they have to look after the public welfare. So the king and his counselors devised ways and means to make people bad again so that the country could become prosperous. Sunday schools were opened to teach little boys to swear and pick pockets and to teach little girls to tell lies and to make faces. But as soon as the children got old enough to reason they stopped swearing and making faces and other like things. For there were no devils to tempt them.

The country kept getting poorer and poorer and the people kept getting more and more miserable till at last the king disguised himself as a beggar and went round the country trying to discover a remedy. Finally he came upon a blacksmith running hot knitting needles into a purse and could smell sizzling flesh. It was Poverty giving the devils a taste of their home life. The king found out the story and begged Poverty as a loyal subject and as a man who loved his native land to let the devils loose. The patriotic appeal touched Poverty's heart. He let the devils loose.

They spread over the world and began to tempt people again. The theatres opened up. Men wanted to smoke. People began to steal and the judges again put on their wigs and earned their fat salaries. Everybody began to be wicked and everybody began to be employed at dress-making, tobacco raising and all that had been stopped. The country grew wicked and prosperous. The priests had a lot to do and the nation blessed the blacksmith for turning the devils loose again upon his native land.

Is this a foolish story? It looks so because it is told about impossible conditions for the delight of children. But do you know, I have had grown men, men who thought themselves very, very wise and very, very practicable, argue like that to me. "Socialism is impossible. Under Socialism who will employ the people? The people will become poor under Socialism. You can't make it work for who would buy the things made under Socialism?"

That is the kind of conversation they employ. And it is just as foolish as the argument in the story about the devils. They think that

jails make trade good that warfare makes trade good, that judges with fat salaries to spend make trade good. They think that if we abolish policemen and commercial travellers and competition among a dozen retail stores in the little villages that many people will be thrown out of their jobs and here will be hard times.

Both in the devil story and in the argument of capitalist apologists against Socialism it is overlooked that labor can be made to do many things. It can be turned to making an artificial lake for a multimillionaire, or it can be turned to building wider streets in the crowded quarters of our cities. It can be turned to making cigars that cost a dollar each for J. P. Morgan to smoke, or it can be turned to producing pure milk for the babies of our cities and distributing pure ice on hot August days.

Under Socialism labor will be organized. Labor power will not be bought and sold in slave pens as it is now. It will not be controlled by the capitalist class to produce a bare living for slaves and luxuries unknown to the ancients for the masters. Labor power will be carefully conserved as the most precious gift of man. It will be turned into creating happy comfortable homes for all. Maybe Morgan will not smoke dollar cigars under Socialism. Maybe Strathcona will not be able to dress up five hundred men and send them to kill people in South Africa. But the lives of little children will be made happy and fathers and mothers will be able to enjoy home life without fear of the rent collector or bill collector and without that fearful dread of losing the job that only gives a slaves pay.

Have you been arguing against Socialism? Then read the devil story, digest it, and never, never again show your ignorance by arguing against what will be the greatest boon to man that has ever come to this earth.

Did you ever study the doctrine of evolution? Did you ever begin to read Darwin's Descent of Man with your mind firmly made up that Darwin was all wrong? If you have done this you will get a great surprise. Darwin flings fact after fact at you. You say in the beginning, "That does not prove the theory." You say later on, "That fact may not be true." But the facts keep coming faster and faster till you are overwhelmed with them. That is the way with a study of Socialism. You say, "There is nothing in Socialism. This is a pretty good system." Then when you read Socialist literature fact after fact, example after example is hurled at you, till you become convinced that this system is rotten to the core and that it is only the goodness in man that keeps any sweetness left in life at all. Then you begin to study human nature and the Socialist remedies. You feel that they won't work, that they are not in harmony with human nature. But fact after fact with regard to human nature is hurled at you. You see that the evils you have been blaming on poor human nature are really due to the capitalist system. You finally become convinced that Socialism is in thorough accord with human nature and you come to see the sweet reasonableness of the co-operative commonwealth. Then you become filled with the uncompromising spirit of the early Christians to conquer the old and introduce the new for the good of humanity.

It would look as though the dangerous matches will be abolished in Canada. The ill the workers suffer in the match industry is thus described in the "Survey." "For the head of the ordinary double dip parlor match, the tiny round tip is made of a poison worse than deadly to many workers in match factories. Stealing insidiously through a tiny crack in a tooth, it rots the tooth, rots the jawbone, requires mutilating operations and sometimes results in death after lingering years of suffering. But there is a harmless substitute, sesquiphosphorus, for the poisonous white phosphorus." The added cost is but five per cent. In England the workers have compelled the government to pass a law to prevent the match workers rotting to death. In European countries the workers are protected. In Canada they are just becoming protected now. Shall we be overly much obliged to the Laurier government because, fourteen years after its ascension to power, it passes a little law to stop the dread disease of phossy jaw? This is better late. But think of those fourteen years.

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These fruit men and cot-

## BUNCOME &amp; SCRAPP'S

By R. W. NORTHEY

A WRITER EXPRESSLY FOR "COTTON'S WEEKLY"

## CHAPTER V.

Old Man Harris gets the Surprise of his Life.

(Continued.)

"Thank God!" exclaimed Mrs. Harris with streaming eyes. "It was just in time. Oh, Miss Wimple, I don't think I could have lived much longer if this hadn't come. I couldn't make six dollars a week go as far as it did only a year ago. Everything got so dear, and the rent was raised from a dollar and a quarter to a dollar and a half, which left only four dollars and a half for the two of us to live on. We long ago determined never to go into debt, although I daresay it would hardly have been possible to get credit if we had wanted to. We hadn't a cent left in the house today, as Henry had paid our last fifty cents for medicine. Oh, Miss Wimple, I pray God you may never know the misery and bitterness of poverty such as we have had to bear. Poverty is mean and degrading. It destroys all the nobler feelings and finer sensibilities of our being. It kills out all that is best in us and leaves only the wolfish instinct of fighting for a bare existence."

"And yet we have had a lot to be thankful for, Mother," said Mr. Harris. "We have had our little home and the privacy of our own fireside; we have had clean clothes, clean food, however scanty it was, and we have always had a clean bed to sleep in. There are millions of people in the world who haven't got any of these blessings, and yet they continue to exist somehow."

Old man Harris was certainly an optimist. But it was quite true that their condition was a state of almost great affluence compared with the lot of the as in every big city where the profit system ruled; and Baker's Row, al- quarters, was quite respectable and ranked high in comparison with the ramshackle old rookeries in the congested quarters where the very poor were forced to swarm like rabbits in a warren.

"It is a terrible charge against our civilization," said Miss Wimple, "that such poverty should exist at all. There is really no reason why it should. There is more than enough to produce food for the whole of humanity to eat and to wear. It was not so a hundred years ago, but the vast and wonderful improvements in productive machinery have made it so today. One would have thought that these improvements would have cheapened the cost of things to the workers and raised their standard of living, but it seems to have had the opposite effect, because the great majority of the poor are poorer and far worse off than were the poor a hundred years ago. It is quite common now to read in the papers of people dying of starvation all through the winter. Just think of it, the irony of it! Lying of starvation in the midst of plenty! Families on the verge of starvation with a stone's throw of stores and warehouses full to overflowing with the very things they are in such dire need of! Only the other day I read an account of several carloads of California oranges being taken out to sea and thrown overboard to prevent their coming on the market to lower the price. Oh, God! the fiendish cruelty of it, when there are thousands of babies and invalid children gasping out their little lives in the hot, fetid slums for want of an orange. I have read of hundreds of bales of cotton being burned to prevent a drop in the price, and it was only a short time ago I read of a whole trainload of potatoes being destroyed to keep them off the market. So it is not because the supply is insufficient that people have to live on the verge of starvation. It seems ridiculous to say it, but one can only come to the conclusion that people starve and go ill-dread because there is too much food and too much cotton. In fact there seems to be too much of everything grown and too much manufactured."

"It does seem paradoxical, Miss Wimple," said Harris, "but it is quite true. When the factories have produced too much clothing or too much of anything the market becomes overstocked and they can't sell their goods unless they cut their prices down to a figure that would leave them little or no profit. So they close down and keep their stock till better times return, caring nothing for the misery of the workers thus thrown out of work, and whose buying power is at once destroyed. As they (the workers) are deprived of buying anything by their loss of wages, other manufacturers soon begin to feel the pinch, and they too, have to close down or run on half or quarter time, thus throwing thousands more out of work, and of course, as soon as their wages stop they have to stop buying too; and so conditions become worse and worse until the volume of business drops to a small fraction of the normal amount, while the market still remains glutted. This is what is known as a panic and recurs about every decade, but latterly has been more frequent. As the trusts become more and more powerful they will be able to curtail the output whenever and wherever overproduction begins to show itself, and thus prevent a panic in future. The factory owners will not sell their products unless they can make a profit. So with the fruit men who destroyed the oranges and potatoes and the cotton growers who burnt the raw cotton. You see, Miss Wimple, if they can't make a profit they might as well go out of business, as they would soon become bankrupt. These fruit men and cot-

ton growers no doubt had to keep up the price to make any profit on the stock they already had on hand. To have allowed the oranges and potatoes to come on the market just at that particular time when it was overstocked would have lowered the prices and reduced their profits or obliterated them altogether. So to get their profits they simply had to destroy the surplus oranges and potatoes."

"But wouldn't it have been more Christian-like to have given away the oranges to the poor rather than have destroyed them?" asked Mrs. Harris. "And the potatoes, no doubt there were hundreds of poor people who would have fetched them away without any expense to the giver. To wantonly destroy fruit and vegetables is nothing less than flying in the face of a beneficent Providence that has given them such a bountiful supply."

"Oh, fruit handlers haven't got a not so that you could notice it," laughed the old man. "But don't you see, Mary, that if they had given away the oranges and the potatoes they would have practically destroyed their market. Everyone they gave to might be a possible buyer. Besides, they would have had to investigate before giving, because owing to the many tricks in trade they might be giving to parties who were merely stool pigeons for other dealers, so that the fruit would eventually come on the market at such low prices as to ruin the sale of the stock they sought to protect. No, there was nothing else they could do. The surplus stock had to be destroyed, entirely obliterated, to keep up the price of the rest. As to Christian-like qualities, there is no room in business for anything of that sort. Business is business, and as such it is entirely opposed to true Christianity. In fact, no business man who follows the rules can be a consistent Christian, and usually the business man who does the garb of Christianity in his business does so for business purposes. There may be one or two here and there who are sincere, but these men are ignorant of the depths of infamy to which business has sometimes descended."

"You appear to understand the whole matter pretty well, Mr. Harris," said Miss Wimple. "I have thought very much about the inequalities existing in society and tried to discover the reason why such things should be, but I had not discovered that profit was the cause of all this competition, fighting and trickery. Then this thing, Profit, whose name should begin with a capital P, is a real king in the business world, since it is for his sake that intelligent men will lie and cheat and rob and deprive their brother of his livelihood. He is the creator of the wealth of the rich and the poverty of the poor, and yet he is a fraud from the very beginning, because he could not exist unless he continually obtained something for nothing."

"That's right, Miss Wimple, that's profit exactly. He's king all right. I wish you could hear Alan Maynard one evening. You would easily learn all you need to learn on this question, for you are pretty well advanced in the theory of it already. He speaks every Friday evening at the corner of Green and Main—it's only two blocks from here. I thought he was an anarchist the first time I stopped to listen, and I felt he had only got his deserts when the police arrested him down town one night for obstructing the street. But when he came out here and mounted his soap box at the corner of Green and Main streets his words fell on good ground and I listened till the truths he preached began to penetrate even my old capitalist brain."

"Then this Alan Maynard is the Socialist soap-boxer you mentioned just now?"

"Yes, Miss Wimple. He's a great man, a real man. He preaches the same doctrine Christ taught, and yet he's an atheist, or I should say he does not believe in the Christianity the churches teach."

"Then I hope you won't have anything to do with him, Henry," said Mrs. Harris.

"Oh," said Miss Wimple, "that's no detriment to a man now-a-days. When so many of the financial swindlers and money grabbers are members of the churches and rob the poor under the cloak of religion it is the real honest man who has the courage to repudiate the Church and the works of its sycophants. It does not take a very intelligent mind to discern that a great deal of the pulpit religion of today, especially where the wealthy congregations assemble, is mere lip service; the preachers themselves are worshippers of the golden calf. Of course there are good true men in the Church as well as outside of it, but they have not been able to accomplish anything for the uplifting of the poor. By their fruits ye shall know them, and if we judge the Church by the fruits of its labors for nineteen hundred years, surely we can come to no other conclusion than that the Church has been a lamentable failure."

Looking at her watch, she said, "It is getting late, and I'm going to wash this china before I go, because I know Mrs. Harris would not care to trust that delicate job to a mere man, and she is not able to do it herself. If you will bring me a pan of warm water, Mr. Harris, I will do it here, as the light is getting dim in the kitchen, and Mrs. Harris will be able to tell me where each piece belongs as I put them back on the shelves."

(To be continued)

The Montreal Manufacturers held a big banquet the other week. They declared that they were interested in the welfare of Canada and that their prosperity meant the prosperity of all. They were good fellows who were working for the good of everybody. On January 18th this same bunch of labor skimmers sent a deputation to Ottawa to oppose the demands of the British Columbia manufacturers to have the railway charges east over the Rockies reduced. The Montreal Manufacturers want to cab-bage and hold the trade of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan. If the railway rates over the Rocky Mountains are reduced the Vancouver manufacturers can compete. The Montreal labor skimmers do not like this. [You see, the Montreal manufacturers are looking out for themselves. When they tell how they are working for the good of others you may know that they mean they are working others good.]

Some say that Socialism is against Christianity. Others say that Socialism is the fulfillment of Christianity. This puzzles many persons. But just stop and think. What is Christianity? There is the Christian woman who goes down to the slums and lives in the slum neighborhood just to do good to the people of the underworld. There is the record of the Inquisition that burned and tortured and killed men and women for daring to have ideas different from those of the Inquisitors. Both call themselves Christianity. Is it not possible to explain the conflicting statements of the attitude of Socialism to Christianity that are put forth in the name of the one and only true religion? Even the dictionaries recognize that the ethics of Socialism and the ethics of Christianity are one.

Jim Hill talked about the necessity of financial caution. The American papers are discussing the need for reducing expenses. A period of industrial stagnation has been prophesied for 1911. As capitalism becomes decadent, as the wages of the workers sink in comparison with his productive powers, the quicker does the market become overstocked with goods produced by the workers which the workers cannot buy. This means unemployment and discontent among the workers and the spread of Socialism. There is one way to give the workers work under such conditions. That is to bring about a war between rival countries. Then the workers can be set to work producing useless armaments of war for useless soldiers to go and use against others. The social revolt is close in the States. That is why the capitalists are endeavoring to stir up a great war with Japan.

We hear a lot about how big railroad presidents earn their salaries. They have to work hard. Competition must be met. Traffic must be gotten away from other railroads: Parliamentary attacks must be met. If the railroad president is not on to his job his railway loses its traffic and becomes bankrupt. So it is said that a railway president earns his money. Take the case of Alexander J. Cassatt and the Pennsylvania railway. This road had no entrance into New York City. It had to have one or lose its traffic to other railways that had. So Cassatt worked and schemed and financed till the new Pennsylvania entrance was made and a terminal was reared in the heart of the city. It cost a hundred and sixty million dollars and the work of financing and fighting for the terminal and bearing the heavy burdens of the road killed the president from overwork. So it is said that the big men earn their salaries. So they do, under capitalism. But is the struggle necessary? Two prize fighters pummel each other for a big purse. One gets hammered up and the other gets nearly killed. The prizefighters earn their money, but the struggle was not necessary. So with these big men. Cassatt was killed by overwork financing a private enterprise. The American government is spending hundreds of millions of dollars on the Panama canal and no one is being killed from worry. The fight for traffic on railroads would be eliminated under sane social ownership. Because no matter which way the goods went the people would be served equally! as well. The big men who are paid big salaries are doing useless work in fighting each other for business. The necessity for the struggles will be done away with under Socialism.

Always keep a copy of Cotton's in your pocket to hand to men with whom you converse. Best way to keep supplied is to order a bundle. Seven copies for a year costs \$3.00, and a copy of "Facts" comes free.

After reading this paper do not throw it away or lay it aside in a corner. Pass it on to somebody else, first marking a few of the best articles. Light your fires in the morning with capitalist papers.

## A LITTLE CLIMB

Say, Comrades, when are you going after the plut system and chew it up in real earnest?

Here we have been hanging round the ten thousand mark for six months.

It is all right to try and wear your enemy out when there is a chance of wearing him out, when he is cut off from his base of supplies.

But here your enemy is perched on your backs, reaches over and takes the food out of your hands and leaves you the scraps, takes all the nicest clothing you produce and leaves you the coarsest.

You cannot wear the enemy out. You have just got to throw him out.

Cotton's is telling you to unite and throw him out. Cotton's is telling you to wake up your fellow workers and get them all united for the job.

You began well. You piled up a sub list of ten thousand in a year and a half.

Then you kind of got tired. For the sub list has been hanging round the ten thousand mark for the last six months. It has got no forwarder. Have you wakened all the wage slaves you could? Could you not have gone on doubling your efforts with a doubled army of revolting wage slaves?

You are starting 1911 in the same old podogery way that you wound up 1910 in. Some of you, a very few of you, are doing all you can.

But the rest of you, you are asleep on the job of bringing about your own freedom. But you bet you just hustle on the job of producing surplus values for your masters.

No, I am not going to praise and call you good fellows and smart when you submit to wage slavery without a hell of a struggle, you slave spirited wage slaves.

## Circulation Statement

Following is the statement of circulation for the issue of January 26.

	OFF	IN	TOTAL
Ontario	111	133	4080
British Columbia	123	44	1421
Alberta	57	43	1235
Nova Scotia	77	59	1134
Prov. of Quebec	5	73	1037
Manitoba	34	19	655
Saskatchewan	15	68	673
New Brunswick	3	4	138
Elsewhere	7	24	159
Yukon Territory	2	0	52
Newfoundland	0	0	21
Prince Ed. Island	0	1	14
Total	434	469	10,599

## Gain for week 34

Total issue last week was 11,400

I was talking to a traveller the other day. He told me that he had been on the road for eight years and that when he had asked hotel keepers how the roads were they had always told him that they were not good. They wanted his trade. They wanted to keep him so they could sell more meals and more drinks. This is nothing but an example of economic determinism. Our conduct is governed by our economic interests. The Socialists recognize this truth and know the correct remedies for the evils that afflict.

The Banner Collector of Books is the best combination offered for the new reader on Socialism. Seven attractive books for only 50 cents.

## SOCIALIST DIRECTORY

Continued Cards for Locals inserted under this heading at \$1.00 per month.

WINDSAY, ONT., SOCIALISTS meet every Monday Evening at 8 o'clock, above Dominion Bank entrance, William Street. All socialists, residents or visitors, heartily welcome.

DEBATE  
Between G. R. Small and George Edward. Subject—Resolved, "That Socialism Will Inevitably Human Happiness." St. Joseph's Hall, 102 St. Catherine Street East, corner St. Elizabeth Street, Sunday, Feb. 6, 2:30 p.m. FREE.

## INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM

Of interest to Socialists and All Wage Earners

The advocates of Industrial Unionism meet every Thursday at St. Joseph's Hall, Room 5 (entrance by St. Elizabeth St., corner of St. Catherine St.), Montreal. Free discussion at every feature.

The following are the subjects, by various speakers for the month of February. Cut this out for reference.  
Feb. 2—"Some Recent Developments in Industrial Life."  
Feb. 9—"Historical Materialism."  
Feb. 16—"What Means This Strike?"  
Feb. 23—"Industrial Unionism vs. Craft Unionism."  
Come and bring others.

AGENTS WANTED!  
In every town and village to take orders for guaranteed pure Maple Syrup and Sugar; also for Workmen's Overalls and Suspenders, etc. Good commission; write for information. CHAS. A. BULL & CO., E. T. Furniture & Furnishing Mail Order House, Cowansville, P. Q.

WANTED—Working HOUSEKEEPER, one used to cows and poultry. Must be reliable and fond of children. State age and wages wanted. Address: V.A.S., Collingwood, Ont., British Columbia.

A BARGAIN IN PRINTING  
One Thousand Good White Bond Letterheads, padded if desired, and 1,000 No. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 Envelopes, printed for \$5.00. These Letterheads and Envelopes are A1 stock, printing equal to the best. Send your order to COTTON'S JOB DEPARTMENT, Cowansville, P. Q. Express prepaid.

## Dr. W. J. CURRY

DENTIST  
SUITE 201  
Dominion Trust Building  
VANCOUVER, B. C. 129

Are You a STICKER?  
Secure and get some of COTTON'S GUMMED STICKERS! Stick 'em on the back of your letters, and every other place they can be seen. Our stickers are beautiful; neat, easily read type, printed in red or blue. They carry the message home every time. Ten different kinds ready. Send for them. Send your order to COTTON'S JOB DEPARTMENT, Cowansville, P. Q. Express prepaid. 50c. per 1,000 assorted etc. per 1,000 assorted

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Counted for a dollar. Alain Burke, Stearns, Hyatt, A. Soper, A. F. Lapierre, Robt. Johns, H. H. Stew.

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## THE FIRING LINE

## THE TOP NOTCHERS

(Counted on a basis of five halfers for a dollar.)

Alain Burke, Montreal, . . . . . 45  
 Stead, Hrynk, Cardiff, Alta. . . . . 27  
 A. Soper, Aylmer West, Ont. . . . . 17  
 F. Lapierre, Toronto . . . . . 15  
 Robt. Johnston, Kewatin, Ont. . . . . 15  
 H. H. Stewart, Newcastle, N. B. 15

Always from Comrade F. Jennings, Independence, Alta.  
 Comrade Jas. E. Cook, Springhill, N. S., forwards a sub.  
 Comrade J. H. Wood, Montreal, forwards a yearly.

Comrade S. Pope, South Oshawa, Ont., makes five halfers see capitalism in a new light.  
 One plunk from Comrade C. C. Besant for sub cards. And that is the way the sub list keeps climbing.  
 Two yearlies from Comrade B. Daniels, Longueuil, P. Q. Little old Quebec is rubbing her feudal eyes and is seeing red.

Comrade Frank E. Edney of Sherbrooke, P. Q., leads in a halter to be warmed and enthused for the war on exploitation.

Comrade John V. Hull, Port Moody, B. C., gladdens the heart of the bulldog with a sight of a yearly and a halter.

A yearly and six halfers from Comrade A. J. Gordon, Lachine, P. Q., shows that the Quebec wage slave is willing to think for himself.

Comrade A. Soper, Aylmer West, Ont., brings in seven subs, all yearlies. That kind of work means building solid and sure.

Comrade J. R. Ernst, Block House, N. S., adds another brain that is being enlightened. He forwards a halter.

The expiries are heavy just now. Look as though we would again dip below the 10,000. Come, boys, get out and do something on subs.

Comrade John Kerr, Swanton, Sask., puts a charge of mental dynamite under the plate lids lurking in the heads of a yearly and two halfers.

Comrade F. Hyatt, Organizer, forwards two yearlies from St. John, N. B., and says that Socialist newspapers are an excellent remedy for brain fog.

Comrade Robert Johnston, Kewatin, Ont., forwards six half yearly subs and three yearlies and takes a copy of Facts. And the sub list climbs towards the twenty thousand mark.

Comrade R. H. Lowe, Toronto, forwards two halfers. The sub hustler that brings in one halter may have had harder work getting that one than another had getting five. They all count for Socialism.

New Brunswick heard from Comrade H. H. Stewart of Newcastle awakens two yearlies and eight halfers. When the sub hustlers start out to make Socialists they can make things hum.

Comrade Martin Nash, Dominion, N. S., introduces three yearlies and six half yearlies. The capitalist politicians will not be able to fool the wage slaves of Nova Scotia much longer.

Comrade Frederic Lapierre, Toronto, takes fifteen half yearly sub cards, and a copy of Facts. That is the kind of work that is putting Cotton's sub list where the plate will have to stand on a tall step ladder to see the top of it.

Comrades, take notice that copy for any particular issue must be in by the preceding Saturday. The present issue takes over two days to run, and we cannot do better till we land a new press.

A halter from Comrade J. A. Campbell, Bala, Ont. These subs picked up one at a time show that those who cannot do much still are working away plugging the Socialist philosophy into the minds of the few within their reach.

Twelve yearlies are swung into the army of working class revolt per Comrade Steve Hrynk, Cardiff, Alta. The capitalist system might just as well make up its mind that it has to get out of Canada. Cotton's Army is after it with a smothering sub list.

Enclosed please find fifty cents for my renewal. I will have to get to work again and get more subs for our paper. Everything is coming fine. Greet all the comrades and let us put our shoulder to the wheels and have Cotton's to fifty thousand by 1912." Comrade R. B. Vogen, Dundurn, Sask.

Comrade R. C. MacDougall, Sydney, B. C., forwards the price of five half yearly sub cards and wants to know if price must be remitted for sub cards before the subscribers receive their paper. No. Subscriptions go on the list as soon as the sub cards are received in this office with name and address of subscriber.

"Am sending you three yearlies along with my own renewal to let you know I am behind you in the fight. Credit me with two dollars on Facts. Do not publish my name as I have to live low for awhile. I got these on the quiet from the men here in the shop. I'll get more." Just a Brockville wage slave.

Four yearlies, eleven halfers and a trial is the bunch gathered together by Comrade Morrish, Berlin, Ont., who forwards a request for more ammunition in the shape of sub cards. The sappers are at work undermining the foundations of the capitalist fortress. Pretty soon we will see it tumble down in a cloud of dust and the capitalists all scurrying out of it to go to work.

On Saturday Comrade A. Burke sent in fifteen halfers from Montreal. On Monday the mail brought in fifteen more halfers from Comrade Burke. On Tuesday Comrade Burke came again with seven yearlies. Last winter when talking with the Montreal Socialists I asked them why the

sub list did not go up and they explained it by the backward state of Montreal. But Comrade Burke can go out and rustle thirty-seven subs in three days.

NOTICE—The forms for Cotton's Weekly close every Monday morning. Copy should be in on Saturday for the coming issue.

## ABOUT RENEWALS

Cotton's does everything possible to land renewals. Every expiring subscriber gets an expiry notice in his last paper; then a letter, with renewal blank by mail; and if that does not bring them in a further sample copy is sent. List of expiries are sent every month to hustlers in the various towns. Comrades who get these lists, will help wonderfully by giving their aid and enlisting others, to land renewals. A personal call and a proffered sub card or offer to send the sub will bring many over the counter.

Cotton's leaves no stone unturned to interest people in subscribing and renewing subscriptions. It is working night and day to get people to read, learn and inwardly digest the economic truths of Socialism. Every hustler who works for Cotton's can rest assured that he is getting full cooperation from this end. In fact, the Socialists of Canada are getting \$100.00 worth of work for every \$50.00 sent in. You may not see just how this is, but at some future date we may enlarge on this. Just remember that every 50 cents you send to Cotton's does a dollar's worth of work for the cause, and Cotton's is the only place in Canada where you can get this kind of service. Its advantage to every Socialist in Canada to use it.

## THE PROPAGANDIST'S BUSINESS

Chas. Lestor

The present capitalist system is a mass of contradictions, and to explain to the wage slave where he comes in is a matter of difficulty to the would-be propagandist. Social reformers of every description are trying to engage the attention of our class in order to induce them to go in for some quick cure, some get-there-quick proposition, that the educator along Socialist lines often has his meeting turned into discussions upon questions that don't in the least matter.

It is apparent that the worker's lot in human society is steadily getting worse, both relatively and actually. The worker knows that. He can quickly perceive that his wages in dollars do not buy what they formerly did. He is ready to admit that, and if you patiently explain to him the reason you will be amply repaid by the interest he will take in your further arguments.

He must then have it clearly shown to him that he does not sell his labor, but his power to labor, his human energy, his life, himself. Then carefully develop the intelligence you have stimulated by getting him to understand that his wages, the price of his labor power, are governed by supply and demand, and show him how the perfection of machinery must result in the supply of workers being in excess of the demand. Explain that he just gets a living and, if possible, try to enable him to realize that his value as a commodity entitles him to no more. Show him he can't get any more. Make him see that he gets his value as a whole. He can soon be convinced of that, because he is a live wage plug, and if he's alive and able to work, if he can find the elusive job, he's got the value of his labor power from the capitalist class up to now. If he is dead it is no use talking to him.

The next proposition to place before him is the fact that the articles required to produce him the things he buys with the money he receives as wages are sold, like him, on the whole at their value. He will want to know how the capitalist makes his profit. Then expose the trick. The capitalist buys him at his value, buys his plant at its value, and makes all his profits in the process. Show him that the goods produced belong to the capitalist because he had sold himself to the capitalist beforehand. His human energy was the property of the capitalist when he produced the wealth. The capitalist made the best use of the worker because the worker was his property. All the worker is entitled to under this system he has received, i.e., the value of his labor power. His labor, the wealth that is the product of his toil is not his and never can be under capitalism. It is the property of the capitalist who buys him. The human energy in the worker's carcass is the property of the capitalist when the wealth is produced. Therefore the worker, strictly speaking, produces nothing but labor power which he is compelled to sell to the master class in an overstocked market at its cost-of-production.

Then drive it home to him that he is a slave. Burn it into him, and if there is a glimmering of a potential manhood in him, you've got him for sure.

## AGITATION BATTERY

The Agitation Battery is marking time. The boys are anxious to get ahead with their publicity campaign. They can't do much till the funds are in the ammunition box.

This campaign involves quite a sum, but it is an investment that will pay over 100 per cent.

Wake up, you comrades who want to help in good propaganda work, and cannot place subs or bundles, and things going. A frayed and ragged old dollar bill will deliver a hard slap at capitalism. Now is the time.

## Socialism in Canada

## VANCOUVER SOCIALISTS ACTIVE

Enderby, B. C.

Jan. 19th, 1911.

Comrade Slave—In your issue of January 12th, appears some statements by W. J. Currie of Vancouver. It is not my intention to go into any matter of dispute between members or ex-members of Vancouver local, a local of which I am not a member. I know nothing of Dr. Currie's heresy or anything else. Allow me, however, to correct certain statements in re the Socialist Party of Canada in Vancouver.

The facts are these. Local Vancouver is at present carrying on larger meetings than ever before, hiring one of the largest theatres in the city at a rental of fifty dollars per night. The attendance and collections at said meetings are at present on the increase. The local literature sales are at present larger than at any previous time and the membership of the local is such that dues stamps are purchased in quantities of up to one hundred dollars at a time. Thanking you in anticipation for giving me the same privilege and publicity as Dr. Currie.

Yours for the revolution,  
 Gerald Desmond.

## RESOLUTIONS RE JAPANESE MURDER

Resolved that:  
 We the Socialists of Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada, and vicinity hereby express our horror at the announcement of the Japanese court condemning the illustrious scholar Dr. Kotoku, his wife and twenty-four others to death, and whose chief crime seems to be the translation into the Japanese language of the works of Karl Marx, and their distribution amongst the Japanese people.

We further wish to warn the Japanese people that should the evidence be forthcoming that our comrades did not resort to excessive violence, we shall call upon the British Government to cease further international relations, withdraw our Ambassador from Japan and give the Japanese Ambassador at London his pass ports.

We further request the citizens of other cities and communities of the British Empire to express their indignation at this outrage, if such it prove to be. We must not allow another Ferrer to be martyred, for the cause of Justice and Liberty.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this be sent to the Japanese Ambassador at London, England, also to the Christian Socialist, the Western Appeal to Reason, and The Ripsaw. Carried unanimously.

Signed in behalf of the Christian Socialist Fellowship—President A. McDonald, Secretary C. R. Stewart.

## HAMILTON SLAVES AWAKING

Dear Cotton's—

Just a line to let you know that Hamilton is putting in a few licks for the Social Revolution.

On January fourteenth and fifteenth the "Marx Club" started, something which we hope to continue during the balance of the winter season, a series of regular Sunday afternoon propaganda meetings to be addressed by various local and out-of-town speakers. Comrade F. Haselgrove of London was the speaker on the respective dates above mentioned and his lecture upon the subject, "Socialism, why it offers the ONLY solution of the labor problem" proved one of the most instructive delivered here for some time. Comrade Haselgrove is a member of the Canadian Socialist Labor Party.

On Sunday January 29th, Comrade Wm. Davenport of Local Brantford, S. P. of C., spoke under the Club auspices, his subject being "Some Questions which non-Socialist Workmen Should Answer." All meetings, both propaganda and otherwise, are now held at the Club Headquarters, 34 James St. (opposite City Hall). Readers of Cotton's are invited to attend.

J. J. C.

## A SUGGESTION

Dear Cotton's—

Will you kindly publish the following suggestion in your valuable paper?

The controversy between local Toronto and others has degenerated into mere abuse. When we study the matter we have no need to call each other Judas Mosses, and other vile names and the movement does not gain anything when the foremost members descend to such depths.

It might be argued that wage slaves are only in their natural element when so engaged, but all Socialists who have the welfare of the movement at stake deplore the fact that valuable space in the party paper, the Western Appeal, is taken up in this manner—space which might be used to better advantage.

When we examine this controversy carefully we find that it is neither Baritz, McKenzie, Gribble, or any other individual who is at fault. It is not even local Toronto that is to blame. The cause lies in the structure of our organization. The country in which we operate is large and the movement is growing. Vancouver, the headquarters of the Party, is situated at the extreme end of the Dominion. Now however fair the Dominion Executive might be, it is a difficult matter for them to keep fully in touch with matters, say in the Maritime Provinces. Information which might be useful when it starts is apt to be useless when it arrives.

The Dominion Executive is elected by a small number of Comrades. It is not a representative body. As the movement grows the movement will assume different features in different provinces. It is also likely that the Dominion Executive will have more and more trouble to reconcile the conflicting elements. The Dominion Executive may curb the expansion of

the movement through lack of information.

Most of the combatants agree that we cannot have a dominion convention. Why does not some simple minded rebel suggest that each Provincial Executive shall act independently of the D. E., that is, cut out the Dominion Executive until we can afford to call a Dominion Convention?

Charles Lestor.

(The above communication refers to Party affairs. There is a Socialist Party of Canada with head offices at Vancouver. The Party owns a paper, the Western Appeal. This paper is taken up to a great extent with squabbles between different Socialists. The Party is governed by a Dominion Executive. This executive has held office for seven years. It is not democratic. Referendums on questions are rare if they are ever issued. Consequently there is much dissatisfaction with Party affairs. I get many letters from Socialists who have found it advantageous to act independently of the S. P. of C., as run from Vancouver. The Winnipeg Socialists have seceded to a great extent and formed a Social-Democratic Party. At Millet, Alta., they call themselves Christian Socialists and are organizing on the basis of the Christian Socialist Fellowship. In Hamilton it is the Karl Marx Club. Nearly all the Ontario Socialists have removed from the control of the Dominion Executive. As Comrade Lestor says the movement is expanding in Canada. It looks to me as though the Socialists of Canada will have to get together and reorganize themselves into a party where the rank and file will rule, where democratic principles will be applied.)

## HOW SLAVES ARE TREATED.

Cobalt, Ont.

Jan. 23rd, 1911.

Cotton's Weekly, Cowansville.

Dear Sirs—I wish to call your attention to the way some of the labor skimmers along the government road, the national transcontinental, are stealing the labor of the country with the direct help of the government. Slavery days are supposed to be a thing of the past, but I am sure you will agree with me that they have returned in a much worse form after reading this letter over.

The company referred to in this letter are "Foley, Welch and Stewart," who have contracted to build a big section of the road to the east of Cobalt. An agent of this firm came to Haileybury and hired men to work on a steel gang at the rate of \$2.50 per day and board.

We left Cobalt and started to work. They rolled us out at four a. m. every morning and gave us a breakfast in cold, dirty dining cars, which consisted of burnt oatmeal, bad meat, cold tea, etc. They worked us on that till one and sometimes 2.30 p. m. before we got dinner. We were allowed a half an hour to eat and were worked so late that some nights it was after ten before we got our supper.

After seven days of this we were obliged to leave as we could stand the pace no longer. On applying at the office for our time slips we were only allowed ten hours a day at twenty cents an hour and we had to pay our board out of that which was sixty-five cents a day. This with our transportation from Cobalt left us in debt to the company. The fares from Cobalt cost the company one cent a mile, but they soaked us three cents per mile. Also we paid one dollar per month for medical fee but we never saw the doctor and when we asked where the doctor was we were told he was in Cobalt and that they had no hospital. Also they docked us twenty-five cents a month for delivering our mail. These charges were all compulsory. Also they charged us one dollar for giving us the work although we were not hired through an employment agency.

When we said we were going to quit they said we could not as we were in debt to the company and if we did leave we would be arrested at Cobalt for jumping and sent as convicts to work on the government road at Matheson.

We left and walked forty miles to Cobalt. On arriving there we went to see a lawyer, W. H. Worke. He informed us that there was not much in trying to get a J. P. in town to take the case up as none of them would take a case against the company, that he had been turned down so often that he thought the only thing to do was wait till the assizes in the latter part of October. But as this was in September we could not see our way clear to wait in Cobalt for three months.

The lawyer told us he had some forty old cases against them when the assizes came off and that he could have found a J. P. to take them. He gave us a note to a J. P. by name of J. MacDonald, asking him to take the case.

I delivered this note personally. The Justice of the Peace told me he was going to have a holiday and was not going to be bothered by law. When we tried to explain the fix we were in, that we had money coming to us but could not get it and that otherwise we had none he became violent and told us to go to the devil and said "to hell with the law," and told us to get out in language which I cannot repeat. We were informed that this was the reception we would get from the rest of the J. P.'s in town.

We determined to go to the Company's office in town and either compel the company to arrest us or to hand over the money that was coming to us. That we were right in our demands is shown because they did not arrest us although we almost begged them to do so and eventually they gave us a check. Although we did not get all that was coming to us still it was enough to take us out of a part of the country where labor thieves and government officials go hand in hand.

Our lawyer also told us he had written to the Hon. J. J. Foy the

Attorney General making complaint of the way law and justice was being administered in Cobalt by his representative, but up to that time no attention had been paid to the complaints.

You can use this letter in any way you choose as we have stuck strictly to the facts of the affair and could back up with witnesses all the charges made.

Wishing you every success with your valuable paper I will close by saying that your paper has done wonders for the great cause among the workers of this country.

Yours respectfully,

A. Robertson.

(The national transcontinental is costing the Canadian people two hundred million dollars. This goes into the pockets of the contractors and the contractors are not willing to give the wage slaves even the cost of their keep. The cost of the transcontinental has been investigated about overcharges for work done. But the condition of the wage slaves is beneath the dignity of the members of parliament to deal with. "To hell with the law" say the J. P.'s of Cobalt. J. J. Foy will not interfere with his helix menials. Will the wage slaves of Brockville, Brantford, Berlin and other Ontario places, particularly Hamilton through their labor member, Allan Studholme, tell the Hon. J. J. Foy, Attorney General of Ontario, that he is neglecting his duties and that he is a special agent of the labor thieves when his J. P.'s are allowed to tell the workers "to hell with the law" when the workers want their slaves pay, and then turn the wage slaves who have not got their slave's pay into tramp convicts on the Matheson roads because, forsooth, they have no "visible means of support.")

## THE BUNDLE BOOSTERS

Many people have been started on the way to Socialism by reading a stray copy of Cotton's, put in their way by some bundle booster. Let us assure you that the Bundle Boosting Way is proving very effective propaganda. We could tell you of many instances of good results.

Cotton's will be pleased to have YOU join the Boosters. Below will be found all sizes of bundles at small prices. Try it out.

## 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
10 copies per week, for 6 months	..... \$2.00
5 copies per week, for one year	..... \$2.00
7 copies per week, for one year	..... \$3.00

The following have just registered:

C. G. Johnson, Greenwood, B. C. 15  
 E. P. McCurrey, Port Huron, Ont. 14  
 E. M. Fisher, Inverness, N. S. 10

There is much bad food confiscated in Montreal every year. Last year the health officials confiscated 650 lbs of veal, 86 lbs of mutton, and 317 lbs of pork at the abattoirs. At the markets there was confiscated 39,710 lbs of beef, 36,350 lbs of veal, 12,269 lbs of mutton, 19,810 lbs of pork, 11,267 lbs of sausage, 8,802 lbs of poultry, 5,408 lbs of bologna, 4,350 lbs of kidney, 1,000 lbs of tripe and 7,761 lbs of liver. 10,581 lbs of bread were confiscated as well as 201,325 lbs of vegetables and fruit and 25,532 lbs of fish. Thus a hundred and ninety tons of bad food was on the market to be sold. This was stopped by the municipal inspectors. How much was sold that was unfit is not known. Bad food produces disease.

Why then do people want to sell it? Do they want to injure their fellowmen? Not at all. They sell it for the profit that is in it. If all the people took it upon themselves to provide food for all the people, then no individual would suffer should bad food not be sold. There would be no desire then to hurt other people by giving them food unfit to eat. But then that would be the co-operative commonwealth and that would never never do. Don't the plate papers tell you that Socialism is impracticable?

On January 10th of last year the Toronto World in reporting the condition of the Farmers Bank said, "The annual statement of the Farmers Bank of Canada was published yesterday and the result of the year's operations is another tribute to the careful management given this, one of the youthful members of the Canadian chartered banks. General manager Travers has come to be looked upon as one of the best informed and most conservative bankers in Canada." Now the Farmers Bank is a wreck and Travers occupies a felon's cell for his wild use of other people's money. This is what happens under private initiative and capitalism. The man who is successful is praised. No matter what he has done he gets the glory. If he is a rogue and his robbery makes him rich then he becomes a pillar of the capitalist state. If he is unsuccessful then he goes to jail. Is not this a rotten system that makes the test of greatness to be successful robbery?

PRICES ON JOB PRINTING.

600 White Bond Letterheads, 500 No. 7 White Wire, 500 regular state menus and 500 No. 1 Bill Heads, all for \$3.25. Letterheads and bill heads padded free if desired. Express prepaid anywhere in Canada. COTTON'S JOB DEPARTMENT, Cowansville, P. Q., Canada.

Here is a suggestion. Pick out ten houses in your neighborhood, take a bundle of Cotton's Weekly to cover them, and late Saturday night or early Sunday morning, systematically place a copy under their doors.

Complete samples of Eureka Leaflets for a 2-cent stamp.

## World Wide Struggle

Taft is considering the pardoning of Fred D. Warren.

The German Reichstag has refused to grant the Kaiser immunity from taxation.

The Western Federation of Miners has affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

In the past ten years the U. S. government has spent two billion dollars for war.

The British Labor M.P.'s are holding out for the payment of members of the British Parliament.

The Californian bosses are now blaming Haywood for the explosion in the building of the Los Angeles Times.

The workers of Montevideo, Uruguay, South America, have returned a Socialist Congressman to the Uruguayan house.

The Mexican rebels are winning more skirmishes against Diaz, and the area of revolutionary activity is being extended.

The American courts have decided that the federation of the New Orleans labor unions is a conspiracy in restraint of trade.

The strike is still on in the Hearst mine at Homestake. The scabs employed, are reported to have abused the mine.

The Californian fruit growers have a scheme on foot to replace the Asiatic labor in the orchards with that of white school children.

Comrades of Grand Junction, Colorado, have bought a page in the Daily News of that city, and are editing it to good advantage.

The Chicago Daily Socialist has five thousand dollars gathered on its campaign for twenty-five thousand dollars to make it an eight page daily.

Twelve of the Japanese Socialists were hanged. The trial was secret. Japan takes her place along with Russia as the home of barbarism and tyranny.

There are sixty million dollars worth of cotton mills running in India employing 234,000 workers. Asiatic labor is hurting the Lancashire cotton mills.

The Socialists of Chicago have nominated Comrade W. E. Rodriguez, union painter, as their candidate for mayor of that city. The voting takes place in the spring.

The Los Angeles unions are planning to acquire an industrial farm to take care of strikers. The unions are planning a general strike for next year to unionize the city.

The official Socialist vote of Texas shows that in seventy-two counties the Socialist vote exceeded that of the Republican Party, and in two counties the votes were tied.

Mayor Seidel of Milwaukee has had John I. Beggs, president of the Milwaukee street railway company arrested for refusing to equip the cars with enclosures for the motormen.

James H. Maurer, Socialist member of the Pennsylvania legislature, nominated Jos. E. Cohen for U. S. Senator from Pennsylvania. In the voting in the legislature Comrade Cohen received one vote, that of Comrade Maurer.

John P. White, of Oskaloosa, Iowa, is the new President of the United Mine Workers of America. White received 98,000 votes and Lewis 72,000.

The new President will swing his influence more for Socialism and the recognition of the class struggle than did the former one.

The Socialists of the Italian chamber of deputies passed stinging resolutions condemning Japan for the slaughter of the twelve thinkers by secret trial. The government minister for foreign affairs, as an antidote, delivered an official statement expressing Italy's warm friendship for Japan.

Victor Berger Socialist Congressman is preparing a bill to grant an old age pension to all workers over sixty whose incomes have been less than one thousand dollars a year. The pension to be twelve dollars a month. The plan would take a hundred and forty-four million dollars a year. This could be easily managed as the U. S. spent last year \$125,000,000 on the navy, \$155,000,000 on the army and \$144,000,000 on pensions to those alleged to have been engaged in the civil war. It is not likely that the capitalist politicians will vote for Berger's measure.

A hundred men were advertised to in Toronto to go and work in the woods at \$2.00 per day and board found. Lumbering is hard work. It is rough disagreeable work. The pay, two dollars a day, is small. A labor skinner would think nothing of blowing in this sum on cigars for his friends. Yet nearly three hundred Englishmen answered the ad. It turned out to be a hoax and these three hundred fled away, sick at heart because a chance to work long hours for a couple of dollars a day was denied them. Is not this a senseless system which denies the chance to work to those who are anxious to labor for the means of life while it heaps up vast riches upon those who do not work themselves but who simply own the means with which others must work to produce wealth? Under Socialism the means of wealth production will be socially owned and the inequalities of millionaires and paupers will vanish.

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## ANALYTICAL SOCIALISM. THE WESTERN VIEW

Comrade C. M. O'Brien, Socialist member in the Alberta Legislature, is discussing the Great Waterways Railway steal with Comrade Gribble, Organizer, declared that had the question of bonusing the railway come up, he might have voted for the bonus. The Great Waterways Railway was a bungled affair and the exposure of the rackets and other things that the promoters were going to get out of the deal defeated Ruthford and overturned the government.

If the Great Waterways Railway was a rotten bargain why should Comrade O'Brien be willing to vote for it? The answer lies in the Socialist viewpoint.

Capitalism is developing two classes of people, parasite owners and exploited wage slaves. The wage slaves receive in wages but the bare cost of their keep. All the rest of the wealth they produce goes to the capitalist exploiters in the shape of rent, interest and profit. The capitalist state is the institution erected by capitalism to keep the workers in slavery and to give the capitalists their wealth and to protect them against the revolt of the wage slaves. As the workers get but the bare cost of their keep in the shape of wages it follows that the workers cannot be taxed to keep up the capitalist state. It must be the capitalist possessors. Government funds, therefore, according to this view, come from the exploiters and will flow back to the exploiters in one shape or another. They will not go to the workers until the workers capture the political state by electing class conscious revolutionary Socialists to city, provincial and dominion bodies. This being the case it matters not to the worker whether the government funds are used to bonus a railway or to build a railway under government control. The capitalist class will reap the profits.

The question then arises, why vote for the railway bonus? The answer is that Socialism cannot come until the capitalist system is rotten ripe for change, and that the building of a railroad will make more wage slaves, will provide a highway for Socialist agitators to travel by, will intensify the antagonisms inherent in the capitalist system and will boost for Socialism by boosting for capitalism.

The basis of scientific Socialism is that man is moved by his economic interests. The little retailer will try to hang on to his little business. He will not want Socialism as long as he has a little niche of his own. He will want to employ cheap help and work them long hours. The little farmer as long as he owns his little farm will not want social ownership of the land. He will want to own his own farm and will shout for private ownership.

But let these little chaps be squeezed out of their business and shoved down into the ranks of the wage workers, then their whole outlook will change. They will then want shorter hours for wage slaves and bigger pay. They will now want as wage workers what formerly they opposed bitterly as little proprietors.

So, according to this view, the more wage slaves and the fewer capitalists, the greater the number of the exploited and the fewer the number of the exploiters, the quicker will the economic interests of the many overturn the rule of the few and the quicker Socialism will be ushered in.

So this kind of Socialism will tolerate no immediate demands in the platform. It works to make Socialism revolutionary and keeps the aim of working class ownership, the final state, in clear view. And it depends upon the increasing rottenness of capitalism and the increasing mass of wage slaves to bring about the revolution.

## THE COMING OF SOCIALISM

The Socialists recognize J. P. Morgan and John D. Rockefeller as having concentrated ownership in a few hands, expropriated many industries and organized them. They have placed industry in such a position that it can be expropriated and run under working class management.

This western view rests upon two main principles. The first is working class education as to the robbery under wage slavery and the second is the acceleration of capitalist development. So the peculiar thing is seen of a Socialist member of a legislature willing to vote for a capitalist steal in order to advance the cause of Socialism.

According to this view the ruthless capitalist who crushes out competition is a benefactor of the working class for he boosts for capitalism and every boost for capitalism brings the social revolution that much nearer. The logical outcome is that we

can help Socialism by becoming capitalists and that I could have done as much good for Socialism by exploiting workers instead of sinking thirteen thousand dollars in Cotton's Weekly.

There is logic and there is common sense. There are false promises which result in false conclusions. In ancient Greece a sophist tried to prove to Diogenes by logic that he could not walk. You cannot be in two places at once. You cannot move in a place. You must move out of it. But when you move out of a place you must be in two places at once while you are going from one place to another. Therefore motion was impossible. Diogenes immediately got up and walked around his tub, thus disproving the sophist. In a case before the American courts a learned lawyer argued to the jury about the difference between two wheels exhibited in court. He argued learnedly about the difference. Then Daniel Webster got up and said, "Look at them, Gentlemen of the Jury. They are just alike, are they not?"

Socialism is coming rapidly. With the development of the capitalist system the whole people are becoming filled with new ideas. They see old remedies no longer apply. They are struggling with the new problems raised by the decadence of capitalism. These new ideas are being brought into legislation by means of old age pensions, workmen's compensation acts, eight hour day laws, sanitary inspectors, prison farms. A whole new civilization is being built on the wreck of the individualist system. The Socialist theories are permeating the mass of the people. They deny the source of their thoughts but accept many of the conclusions. And as capitalism becomes more rotten more of the conclusions will be adopted.

There is a great work for Socialists to do. There is the awakening of the working class to its historic mission to be accomplished. There is the exposure of Parliament and its role as protector of the capitalist against the worker to be exposed. There is the constant political action to be carried on, which includes protests to the representatives of the people and demands upon them for working class legislation. There is agitation to be carried on, education to be diffused and enthusiasm to be aroused.

The Socialist era is upon us. In the class struggle the capitalist class is beginning to find its triumph over feudalism yielding to a triumphant working class. It is time for the working class to come forward with a constructive program.

It is stated that foreign capitalists control \$6,500,000,000 worth of American industries. Great Britain has \$3,500,000,000 invested, Germany \$1,000,000,000, and France \$500,000,000. These billions drain \$300,000,000 a year from America. The war of the revolution was fought against England over a beggarly little tea tax. Now the Britishers and foreigners drain Americans of \$300,000,000 a year. They tax that away from America through what is called investments. And the American nation tell themselves how prosperous they are because they can be taxed over a quarter of a billion a year by foreigners. The American Socialists with their demand for the abolition of rent, interest and profit would have these hundreds of millions go to those who earned them. But then, you know, that would be confiscation. So the Americans submit to taxation by foreigners and get bled.

The high cost of living is hitting the people hard. Gold has become so cheap that the nominal prices of everything has gone up. A dollar will go about half as far as it went a few years ago. Wages are the first to go down in hard times and the last to go up in good times. When the price of everything is going up labor wants more wages. The bosses want the better wages until absolutely compelled to. So the standard of living among Canadian workers is being lowered. Laurier and Borden and Gouin and Roblin see the labor skinners skinning labor to a fareyouwell and they rub their hands and say how prosperous Canada is becoming. Say, you wage workers. Did it ever strike you that it would be a mighty good idea for you to break away from the politicians of your bosses and get into the Socialist Party which stands for putting you into absolute control of your own jobs?

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## THE LAND QUESTION.

### SINGLE TAX

Joseph Fels, the millionaire manufacturer of Naptha Soap, also single tax advocate, has been travelling through the Canadian west advocating his views. The grain growers associations of the west have been advocating this tax. In Vancouver, B. C., the single tax theory is applied to a certain extent and the result is said to be a great boom in capitalist prosperity. Many manufacturers are in favor of this tax.

The idea is that there should be but one tax and that tax placed on land values so that landlord profits may be eliminated and the increase that comes in the value of real estate with the increase of population may go to the people. Thus in Montreal the rental of business offices is being raised this year thirty per cent. This increased toll of the labor of others is absorbed by the landlords. Under the single tax if rentals were raised thirty per cent, taxes would be raised an equal amount and the community would have a large income with which to relieve poverty and the parasite landlords would not be able to take toll of the increased activities of the community.

Along with this tax of land values goes the idea that improvements should not be taxed. If one capitalist puts up a fine building to the credit of the city and to his own profit and another capitalist holds the lot next to the big building in order to get a big price for it later on, then, according to single taxers the two lots should be taxed the same. "Why," they ask, "should the initiative of one man be taxed while the selfish holding of property to the detriment of the community on the part of another man get off with a light tax? Let the two properties be taxed equal. Then there will be no incentive to people to build cheap in order to escape taxation and there will be a direct deterrent to the land speculator to hold up the community and tax them high for the use of land he did not create.

There are many single taxers in Canada. They challenge Socialists to debate. They think they have discovered the remedy for the ills of humanity. The single taxer is but a phenomena of the development of the capitalist system. He and his theories are readily explainable in the light of the capitalist system.

To explain the single taxer I will have to go back into the feudal age when land was the great means of exploitation. The land belonged to the king and nobles. Wars were fought over territorial expansion. The nobility based their wealth on the ownership of land. They passed laws giving themselves and heirs the right to this land. In England a landowner could not alienate his land held in entail. It went by mere effect of law to the eldest male heir. In Europe the nobles held their titles to the land from the king and he held the land direct from God. That was the theory.

All sorts of restrictions were placed around the selling and disposal of land. The king's consent had to be got. It was important that the ownership of land did not get into the hands of the wrong persons. He who owned the land owned the serfs on the land. They produced directly for the land owner. The products of the land were not bought and sold. They belonged to the lord and out of them he supported his armorers and pages and his men at arms. So for feudalism the stable ownership of land was the basis of the system.

Capitalism is based on a far different principle. The serf was attached to the land. The wage worker is paid loose from all ownership. He must go to the capitalist to get a job. The capitalist pays wages and the commodities produced by the wage worker is thrown on the market. The quicker the commodities can be sold the quicker will be the turnover of the capitalist and the better he likes it. Capitalism presents itself as a vast market for commodities produced to be sold.

Feudalism was based on a stable ownership of the means of wealth production—land, with a stable production of wealth by serfs to be owned by a stable lord and to be consumed by a stable retinue of feudal dignitaries and attendants. Capitalism is based on an expropriated wage worker, producing commodities for a wage, said commodities being thrown on the market to be bought by an indefinite entity referred to by plute organs as "the public."

Capitalism arose with the introduction of modern inventions. It arose outside the feudal system. It is based on the factory system. It developed outside the feudal organization. It originated in towns and cities where men crowded together. Feudalism based itself on broad areas of land.

Capitalism has developed marvel-

ously and is now hastening to conquer the last remnants of feudal tenure. Our ownership of land still has the earmarks of the feudal age on it. A man in Montreal or New York will transfer a million dollars worth of goods or a million dollars worth of company stock with a few scratches of a pen. When he goes to buy ten feet of land he is very careful. He hires notaries and lawyers to look up the title deeds. He is very careful to see about mortgages and the correct extent of the land purchased. For capitalism, having developed out of commerce has conquered commodities and made them flow to its will. Land ownership, having originated out of feudalism, still is in swaddling clothes to the feudal age. All the provinces of Canada and all the states of the American Union, as well as France, Germany and many other countries have two laws, one governing the disposal, giving, and willing of real estate and another law governing the disposal of commodities or what is known as personal property.

Capitalism finds it very inconvenient to have stable ownership of land. To bring about the freedom of capitalist exploitation the ownership of land must be made to flow as freely as the ownership of bales of cotton or at least of shares of company stock.

To do this the single tax is proposed. The man who does not want to get rid of his real estate, will be taxed so high that he cannot hold it unless he throws it into a means of capitalism production. The single tax is aimed to break down the last remnants of the feudal stability of land ownership.

But there is another point. Why do manufacturers and Joseph Fels and western farmers want single tax? Why should western farm owners want single tax on farms? The answer is easy. It is economic determinism. The manufacturers think that a land tax will reduce their taxation bills. In 1901 the valuation of manufacturing establishments was, for land \$27,059,219 and for buildings \$69,585,608. If single tax will be levied on twenty-seven millions of real estate instead of ninety-five millions the manufacturers stand to win a great reduction in taxation.

As to the western farmers, they want single tax. It is to their interest. They find they have to have expensive machinery, to build big buildings, to go in for a very expensive plant. Now if they can have bare land taxed, their large expenditures will go untaxed. The burdens will be shifted from them to those persons who have not improved their farms. The machine farmer and the hand farmer will pay the same amount of taxes. This is very nice for the machine farmer. He thinks he would like that sort of a tax levy.

If single tax comes the hand farmer will find his lot harder. If he cannot raise the money to introduce machinery, he will be squeezed out. This will but accelerate the concentration of capitalist industry. The feudal remnants interfere with capitalist development. Where they are removed the capitalist development is accelerated and the Socialist revolt also becomes quickened. Witness Vancouver where capitalism is booming and where the wage slaves are aroused to a knowledge of their own slavery.

Millions of cotton spindles in the New England States will be idle one quarter of the time until market conditions improve. Trade is dull. Therefore the two hundred thousand employees of these mills will be idle. This is under capitalism. The capitalist system pays the workers just enough to live on. It makes the workers work long hours. The workers cannot buy what their labor has produced. The mills shut down. The workers become hungry and ragged. Then the capitalists tell the hungry and ragged workers that if they had any getup to them they would not be in the poverty they are. The capitalists tell the workers it is their lack of initiative. But the capitalists do not like the Socialists one little bit when the Socialists tell the workers to think for themselves, become active and get the spirit of revolt into them, take the mills away from the parasite owners and then produce what they want for themselves. Under capitalism the workers are turned out to starve when they have overproduced. Under Socialism the workers will be turned out to enjoy their holidays when they have overproduced. For having produced in abundance, they can rest while they are consuming the surplus product.

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## THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL AND THE "CO-OPERATOR"

(Continued from page 1.)

The nominal rate, that there was no specific appropriation with the consent of the member from their membership fees for the official organ and that it was not the practice of the members to ask for the same to be forwarded. Most of you are probably members of one or more fraternal insurance societies, and it will be within your knowledge how far this statement is correct. One professional man recently informed me that he had not been a member of a lodge for more than ten years and yet he continued to receive the official organs through the mails.

Is there any more beneficent fraternal organization in Canada than the Co-operative Movement? Are there any so comprehensive in the benefits conferred on mankind?

We are concerned in the moral, intellectual and social uplift of the masses, in the more scientific organization of the means of production and distribution and the more equitable circulation of the wealth of the country. Yet mailing privileges are denied to us under the conditions enjoyed by the insurance societies.

I called the attention of the department to the fact that it was discriminating in favor of insurance societies, and against Co-operative societies. On the 6th of September last the department made the following particularly lame excuse:

"Postal privileges were granted the organs of fraternal societies, doubtless including those to which your letter makes reference, at a time when the quantity of second-class matter was very small, and when through laxity of administration the provisions of the statute governing the transmission by post of newspapers and periodicals were not properly applied. During recent years, owing to a revolution in printing and to the enormous increase in the quantity of second-class matter, it was found necessary by this department to re-organize the branch of the service dealing with statutory postal privileges. Therefore, without interfering with any privileges which have been granted, it became necessary to see that in respect of all new applications the provisions of the statute were properly complied with before granting the necessary authority."

This attitude discloses an extraordinary anomaly and one approaching the dimensions of a public scandal. The department, in effect, confesses that through lax administration the public revenue has been plundered in the past by the illegal grant of special postal privileges and we are justified in inferring that every year thousands of dollars are lost to the public revenue through the persistent and continuous violation of statute law. The department does not rectify the wrong done to the public interest through admittedly law administration. It transforms an admitted legal wrong into a vested legal right or interest, and increases the value thereof by denying similar privileges to all other applicants.

If His Majesty's Canadian Postmaster-General has no power under the statute to grant the privileges in question, the Hon. Minister has no legal right to usurp the functions of Parliament or to abrogate by departmental regulation the statute law of the land. His policy does not repair, but aggravates the admitted mal-administration.

If Co-operators are not entitled to these privileges, I do not wish them. I do not even suggest that the privileges enjoyed by the other fraternal bodies should be discontinued, but I do say the Postmaster-General has no right to make "flesh of one and fish of another." Every citizen and every association of citizens should be on an equal basis in their enjoyment of public privileges.

I have done all I can to secure for Co-operators the privileges insurance societies enjoy. It is now for each society to take the matter up direct through their respective members of parliament or in any other way which may appear expedient to them.

In conclusion, however, I would put on record that I make no personal attack on the Postmaster-General. Possibly the circumstances are not within his knowledge, and that we are the victims of the eccentricities of mind of some member of the permanent staff.

Whatever the actual source of this peculiar decision may be, it is manifest from the unqualified admissions of the Department that the "Canadian Co-operator" is not receiving a square deal.

The Editor.

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Close your ears to the groans of those who suffer; shut your eyes to the diabolism of the system which favors you, and all shall be well with you.—Voltaire.

The stock of the C. P. R. is booming. It is going up. It went up to 215. This means that the exploitation of the C. P. R. is very profitable to the owners and other labor squeezers will pay a lot to own a share in the squeeze of the C. P. R. Under Socialism the stock of the C. P. R. will not be allowed to be privately owned any more than private persons are allowed to own stock in the business of running the post offices of Canada.

Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia and Quebec have workmen's compensation acts. These acts provide that injured workmen shall get compensation from the employer even when the employer is not to blame. The principle of these acts is, that the business should carry the loss of disabled workers. This is a step in the socialization of industry. Individualism is rapidly going. Humanity is on its way to Socialism. But many people don't want to recognize the road they are travelling. They shut their eyes and say, "We don't know where we're going but we're on our way." If the ignorant creatures would but study a little Socialism they would quickly find out the road humanity is travelling.

W. F. Maclean, M. P. from South York, Ont., fought for the lowering of the railway charges upon the C. P. R. He pointed out the millions this corporation was making. He pointed out the millions the government had given. But he fought alone. Laurier went around talking into the ears of the Western Liberal members and they sat mum. Maclean was the only one who voted to have the railway charges reduced. What do you think of your members of parliament? You think they are there to protect the dear people. Get wise. Wake up. They are there to hand Canada over to the trusts. Don't you feel the squeeze?

A Charing Cross bank failed in London. It was found that six million dollars of the bank's money was "invested" in the railway that is being built in Gaspe, the county that elects Lemieux to Ottawa. Upon investigation it is found that only \$4,000,000 were spent in the railway. Two millions were lost between London and Canada. It has gone somewhere. You see how it is. Private enterprise is more corrupt, more rotten than is government enterprise. Banks fail. Millions disappear, and private individuals drop off gorged from the ruin of others. If we had Socialism this would be eliminated. Food, clothing and shelter would be the common right of all. And no man would be able to clean up stolen millions from the wrecks of the hopes of others.

The Toronto magistrate, in sentencing the manager of the Farmers Bank to six years in prison instead of a longer term, said to the prisoner, "There is one thing in your favor. Owing to banks being allowed to carry on business without any proper government inspection, you did it under great temptation." This is a new principle of law. It shows how our society is changing. It shows that individualism is breaking down. The defaulting bank manager is not to blame. The system put great temptations in his way. The profits held out to successful rogues are so great that many men yield. On the one side is great riches. On the other side is a hard struggle. Why not abolish this system and provide one under which the necessities of life shall be socially produced for the needs of all. Let us abolish the great private fortunes of the few and the poverty of the many. Then such failures as that of the Farmers Bank will no longer occur.

When a bank fails the shareholders thereof not only lose their stock but they must pay to the creditors of the bank as much again as they have of shares of the bank. If an investor owns two thousand dollars worth of shares and the bank fails he must pay in two more thousand dollars. The Farmer's Bank of Ontario has failed. Those who own stock are being called upon to pay the double liability. It is going hard with them. So they are asking the government to shoulder their burdens. They are asking why they should be made to pay for the rascality of a bank manager. They want social protection. This is good. But if a few private investors can look to the government to protect them against loss, why cannot every man, woman and child look to the government for protection against want? Why cannot all the people provide for all the people? The government can do it just as soon as the people demand that poverty shall be abolished.