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**6,389**  
Total Edition Last Week... **8,000**  
W. U. COTTON, Editor and Prop.

# Cotton's Weekly

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H. A. WEBB, BUSINESS MANAGER

This is No. 82

COWANSVILLE, P. Q., CANADA, APRIL 7, 1910

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**THE Press is Free only when it Licks the Boots of the Government. When it Bites, all Governments, Republican or Monarchical, try to Break Its back.—Gustave Herve, France.**

## CHILD MURDER

A few weeks ago a foreign woman in Montreal gave her child a whipping and the child died. It was said that the whipping caused the death and the woman was tried for murder. A criminal judge earned his salary by trying the case and twelve men spent their time listening to the evidence. The jury brought in a verdict of not guilty although the judge strongly charged the jury in the other direction. After the case was over, the Crown Prosecutor, a thin bloodless being, declared that there had been a miscarriage of justice.

One woman who beats her child is tried for murder, yet every year in Canada thousands of children die. In 1901 the lives of 21,328 children under one year of age were snuffed out. 10,019 more perished between the ages of one year and five years. The total deaths in Canada in 1901 were 81,201. Over one quarter of the total deaths were of children under one year of age. Over one third of the deaths were of children under five years of age. From five to ten years of age the deaths were 3,175 in number and between the ages of ten and fifteen the deaths were 1,985.

Thirty thousand children die under five years of age. These children die largely from preventable causes. These children die largely from among the families of the working classes. These children are done to death because their parents cannot get the things which are necessary for the saving of the life of the children.

The capitalist system which robs the workers of the result of their toil, also robs the little children of their chance to live. In talking with workingmen I have learned the bitter sorrow they have experienced from their inability to protect and care for their wives in child birth as they should be cared for and protected. The care is lacking. Nurses cost money. Delicate food costs money. Healthy surroundings cost money. The workers have not the money. Therefore the young babes die.

But when a woman happens to whip her child and it dies; when some ignorant mother, imbruted through centuries of oppression, happens to punish her little child excessively, a seven thousand dollar judge sits on a bench and tries the case. A three thousand dollar Crown Prosecutor, tries to convict the woman of murder. Business men, twelve of them, sit on the case. Court officials and detectives and capitalist thugs in general, surround the woman so that she cannot escape. A little babe's life has been snuffed out. The capitalist society must leap like a tiger upon the woman and endeavor to do her to death.

The capitalist system is guilty, guilty as hell, of child murder. The capitalist system murders the children of the mothers of Canada by the thousands. The capitalist system is protected and upheld by the very machinery that is put into motion to convict some woman because she happens, out of her ignorance produced by oppression, to punish her child severely.

We hold up our hands in horror at the murderers of Canada, the men who kill one of their fellow beings. Yet the murderers of Canada, those whom the law declares to be murderers, are gentlemen and innocent compared with the supporters of the capitalist system. The murderers kill their one. The supporters of the capitalist system kill their thousands.

Who gets the benefit of the child murder? Look at the fine houses in every city. In those houses live the beneficiaries of the capitalist system. The proudest and wealthiest in the land. These are the beneficiaries. The large employers of labor. The receivers of rent, interest and profit. The judges on the bench who enforce barbarous laws and get paid out of the taxes of the people whose babes are murdered. These are they who benefit.

The capitalist system is guilty, guilty as hell, of child murder. Let us get rid of the capitalist system, and the beneficiaries of this system of murder will have to go to work and produce wealth instead of consuming it to the detriment of humanity.

No. Socialism is not going to rob you of your few dollars you have saved up out of the fraction of your wages that the pinches have allowed you. What Socialism is going to do is to give you a far bigger income.

## A THOUSAND BELGAINS

A thousand Belgian miners are coming to take the places of the striking Miners in Nova Scotia. The workingmen have no right to strike under our capitalist laws for a higher wage or for the recognition of their union. If they strike, then the whole world will be ransacked to get laborers to replace them. The capitalist mine owners will order the capitalist ship owners to transport the laborers from across the ocean to break the strike in Canada. Is there nothing to prevent this? Is there no hope in Laurier or the Members of Parliament? None whatsoever at present.

The Laurier government is not the friend of the men who toil, but it is the staunch friend and supporter of the men who do not toil.

In 1901 the Laurier Government passed the Alien Labor Act. This act is entitled "An Act respecting the Importation and Employment of Aliens."

This provides that no person or company shall in any way prepay the passage of any worker or assist or encourage or solicit the importation of any alien or foreigner into Canada under contract or agreement, parole or special, express or implied to perform labor or service of any kind in Canada. If any person or company tries any little trick like the above, then such person or company shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars and not less than fifty dollars for every worker thus imported. Such contracts made against this law shall be void and any master of a vessel who knowingly brings in a worker under contract shall be liable to a penalty of five hundred dollars for each immigrant thus brought in. By the act it is considered violation if a person or company simply advertises in a foreign country for workers and promises to give them work.

Is not that a fine law? Beautiful, glorious! What have the workers to kick about such a law that protects the Canadian workers so fairly?

Just a minute. The act has two little jokers in it that takes away the sting from it and makes it perfectly satisfactory to the capitalist exploiters.

The act ONLY APPLIES TO COUNTRIES WHERE A SIMILAR ACT IS ENFORCED AGAINST CANADA.

Paragraph 15 declares in addition that NOTHING IN THE ACT SHALL AFFECT THE EXERCISE OF THE POWER OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA OR OF ANY PROVINCE WITH THE PROMOTION OF IMMIGRATION.

The act is stingless to the corporations. The government can import as many workers as it likes, and the act does not apply against the European countries.

Hence the Dominion Coal Company can import as many foreign workers as it pleases. It can keep wages down and make Cape Breton towns hells like Pittsburg.

The Alien Labor Act was made for stump speeches. It was made to be trotted out in election time to show the workers what friends the Liberal Members are of the workers. The little jokers are kept, on such occasions, out of sight. But they are there.

The workers of the Dominion can expect nothing from Laurier et al. They can expect nothing but kicks and sluggings from any capitalist government. If they wish to be free they can achieve their own freedom. Get under the Socialist banner and work for the overthrow of the capitalist system.

As long as a capitalist government controls Canada the workers will be made to suffer. The millions will go to the capitalists and the hard work will go to the wage slaves.

The only hope of the workers is to join the growing army of revolutionary Socialism for the overthrow of the master class.

In the Postal Fight we must not forget that the main fact is the education of the workers and the capture of the political machinery for the abolition of capitalism. The Lemieux tax on the bundles workingmen buy of one thousand five hundred per cent is just a good illustration of how a capitalist government manipulates the law to hit the worker over the head with excessive mail charges and keep him in ignorance.

Socialism is democracy, capitalism is autocracy.

The times are ripe, and rotten ripe for change.

The capitalist system is the greatest robbery system that ever afflicted mankind.

Socialism is not against human nature. Capitalism is against human nature. That is why so many men and women become outcasts and murderers and thieves and hoboes and suicides.

Capitalism gives the mills and machinery to the individual capitalist or group of capitalists and allows these few men to say whether the workers shall work or not. Socialism will give the mills to the workers to run on democratic principles.

## Forty-Seven Thousand Dollars for Labor Twenty Million Dollars for Murder

Little King, Minister of Labor, is running a department at Ottawa presumably in the interests of the workingmen. When a strike is threatened King goes and investigates and discusses whether the capitalists have drawn the shackles too tight or not round the limbs of the workingmen. He potters around and does a few more stunts similar to the above. And Parliament grants him forty-seven thousand dollars to carry on his Labor Department.

That is what is spent for labor. The government spends a hundred million dollars, most of which is spent for the capitalists. And Laurier is adding twenty million dollars for a navy.

Just think of it. Forty-seven thousand dollars for labor and twenty millions for murder. The capitalist system kills off the babes and Laurier wants to kill off the fathers.

Twenty millions more to be piled on the patient backs of the workers. Twenty million more to be thrown away on instruments of war.

Why does Laurier want a navy? Are the contracts not fat enough on the Grand Trunk Pacific that the capitalists want more? Why does Laurier pile burden after burden upon the workers and round it out with murder ships?

That question can be answered by the recent fight for the control of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company. Forget of Montreal and Harris of Nova Scotia, two rival labor skimmers, are fighting for control of this company. This company mines coal and makes steel, two things necessary for war ships. And as buzzards gather round carrion so does Forget and his crowd gather round slag pits where profits are big. Forget's attempt to control this company shows why Laurier

The Montreal Star in an editorial declares, "A strong opposition is always desirable, and those independent of party affiliations would regard the breakup of His Majesty's Opposition as calamitous." This remark is with regard to the squabbling among the Ottawa Conservatives. Yet the Liberal and Conservative parties are but one in reality. They are the two halves of the capitalist party. Should the Conservative Opposition go to pieces there might rise in its place a party far better, a workingman's party for the emancipation of the workers from wage slavery. But from the capitalist point of view it would be calamitous were there to be but one capitalist party. The workers would then come to see that the party in power was a capitalist party and they might be wakened to class consciousness.

Taschereau, the Quebec Minister of Public works, has introduced a bill reducing the hours of labor for women in mills. At the request of the cotton companies the bill is being held over for a couple of weeks as Taschereau does not want to jeopardize the interests of the companies. A cotton merger was put through recently and a lot of water was squeezed into the stock of the cotton companies. Dividends must be paid on that stock under a capitalist regime. That is why such bills are held up.

Why pay rent when you can vote in the Socialist system?

Capitalism appeals to the cupidity of the labor skimmers.

Will Laurier swing Canada into the naval competition? He would like to. But will the workers stand for it?

The Liberal party is only held together by the graft principle. The Conservative party is rapidly going to pieces. It is time that the Socialist party stepped to the front and dictated the politics of Canada.

How many members will the Socialists elect to the House of Commons, Ottawa, next election? The more the Socialist doctrines are spread among the workers, the greater the number of seats will be captured.

wants a navy. The capitalists of Canada want to pile up more unearned dividends out of the robbery of the workers. And Laurier flings twenty million dollars as a starter into the maws of the plunderers of labor.

The whole world is trembling upon the verge of a new state of society. Laurier thinks his name will go down into history as a great patriot. His name will be handed down to posterity as belonging to the man who was a foe of liberty and a friend of the slave drivers.

Is Laurier anxious to be thought a great nation builder? The capitalist system is killing the infants, and Laurier will not win fame by passing laws to murder the fathers. But Laurier is reckless. The capitalists want fat contracts and Laurier feeds them. The capitalist governments are blood stained, and Laurier shows that his government is ready to fling the workers upon useless work so that the parasites may get added revenues.

Ships of war are provocative of War. When the ships of war are prepared, then if a war is declared there will be further fat contracts. Millionaires were made by the British war with Russia. Millionaires were made by the American civil war. Every war brings great wealth to the capitalists. When once the Canadian navy is established there will be danger of the capitalists of Canada provoking a war for the sake of their own pockets.

Let Laurier halt while yet there is time. Surely, even though he has bound himself to the plunderers of Canada, as their faithful henchmen, he does not want to become the object of the scorn of the peace loving citizens of Canada. Surely he does not wish to become the cursed of the workingmen of Canada.

Jimmie Simpson is President of the Toronto Board of Education. Jimmie is a Socialist, and consequently has ideas about education that the capitalists do not like. He believes that higher education as well as lower should be free. He believes that the teachers should have good salaries, and the workers about the school buildings should be well paid. In fact Jimmie Simpson's ideas on education are revolutionary and very distasteful to the capitalists. The school tax eats just a little into the surplus values going to the Toronto parasites. If anything will make a human parasite start and turn pale it is a nip at his unearned income. Particularly if that nip is going to give education to the children of the workers and show them how the robbery of the workers may be stopped. The Toronto papers have recently been very gravely talking about the increased school tax and Geary, the Mayor has been hinting that the tax rate might be lowered were it not for the increasing expense of educating the Toronto youngsters. A Socialist is a good person to have on a school board, or any other public body where the funds of the people are to be spent.

Seven persons have been killed by the street cars of Montreal and thirty-three have been injured since January 1st. Montreal is developing as fine a lot of capitalist misery as exists in any part of the world.

## IT IS REMARKABLE

It is really remarkable. The Members of Parliament on the government side think they run Canada.

The Cabinet Ministers think they have the right to dictate the policies of Canada.

They think they have the right to do as they please with the money sweated from the workers.

They think that the great body of Canadian workers have few rights. They are to be turned into the slaves of the plundering financiers of Canada.

The government moneys are to be used to increase the fortunes of the plundering financiers of Canada.

If the workers strike they are to be herded back from the mills by police.

They are to be shot down by the militia.

They are to be crushed and broken and outcompeted by imported immigrants from Europe.

They are to be bound to unprofitable tasks such as the building of a useless Canadian navy.

What about it workingmen of Canada?

Are you going to stand forever the betrayal of the freedom of the workingmen by the Laurier government?

Are you going to be cajoled forever?

Or are you going to make Laurier and his government bow to their masters, the laboring men of Canada?

You have the votes. You have the power. Use it in your own interests.

The capitalists have expropriated you through laws passed against you.

Now expropriate the capitalists by capturing the government and legislating yourselves into the possession of the machines at which you must work to gain a living.

You have the power. Use it.

## LABOR CHECKS

There is one foolish argument that anti-Socialists trot out on frequent occasions. That argument is that under Socialism graft will increase. When industry is managed in a public and democratic manner, it is said, the greater opportunities for graft will be utilized to the full.

But these critics overlook the fact that publicity and democracy will take away the opportunity for grafting. Moreover, as large private fortunes will have been abolished, the source of graft will be cut off.

But if credit money is abolished and labor checks substituted therefore, grafting will be impossible. For how could one person spend more than this income without being discovered? Imagine that, instead of dollar bills, the medium of purchase were labor checks based upon the unit of the hour's work. Suppose that these checks are personal, given every week, and dated. Then it would be impossible for any great graft to creep in. For it would be impossible for one man to present a labor check for a thousand hours' labor at any national depository to be honored. Those kind of checks would not be honored, because such checks would be known to be spurious at once.

Under our present system, credit bills are given for any amount. Fifty thousand dollar notes are now in use. The man who gets a thousand dollar bank note, or a ten thousand note can do as he likes with it. It is impossible to trace the source of such notes as they are made payable to bearer, and they slip from pocket to pocket in most devious ways. Such notes can be tinged with graft and no one be the wiser save the parties between whom notes pass.

Graft will be eliminated under Socialism. The big fortunes will cease to exist in private hands. Industry will be nationalized and the chief cause of graft, the scramble to get unearned profits out of the work of others, will have disappeared. The medium of graft, the credit bills made payable to bearer will probably be replaced by labor checks made payable to the person who performs the labor, and the motive for graft, the getting of the means of life in abundance, will no longer exist as the social labor will be utilized to provide the means of life in a manner that will put them within the reach of all.

Confiscation from the capitalist means restitution to the worker.

## CHARITY

Philanthropy and charity are being extensively practised by the rich of the present time. The Rockefellers and the Carnegies who have robbed the workers and got great stores of unearned wealth, based upon the broken lives of other men, are using their wealth to raise men to what they consider a higher state. The latest scheme in this line is the Rockefeller Foundation.

But charity and philanthropy are based on a wrong principle. The charity of the wealthy is based on the old idea of absolute monarchy. Rockefeller and Morgan and the other wealthy individuals draw their revenues from the possession of mills and mines and factories, just as the absolute monarchs drew their revenues from the possession of the country they ruled. The revenues going to the wealthy are stolen from the workers. Owing to that theft, the workers are forced to live on the edge of want. Living on the edge of want, they cannot get the means to take care of themselves or family in a proper manner and disease and the breaking down of physical health follow. This is owing to the robbery of the Rockefellers.

Now the Rockefellers, having produced the misery by their plunderings, turn round and give part of the plunderings they have got, to found hospitals to take care of the wrecks they have produced.

Then go up paeans of praise from the priests and politicians. Just as the Roman Catholic Clergy of the middle ages would praise to the skies some old reprobate of a robber baron who had got lands and castles by murder and pillage and who gave of his plunderings to the church, so some Protestant clergy today praise the plundering Rockefellers because they founded colleges and hospitals.

Charity and philanthropy as practised by the rich today is a sham. Even if the wealthy are earnest and serious in their desires to do good, nevertheless private wealth is a curse. The charity of the rich pauperizes. Their philanthropy takes the independent spirit out of the recipients. Their schools and colleges are nothing but the creation of a gigantic trust to bind the thoughts of men to outworn ideals.

Men should not be forced into a position where they have to receive charity. Men should not be placed in that position where they have the means for the giving of charity. Charity is twice cursed. It curses him that gives and him that takes. Let us have equality! Let us have strong and independent workers. Let us get rid of the parasites. Let us apply the remedy of Socialism, the removing of the opportunities for the private possession of unearned wealth, and the coming of the opportunity for the laborer to obtain the full return of his labor.

It is said that Great Britain is free, and that she has been the mother of freedom. There has been an economic reason for the little liberties the British subjects possessed. Great Britain's career has been on the sea. Now war ships—and marines off in Chinese waters, or among the Pacific islands, are useless to quell a riot in London. For this reason force was lacking to British rulers to steal away the freedom of the people. In European countries the rulers possessed armies to crush the people. This was the difference. Yet now it would appear that the European countries are outstripping Great Britain in liberty. The French had to fight the French revolution. The terrible times that France went through has given her a fierce longing for free institutions. In Germany the war lords have their machine army. The Germans have had to struggle for liberty. Today the Germans are conquering their governments by mass movement. In Great Britain the hungry starve in the cities. The race is deteriorating. The nation is in bondage to the ideal of a shadow liberty while it misses the reality.

King George of Greece has issued a proclamation calling a national assembly. The Military League has been in control of Greece and forced George to call the assembly. The path of kings is not smooth these days. Democracy is getting too strong a hold on the common people for the rulers to rule.

### Toilers and Idlers

Our Serial Story  
Copyrighted, 1907 by John B. McMahon.

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

**CHAPTER XVI.**  
(Continued.)  
But the men still hung their coats and lunch pails on rusty nails within the foundry. The washroom towels were immaculate, the cakes of soap unspent. Instead of using the filtered drinking water, they patronized the spigot in the chilly yard. The new tools seemed to be less liked than the old battered ones. The gilt radiators under the windows had been assailed with tobacco juice; a placard calling attention to a mutual insurance plan had the same jaundiced look.

There was no doubt of a boycott. Only when the noon hour came a detail of benevolence proved not to be in vain. This was the lunch for the apprentices. Ohio Jimmy, Mike and Salvador pounced on the tin pails brought by a restaurant messenger, devouring the thick sandwiches and drinking the hot coffee with eager zest. A humorist lightened the general gloom by chaffing the boys on the chance of their lunch being poisoned.

"Ah, what d'hell. Youse wisht yeh had dat poison t' tickle yer inside." Some of the molders began to jest about the paternal methods of their employer.

"Say, the foreman he's going to wear a dress suit and have his voice manicured, so he won't holler." "I'll tell you what, it's straight—the Works is bein' fixed up to sell out to any English syndicate."

"That aint it. The boss wants to go into politics, and you'll see him come out as the friend of labor."

"Ha, ha, he'd oughter find Congress easy. All the friends of labor get together there, like flies on a molasses barrel."

"Boys," said another, "his father and his grandfather was sons of—, but they was honest men, by God, along with this seab who jerks away a dollar of pay with the other."

Rensen angrily stepped up to the talk speaker, who had a flat face, a thick hairy neck, and wore a red shirt.

"What right have you to abuse a man you have never seen? How do you know his motives are not good?" "Well, I'm damned," growled the red-shirted one. "S-a-y, who are you?"

"He's the patent-leather bloke what took dope and thought he was swell!"

"Where you been, patent leather? I seen you ain't forgot how to shovel."

"I don't talk to no laborers," said red-shirt loftily. "I was speakin' to intelligent molders—"

Rensen walked away. During the afternoon he pondered the state of affairs with not a little chargin and worry. It seemed a terrible thing and those whom he would benefit should put obstacles in the way, misunderstanding, preferring the old discomforts, having suspicion of obvious motives. The reduction in pay to correspond with less hours, while a blunder, was no injustice according to common standards.

What reason for their attitude? Perhaps, after all, it was not unnatural for these men to suspect benevolence, when they had been used ever to the lowest wages and longest hours that an employer could impose on them; when age, sickness, and accident were suffered at their own cost. It was not strange that they expected some trick, when from childhood they had learned the political economy of fight-for-what-you-get, the scramble theory of wages, the contrary interests of master and man. A life-sentence prisoner would scold, not unreasonably, at news of pardon.

It was the drama of work, enacted by man and the machine.

"So you want to know about the trouble, son?" said John Day, as Rensen walked beside him, homeward bound.

"Yes, I am very much interested—" "That's right. Every man ought to be. The union is easy to understand, if anyone wants to understand it. Now, I guess if you heard about the union objecting to more apprentices, you thought that mighty queer?"

"Yes, I did. One would think that more apprentices would lessen the work for themselves and the men." "It's this way, son. There are twenty good molders out of a hundred, walking the streets in this town. The trade is overcrowded. Other trades have more room. Perhaps it's a convenience to the bosses to have an over-supply of labor that can be put on or off according to the season, but it's no advantage to the men."

"I see,—I have read the theory of modern industry requiring a surplus of labor." "The men don't require it, son, when they have to walk the streets. . . . Another reason, some bosses get the habit of running in a lot of apprentices who do pretty near a man's work and get a boy's pay. Their time is up, out they go, and a new lot come in. So it's been a union rule to have one apprentice to eight molders."

"That seems all clear and simple," exclaimed Rensen. "If the trade is crowded, it would certainly be foolish to make it worse. . . . But why did you encourage me to become a molder?" "The old man chuckled. "Well, Otis, guess I encouraged you on general principles, seeing you looked to need it then. But molding is a good trade for a young hardy fellow, who can travel around the country looking for chances. He sees the country anyway. I like it myself, though my boys are studying electricity."

"What was the objection to the use of molding machines?" "Firstly, it's a plain fact that all machinery tends to work a hardship in any trade. It makes a life's training worth nothing to thousands. They used to smash machinery and kick up a riot; to-day we only ask that it be introduced with the least damage and that we share some of the benefits with the employer. These little molding machines don't amount to much. We object to having them run by unskilled labor at low wages. It's like using the apprentices for journeymen's work."

"I can understand that.—What was the trouble about mutual insurance and the improvements?" "Nothing, except the source they came from—like you see a bright fresh stream of metal spouting out, but you know the scroppy charge in the cupola." "The half hour loss time," said Rensen, managing to digest the parable, "must have been the worst change?"

"Certain. We could afford to lose the time, but not the pay. Besides, we had to do about the same work." "Can the same amount of work be accomplished in fewer hours?" "Yes, son. A short day and a good speed beats the long stint. It's the last hour the accidents happen. The men are tired and careless, thinking about the whistle."

"I heard some talk about pace-makers. What is a pace-maker?" "That's a little system of the bosses to get more than value. The pace-maker is a special quick man, or maybe a fellow resting up from a spree and wants to square himself with the foreman. The bosses want to set standard by him, but the union holds out for a fair average day's work."

"Would you compel the special quick man to work slower?" "No, son, let him work as fast as he lives and get more pay, too. But it isn't fair to expect average men to keep up with him." "How did the strike happen and why was it stopped?" "Otis, you're bound to know it all," chuckled the old man. "I wish all the boys in the Local had your curious spirit. Well, I'll tell you. The idea was these changes—time lost and so forth—was part of a scheme to break up the union."

(To be continued.)

**PERSECUTION CLUB RATES**

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## Unjust Discrimination Is Again Proven

THE following is a copy of a letter sent by Geo. H. Townsend, of Dundas, Ont., to the Postmaster General. The probing done by Comrade Townsend shows conclusively that Lemieux enforces regulations against Cotton's Weekly which are a dead letter with regard to other papers. An affidavit to this effect will be published later.

Dundas, Ont.,  
March 25, 1910

The Honorable Postmaster General,  
Ottawa.

Honorable Sir:—Since acknowledging the communication from your Department, bearing date of 15th inst., relative to my request of 10th inst. for an explanation re alleged discrimination against "Cotton's Weekly," would say:

That while your explanation would seem to be expected to satisfy myself and hundreds of others that no discrimination was being practised against "Cotton's Weekly" owing to the enforcement of a certain ruling of your department, namely that all newspapers . . . shall prepay postage at rate of one cent for each four ounces or fraction thereof on all bundles mailed to others than regular subscribers or news agents or dealers and that such postage shall be prepaid by postage stamps affixed to office of mailing etc., would beg to submit that the facts of the case as gathered by my self since the 19th inst., prove that your statements in yours of 15th are exceedingly misleading and not in accord with the facts. For proofs, note the following:

On Friday 18th inst., I remitted money to the Toronto Globe, the Toronto Mail and Empire, the Brantford Courier and the Burlington Gazette, (all Ontario publications) and that I asked for a bundle from each of them. The bundles (issue of Saturday 19th inst.) all arrived in due course and not one of them have any postage stamps affixed and no evidence that any postage has been prepaid except that on the wrappers

the Mail and Empire was printed words "Postage Prepaid."

I received the papers in the bundles as aforesaid from my home post office, Dundas. I am not a subscriber to any of the four mentioned publications, or am I a newsdealer or news-agent or advertiser.

Now, Honorable Sir, you are aware your orders have enforced the prepayment of postage stamps affixed at rate of four cents per pound on Cotton's Weekly when sent in bundles to others than regular subscribers, newsdealers and agents, etc.

I ask, if the evidence I have submitted does not establish Gross Discrimination against the socialist paper, Cotton's Weekly, then what constitutes discrimination?

Please understand I am not actuated by any spirit of animus against the papers herein mentioned namely, Toronto Globe, Toronto Mail and Empire, Brantford Courier and the Burlington Gazette. I would not wish to see the absurd and unjust regulations enforced against them or any other Canadian newspaper or periodical, as I consider it a direct menace to a Free Press and a flagrant violation of the spirit and intention of the Postal Act made for the guidance of Postmasters General and your Department and I trust that you will see that this discrimination ceases at once and that the obnoxious four cent per pound ruling is rescinded and the Casual Boodle receiver placed on an equal footing with the regular subscriber and news agent. I remain,

Respectfully yours,  
GEO. H. TOWNSEND

**THE PEOPLE'S POEMS**

FOR THE FUTURE

By Percy Marshall.

The prophets and the poets reject,  
And crucify at noon in shameful scorn;  
The silent midnight pauseth to reflect,  
And praises spring upon the lips of morn.

More truth and beauty wait now to reveal,  
Truth waits a man to speak it from the cross;  
And waits a form which tombs cannot conceal,  
Nor counts the shroud left in the tomb as loss.

Let truth and beauty break the silent seal,  
And roll the rock of error far away!  
May early light their holiness reveal,  
To seekers by the tomb at break of day!

Speak thou for generations yet unborn,  
And mold the minds of men to love thy thought;  
Wait thou the ear of that triumphant morn  
Whose eyes shall see what thou hast vainly sought.

Insurgency has struck Ottawa. The Conservative Members are insuring against the slow pace of their party and the country is insuring against Laurier.

When Socialism comes, poverty will go.

**Unionist Combination**  
MANY comrades have been writing in asking for information on Industrial Unionism. After a careful search we have selected the following books which explain all the different phases of Unionism, by the best present day authorities, Eugene V. Debs, Wm. Trautmann, and others. All these books are pertinent to the map under the machine. Here they are:

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

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

**PROVINCE OF QUEBEC**  
MUNICIPALITY OF THE VILLAGE OF COWANSVILLE.  
At a special session of the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Village of Cowansville, held at the usual place and hour for sessions of the Council, the 24th day of March, 1910, duly convened under provisions of the Municipal Code of the Province of Quebec, at which meeting were present: His Honor the Mayor, W. F. Vilas, Esq., and the Councillors, Messrs. Enoch Buzzell, H. F. Williams, John McCabe, William Oliver, George F. L. Fuller, M. D., and Robert H. Strange, being all the members of the said Council, and all taking part in the said meeting under the presidency of the Mayor.

It is ordained and enacted by By-law as follows:—

### BY-LAW NO. 109

Whereas, the Corporation of the Village of Cowansville is actually indebted in the sum of nine thousand five hundred dollars, being as and for the balance of the purchase price of the following immovable property:—

"All that certain piece or parcel of land forming part of the south part of the lot of land known as number one hundred and twenty-nine (129) on the Official Cadastral Plan and Book of Reference of the Village of Cowansville, and situated on the East side of the Village of Cowansville, on the South side of the Village of Cowansville, bounded on the North by the lot of land known as number one hundred and twenty-nine (129) on the Official Cadastral Plan and Book of Reference of the Village of Cowansville, and on the West by the lot of land known as number one hundred and twenty-nine (129) on the Official Cadastral Plan and Book of Reference of the Village of Cowansville, and on the East by the lot of land known as number one hundred and twenty-nine (129) on the Official Cadastral Plan and Book of Reference of the Village of Cowansville, and on the South by the lot of land known as number one hundred and twenty-nine (129) on the Official Cadastral Plan and Book of Reference of the 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World Wide Socialism

A system of proportional representation has been introduced in Lille, France, and from accounts received, is working in a satisfactory manner.

The Central Trades and Labor Council, of Chicago has endorsed the candidature of W. D. Brent, Socialist candidate for alderman from the eighth ward of that city.

In 1867 the Socialist voters of the world numbered 30,000. Today they number almost ten million. They have increased their political strength three hundred fold in the last 40 years.

Now that the Labor Members in the House of Commons of Great Britain have lost so many members, there are many protests going up that the Labor Members made a mistake in supporting the Liberals.

All the tramway men in Rome, Italy, struck on March 14th, and no trams were run. The strike arose out of an attempt of the tramway company to victimise members of the union committee.

At the Miners' Congress of France held last month, the Bronteoux Syndicate and the Loire Miners joined the Pas de Calais Federation. This means that the unity of miners is finally established.

The daughter of Ferrer, who has been awarded four hundred francs damages against a French paper that calumniated the memory of her father, has given the money to continue the work of her father.

Socialism aims firstly at making the legislatures, the courts, the militia and the police subservient to the interests of labor, and secondly, at bringing industry under the democratic control of those who work. That program will be realized in the near future.

One of the great effects of the Philadelphia strike has been the enormous increase in the strength of the unions. Before the strike Philadelphia was notorious as a non-union town. Now it is being thoroughly unionized and labor has resolved to go into politics on its own account.

Herve of the Guerre Social, Paris, who was recently condemned to four years in prison for an article in that paper, is daring the government to keep him in jail for that length of time. Herve first sprang into prominence for an anti militarist speech in which he cried "The flag to the dung heap."

The Chinese have occupied Tibet and are now threatening invasion of Nepal and Bhutan, on the Indian side of the Himalaya mountains. As China is preparing to establish compulsory military service, Great Britain is finding that Russia is not the only country threatening her strangle hold on India.

Ricardo Momigliano, a contributor of the Italian Socialist "Il Nuovo Ideale," has been sentenced to twelve months imprisonment for an article appearing in that paper, although it was not proven that he was the author of the article and in spite of the fact that the responsible manager of the paper had already been imprisoned for twelve months.

The new Premier of Spain is said to be a Socialist. The premier, Senor Canelejas, has got the king to sign a decree pardoning all offenses committed by the pen or by word of mouth. All offenses of rebellion and sedition are also to be pardoned except those committed by the military forces. The first interview Senor Canelejas gave to any paper after his choice as premier was a radical one to the French Socialist paper, Humanite.

The U. S. Congress is considering the advisability of amending the Postal Act of the States in a manner detrimental to labor. The new law passed will prevent trades union papers which are paid for by the individual members by the union at large from being carried at second class postal rates if such trade union publications carry commercial advertising. This would seriously handicap the labor papers by taking away from them one of their chief sources of revenue.

Parliament will probably finish its sittings soon for the year. For this purpose there will be a great slaughter of bills. Among the number will be Verville's eight hour bill. Is not the Canadian Manufacturers' Association against it? Then how can the workers expect it to pass with the bunch of labor skimmers that have been elected by workingmen's votes to be members of Parliament?

As long as there is a class that produces and does not enjoy and a class that enjoys and does not produce, there is bound to be a class struggle.

Canadian immigration agents and officials advertised for immigrants in seven thousand newspapers and farm journals of the United States last year. The more the immigrants come the greater will be the number for the Canadian capitalists to exploit.

Socialism means a struggle, a struggle between those who have much and those who have little, a bitter, world-wide, long-drawn out struggle between mass and class, a struggle that will involve all sections of the population, a struggle that will not be ended until an industrial democracy is established.

The old earth is not worn out. It is fruitful and can produce in abundance. But the capitalist system will not let the producers at the natural wealth of the world without paying a heavy toll. This toll must cease. The abolition of that toll is the raison d'etre of the Socialist parties of the world.

The miners on strike in Cape Breton are to be replaced by imported miners. Laurier will not interfere. Why should he? Cannot he bamboozle the workers with fair words while the capitalists fill the country with workers from Europe so that there may be plenty of competition in the labor market?

In Portugal it is alleged that the non-commissioned officers in the army are united with the revolutionary societies. Capitalism is based on force. That force is the army which is recruited from the working class. When the working class becomes disaffected, and the disaffection spreads to the soldiers, then a revolution is about due.

A young man starts in the world as a worker with great hopes. He works hard. But he cannot get on. The mills shut down. He has to pay big rent. His wages shrink in his hands as the cost of living goes up. He becomes discouraged, and hopeless. His ambition goes. The spirit breaks within him and he comes to realize that his work is useless and that the harder he works the more do the idlers profit by his labor. For all these reasons he ceases to take an interest in his work. Then the capitalists get mad and show their ugly disposition. They talk about how lazy the beggar is getting. They declare that hunger is the only thing that will drive the lazy lout to work. They build jails for him where he will be forced to work. They know that if others get hopeless their profits will be gone. The capitalists are the curse of this age. Their selfishness and slave driving are responsible for the misery that we see around us. And there will be no remedy until the capitalist system is abolished.

The capitalists of Canada to me appear in the light of devils. They may go to church. They may give alms. They may build colleges and asylums. But I cannot escape the fact that they are robbers, devils. Their wealth is made from the robbery of the workers. Their generosity is founded on injustice. They get their profits by the robbery of the pay envelopes of the workers. The money they give with such lavishness is stolen money. Little children go without shoes to pay some muddle headed professor. A wife suffers and dies in the pangs of child birth that some fat preacher may pray to God for the soul of the devil capitalist. Stratheona, Forget, Plummer, it matters not whom. They are all legalized robbers, whose power is founded on a wrong; whose wealth is based on the misery of the useful workers.

The more radical of the Canadian papers recognize that the two old parties are politically bankrupt. The Winnipeg Tribune has been fighting the government for a long time. It is not Conservative. Now the Toronto World comes out with a demand for a new party with a radical platform, control and regulation of public service corporations, heavy taxation of banks, etc. The recognition of the fact that the two old parties are hopelessly bankrupt in political matters is a sign of the times. The remedy proposed, however, is weak and ineffective. Confiscation of the public service corporations, abolition of the banks, nationalization of land, repudiation of the national debt, establishment of old age pensions, abolition of credit money and substitution of labor checks, such planks in a platform might be of benefit to the workers. The workers, however, are not likely to be caught with weak radicalisms that will benefit only the dying middle class.

THE THING IN A NUTSHELL

COTTON'S WEEKLY complains that it has been discriminated against in Postal Charges. Lemieux says it has not. "The whole thing in a nutshell," declared Lemieux in Parliament, "is that Mr. Cotton addresses his papers in bundles to one individual, who then distributes, or sells them to others, and that does not mean a 'bona fide subscriber,' as set out in the Postal Act." In this statement Lemieux is in ERROR. The Bundles ARE sent out to Bona Fide Subscribers. They are PAID for before they go out.

"Mr. Cotton has no subscribers, but he sends his paper to friends who distribute it." Again Lemieux is in error. Cotton's Weekly possesses a Bona Fide Subscription List. In point of subscribers Cotton's Weekly ranks among the first hundred papers in Canada, out of the fifteen hundred published.

"We are simply charging him the rate which is charged in every other similar case," declared Lemieux. Again Lemieux is in ERROR. Comrade Geo. Townsend, of Dundas, Ont., sent for Paid Bundles to four separate papers in Ontario, and they came through WITHOUT THE STAMPS AFFIXED, contrary to the regulation. But Cotton's Weekly is charged.

THE WHOLE THING IN A NUTSHELL IS THIS

Cotton's readers order SPECIAL BUNDLES of Cotton's Weekly and PAY FOR THE SAME IN ADVANCE. If the bundles went to newsdealers they would go for One-fourth of a cent per pound. If the Non-newsdealers take bundles for a period of Three Months, they get them for One-fourth of a cent per pound postage. But because Socialists take bundles of SPECIAL ISSUES they must pay FOUR cents per pound postage.

This is a New Tax on Labor. It results from Lemieux's interpretation of an old regulation. It is a New Interpretation. It is an interpretation which is NOT enforced against Capitalist Papers. It is an interpretation which IS ENFORCED against Cotton's Weekly. It is an interpretation that violates the Principle of Constitutional Law, that a Public official, when given power to make regulations having the force of law, must make those regulations as similar as possible to the laws passed by parliament.

This interpretation is put upon the regulation to prevent workingmen from getting Special Bundles of Cotton's Weekly with which to enlighten their fellow workers.

If Lemieux cannot see his way clear to Remove this Tax on the Working Class, let the Working Class petition to REMOVE Lemieux.

This Tax of Eighteen Cents per Hundred Copies of Cotton's Weekly enforced by Lemieux, is the OPENING WEDGE. Cotton's Weekly is not liked by the capitalists. It will grow in disfavor with the plunderers of the Dominion. Will the workers show their power by making Lemieux REMOVE the Special Tax enforced against Cotton's Weekly or RESIGN His Office. Write him and COMMAND that he remove his Postal Tax levied against the Freedom of the Mails and accord the use of the mails on an Impartial Basis to the Working Class of Canada.

CHIPS.

Roscoe A. Fillmore.

They're doing it up brown in Cape Breton. The other day a fellow was pinched for calling another a "scab." And he got just what was coming to him. Doubtless he voted for the bunch of pirates who caused his arrest. "Britons never shall be slaves" but the majority of them are habitual scabs and our friend who was arrested was no doubt a political scab (the worst variety.) The fellows who have taken the jobs in Springhill and Cape Breton are performing a useful service for the very mutts they have displaced. If they are able to keep the strikers out long enough their ticket tanks may get limbered up and "When slaves begin to think masters tremble."

"Japan develops another scandal." Who says Japan isn't a modern nation? Why she'll be sending missionaries over here to convert the "poor haythen" Canucks presently. Upon second thought I wonder if she hasn't already done so. I wonder if that Asiatic Excursion League isn't a proof that the missionaries are already at work. Verily capitalism do move. Keep your eyes peeled for China. Scandals! They're one of the proofs that the time is getting "ripe and rotten ripe for change" and we've got the very identical article up our sleeves that'll make the change too.

In Roman days, after the big conquests, the slave markets of Rome became overcrowded. So slaves were unsaleable. Today the wage slaves crowd into the markets. Their work is not wanted in the older countries. The master class have all they want. Therefore we have the unemployed problem. It never enters the heads of the possessors that perhaps the wage slaves might look after themselves if given a chance to get next the machinery of production. Or if the possessors do think that the unemployed may have such ideas, they prepare police to prevent the workless from taking for themselves the chance of working.

Even the capitalist economics recognize that wages always tend to the barest means of subsistence. This being the case the Lloyd George budget is of little interest to the workers of Great Britain. The budget put a tax upon the increased value of land. This will not benefit the workers. It will benefit the industrial capitalists. For the workers only get enough to live on. If rent goes up the workers must get more wages. If wages go up the industrial capitalists get less profit. The landlords get more and the capitalists get less. Now if the burden of taxation is shifted more to land, the industrial capitalists will partly recoup themselves and the landlords will not get so much land rents to spend on their own desires. The Georgian tax on land, therefore, is of no interest to the laborers.

Bill Haywood, whom the American capitalists tried to judicially murder, is in Newcastle, Pa., and is camping there to help the workers against the steel trust in his strike. Eugene V. Debs was in Philadelphia during the strike and offered his head to be cracked by the Philadelphia police thugs. Even Sam Gompers is showing signs of activity against the American plutocracy. He has denounced the Rockefeller foundation, and is trying to get the United States to investigate the slavery in Gary, Ind. The unrest in the States is gathering head and the tyranny of the capitalists may soon be overthrown.

Socialism gives a new viewpoint of life. The supporters of the capitalist system consider Socialism to be a system of robbery and a destroyer of all that is good. In the same way the Romans regarded Christianity. The Romans are now regarded as having been very blind people. In the same way the future generations will regard the non-Socialists.

Socialism will not give bigger wages to the workers, because the wage system will be abolished. But it will give bigger incomes.

The Socialist party stands for everything that will benefit those who depend solely on their own exertions for a livelihood. It stands against everything contrary to their interests.

Are you sick of grafters? Are you tired of hearing tales of men who betray their cities and their electors? Well, you will hear of these betrayals and you will be ruled by grafters just as long as capitalism continues. The only hope is to change the system.

Every little while some grafter is convicted of grafting. The Pittsburgh grafters are just now going through the process. But the grafter has only been trying to do illegally what many other men do legally. They have been trying to get something they have not earned. Let us abolish, not only the illegal grafters, but also the receivers of rent, interest and profit.

The question is often asked Socialists whether they would have Great Britain evacuate Egypt and India. That question is on a par with the question whether the Socialists would have the Czar of Russia abdicate his throne. Nicholas will not give up his job until he is pried loose from it with a crowbar or a bomb. Great Britain will not get out of Egypt until the Egyptians and Indians use that which made Sunny Jim so powerful, namely, force.

For years man had to fight for the right of free speech and a free press. In many countries that is not yet granted. India does not possess free speech or free press. Russia does not possess either. In the United States papers are suppressed at the will of the police authorities. Even our liberties that we have already gained must be continually fought for or they vanish. But it is because democracy is strong in the hearts of the working class that our liberties are maintained.

Why should Canada want a navy? Is it because the capitalists see before them another avenue for filching away the national revenues and directing them into their own pockets? That is the probable reason. The capitalist government at Ottawa have been the good friends of the capitalists and have hastened to give the natural resources into their hands. Now a navy is being foisted upon the backs of the workers in order that more profit may go to the steel barons.

Fourteen million dollars have been given, given, mind you, a free gift, to the steel barons. This is what Laurier has done with the government money. But the workers cannot get hold of any government money. Laurier keeps guard over the treasury and only swings open the government treasury doors to his little pets the labor skinning capitalists. Are you workingmen still going to vote to support the man who supports the system that makes you live in wage slavery?

Roosevelt landed in Egypt and could not keep his tongue from wagging. He jumped right into the political mess and hectored the Egyptians because they would not get down on their knees and thank Great Britain for foisting the Rothschilds on the Egyptians backs. Roosevelt has had one good effect. He has put new life into the Egyptians and renewed their energies in their struggle against British tyranny.

The Manitoba government has appointed a commission to investigate the meat combine. The Manitoba government is considering the advisability of establishing a government abattoir. This government management will no doubt help win votes. But until the working class is put in control, until the working farmers and the wage laborers are put into control, the profit mongers will take their toll. The remedy is not government ownership and payment of interest to the credit lords. The remedy is the abolition of rent, interest and profit, and the management of industry by the working classes.

Alphonse Verville was elected in Maisonneuve in 1908 to the House of Commons by a majority of over four thousand votes. Verville is a laboring man. Ainey led the ticket for Board of Control of Montreal getting thirty thousand votes. The highest capitalist vote was twenty-two thousand. Langlois was returned to the Quebec Legislature from the city of Quebec. Langlois was a workingman's candidate. The French laborers of the Province of Quebec are showing that they want their fellow workers to represent them. They are not so very far behind in the proletarian fight for political expression, although they have not yet elected a Socialist.

LEMIEUX WRITING PERSONAL LETTERS

Lemieux is writing personal letters to some of those inquiring about the discrimination against Cotton's. In one of the paragraphs of these letters, Lemieux states, "Recently the Editor of Cotton's Weekly wrote me stating that other newspaper publishers were sending bundles to non-subscribers, prepaid at the rate applicable to regular subscribers."

This is the way Lemieux clouds the issue. The question is not between non-subscribers and regular subscribers. The issue is between bona fide subscribers and regular subscribers. Here is the department ruling which Lemieux is enforcing. "If a regular subscriber to a newspaper wishes extra copies of a particular issue on account of its containing special articles, such extra copies cannot pass by post at the rate applicable to copies sent to subscribers, ALTHOUGH THE PERSON ORDERING THEM HAS PAID FOR THEM."

A person who pays or undertakes to pay is a bona fide subscriber. He may not be a regular subscriber, but a subscriber to that particular issue he certainly is.

The fact is that the Liberal Government is frightened to let the radical press get a foothold and to give it its right of getting out special issues. Lemieux, like Aylesworth, wants to hamper the spread of Socialist ideas. He is caught at the little game and his excuses and explanations but make the matter worse.

WRITE TO YOUR CONSERVATIVE M. P.

Write to your Conservative M. P. and ask him if he will stand by the pledge in the Conservative platform upon which he was elected.

In the Conservative Platform as laid down by R. L. Borden, M. P., Opposition leader, at Halifax, August 20th, 1907, there is a plank with regard to postal facilities. The plank is as follows:

12. The improvement of existing postal facilities, especially in newly developed portions of the country, and the inauguration, after proper inquiry as to cost, of a system of rural mail delivery.

Ask the Conservative M. P. to give you your rights. Ask them why Lemieux lets newsdealers get bundles of newspapers from office of publication on speculation, at the rate of one-fourth of a cent a pound, while he charges you, who pay for your bundles in advance, the sum of four cents a pound.

Call to his mind article 12 of the Conservative platform of 1907 and tell him you want to see him fight for that plank against a reactionary Postmaster General.

The Russian revolution is not dead. The revolution is very active. The terrorists are getting in a lot of work. Assassinations are frequent. The country is in upheaval. But we hear little of it. The associated news service which supplies American papers with European news is not featuring the revolutionary activities which pervade Europe. It is not the interest of the American capitalists for such news to be given to the common people. The common people are very close to revolt in the States and if they learned that other nations were fighting their exploiters, they would become more revolutionary. Therefore the news of the Russian revolt is suppressed.

The great idea in business now, among the little fellows, is to create some new demand. This is how it is put. What this means is that the capitalists must be tempted with some new method of spending their unearned income. The workers have many demands which they cannot gratify. They have not the price. When Socialism is introduced, the aim will be to satisfy the legitimate demands of the workers, instead of trying to find some new way of tickling the desires of those who are surfeited.

The Banner Collection

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

- 1. EASY LESSONS IN SOCIALISM—Lefingwell
2. SOCIALIST CATECHISM—Ching
3. PARABLE OF THE WATER TANK—Belamy
4. MERRIE ENGLAND—Blatchford
5. WHAT'S SO AND WHAT ISN'T—Work
6. The Socialists, What They Are, and What They Stand For—Spargo
7. Socialism, What It Is and What It Seeks to Accomplish—Lobkowitz