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W. U. COTTON, Editor

Cotton's Weekly

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H. A. WEBB, BUSINESS MANAGER

This is No. 93

COWANSVILLE, P. Q., CANADA, JUNE 23, 1910

Sub Price 50c a Year—25c for 6 months

TWO TOURS

Laurier, Premier of Canada, is touring the western province with a gang of spiers to help him out in the task of persuading the people to let him finish his work of handing the country over to the labor skimmers. Borden, official leader of the opposition is touring Ontario with a gang of spiers to help him out in the task of persuading the people to give him the job of handing the country over to the labor skimmers instead of continuing to give it to Laurier.

Both leaders with their gangs are travelling in comfort. Both have a string of plute papers to report their words. Laurier, being the official dispenser of government jobs and contracts and advertising, has the greatest string of plute papers to report his words. But Borden, having before him a chance to become the official dispenser of government jobs, contracts and advertising, has a fairly large string of papers that report his words in the hope that Borden may become Premier and dish out the graft.

Neither Laurier nor Borden rely upon giving the workers their rights in order to win. They are relying upon the interests of the master class or the disappearing petty bourgeoisie to be pulled through. The workers of Canada have voted the old party tickets so regularly and enthusiastically that the leaders of the two old parties consider it of no importance to give the workers even a little of what should be coming to them.

The labor skimmers, however, the men who live on the unpaid labor of the toilers of the Dominion, have their eyes opened. They know what they want and go after it. Consequently both parties are very anxious to please the slave drivers. The slaves have not yet wakened to the value of their votes. Therefore they can be neglected.

But the slaves are beginning to wake and they are waking in a way the masters do not like. The slaves are saying, "The masters have two parties both pledged to do the will of the masters. Let us, the slaves of Canada, form a party of our own, the Socialist Party of Canada, and vote for no candidate who is not a candidate under our own party pledges." The master class, using the two old parties to serve their desires, thought they could fool the workers by a sham opposition. And they still think they can fool the workers by putting up their two puppets to go round the country in opposition to one another. The two puppets personally want to win the fight away from each other. It is to their economic interest to win. But both are the vest pocket property of the masters. The growing strength of the Socialist Party of Canada shows that the slaves are refusing to longer continue to play the two shell game of the masters.

There are many men and women who say they believe in Socialism but they do not like this talk about the workingmen. They think the advocates of Socialism should refer more to humanity at large. The working classes are only one section of the people of Canada. Therefore they should not be thrust so much to the forefront in the discussion of Socialism. Yet the workingmen are the ones who are enduring the most galling forms of wage slavery. They are the wage slaves. They are the ones to be freed. When the abolitionists talked about freedom there were many who said that they believed in freedom but that freedom was a larger question than merely the question of black negroes. They were provoked at the abolitionists for putting the negroes so much to the front. But the abolitionists wanted to free the negroes from the curse of chattel slavery and kept pounding away at that subject until they accomplished their aim. And the Socialists are keeping on at the question of the abolition of wage slavery and will keep on until the workers are freed from wage thralldom. And how else could the Socialists accomplish their object without talking about it? And how could they talk about it without thrusting the workers who suffer the slavery into the very forefront of the discussion? The man who says he is in favor of Socialism but does not want the workers to be talked about knows little of Socialism and cares less about it.

Labor does the work and the capitalists get the profit. Why should they? Simply because the workers are easy marks and the capitalists know it.

Rent, interest and profit, behold the three thieves.

There are none so blind as those who will not see the coming of the social revolution.

The century plant takes many years to blossom. Socialism has taken many years to grow. It is about to blossom.

Now the rulers and capitalists are classing the Socialists with the reformers. Their classification is the result of their hopes and not the result of facts.

Revolution does not necessarily mean bloodshed. Revolution can be accomplished by peaceful means. And Socialism can only come with the consent of the majority of the people.

Rome was not built in a day. Neither was the Socialist philosophy. Socialism has been of slow growth and steady. It has been over fifty years since the Communist Manifesto was written.

Every week these days Socialism is thrust still more to the front in public discussion. Capitalist society is breaking down. The patches wont last. Capitalism is to be replaced by Socialism.

Capitalism breaks up the home. It does not let people live in homes but makes them live in rented houses, and will not even allow people to live in rented houses if they cannot pay rent.

There are some men who say they are in favor of Socialism. But they say it in the same indifferent way that they talk about the weather. Such men are useless. The kind of men who will bring Socialism into actual practice are the men who do the work of Canada and do not enjoy the results of their labor.

Have you noticed the change in public opinion lately? The old individualistic doctrines of the pioneers are going. Mass movements are coming. The power of political control is being recognized more and more. And the workers are discovering that they can free themselves by capturing the means by which they are bound.

Independent reports show that Roosevelt's tour fell flat in Europe. The American papers make it appear that the three hundred and sixty million people of Europe all stood gaping at Teddy. The tottering plutocracy need a press made hero to save it. Hence the strings are pulled and Teddy is glorified. And in the meantime revolutionary Socialism is growing in the U. S. in a marvelous manner.

Socialism is for the benefit of all the people. A man who has a decayed tooth does not like to go and have it out. But he will have to stand the pain if he wishes to get rid of the tooth. There are many persons who think Socialism will hurt them. No doubt the readjustment of the parasites to the new condition of affairs will be painful, like having the tooth out. But it will be better in the end. Capitalism has to go because it is rotten and is poisoning the body politic.

Russia wants to spend \$350,000,000 on the construction of new warships. But Russia will not spend money for improving the condition of the workers nor give the people self government. Russia is a country supported by the capitalists of Europe because of the tribute the Russian autocracy pay them in the way of interest on past and present loans. The Russian government will cease to be able to pay millions for ships and rule with terror when western Europe is Socialized.

Sir Charles Hardinge is to succeed Earl Minto as Governor General of India. The job is not one which has been sought after. India is in unrest. Representative institutions are denied. Repression produces revolt and where foreign soldiers are prepared to shoot the revolting natives the spirit of revolt takes the form of assassination. The post of Governor General of India is therefore dangerous. The British capitalists are glad to draw unearned revenues from the sweat of Indians but they do not want to put their ear-cases where native knives can be stuck into them.

CONFISCATION

Let not the capitalist class mistake the aim of Socialism. Socialism means social production for the benefit of the producers. It means the abolition of rent, interest and profit. From the viewpoint of the capitalist it necessarily means confiscation. Under Socialism the owners of railroad bonds would receive no interest nor dividends. That would mean the complete cessation of the incomes of the present railway barons.

No more dividends would be paid to the owners of coal mines, gold and silver mines, and other mines. That would mean the complete cessation of the incomes of the mine owners.

No more interest nor profit would be paid to the cotton owners nor the steel mill owners nor the owners of other factories. That would necessarily mean the cessation of incomes of the mill owners.

No more interest will be paid on borrowed money. That would mean the cessation of the profits of banking and would mean the saving of millions of dollars to the workers from the repudiation of interest notes and national, provincial and municipal bonds.

No more rent would be paid for the use of land or buildings. That would mean the cessation of the incomes of the landlords.

All the incomes of all parasites would cease. The incomes now going to the parasites would go to the useful workers. And the parasites, before they could get incomes, would have to become useful workers.

This is the revolution of society. The workers will become the rulers. The parasites will be abolished.

This is the aim for which the Socialists work. This is the object of their political activity. They strive to elect Socialists to the various legislative bodies of the world in order to pass laws to do away with the incomes now arising from rent, interest and profit.

The ruling classes do all in their power to prevent the Socialists from carrying forward their propaganda. The master class know what Socialism means to them. Therefore they fight it. They blacklist Socialist workers. They pass bylaws against speaking on street corners. They make it difficult to nominate candidates. They are perfectly aware what Socialism will do for them.

There are but few persons among the master class who want Socialism. It is the workers who want Socialism. Socialism spells freedom and larger revenues to the exploited.

The Canadian slaves are organizing to confiscate the property of their masters. Cotton's Weekly is printed to help the good work along. But we cannot be surprised that the masters get mad and tear around and have laws passed and set their judges to execute them upon Socialists like Jules Lavenne and his comrades.

Those who want Socialism, let them join the Socialist Party. Those who want to let slavery continue, let them herd with slave drivers. It does not matter whether they are clergymen, priests, reformers, or so-called philanthropists. They want capitalism to continue. They want the workers to be robbed. They want the master class to own wage slaves. Let them go with their class.

Socialism means confiscation from the viewpoint of the capitalist. It means restoration to the workers from the viewpoint of the Socialist.

The higher a man rises in what is known as the business world, the more he causes suffering and misery. For capitalism is based on competition and the idea that the weak go to the wall. If one man succeeds, therefore, it means that many others go to the wall. The successful man may pull up a few intimate acquaintances with him. But when he does that it simply means that the additional successful man cause additional failures. And most successful men are crooked. They may do things according to law. But the law is crooked. And they may keep their word with their business associates, but their actions against the people at large are crooked. They endeavor to get a grip on humanity and get revenues for doing nothing. They endeavor to make humanity pay dear for the necessities of life. They endeavor to get something for nothing. They are playing a shell game on the public. So the higher a man climbs in the business or financial or industrial world, the more crimes he has committed against humanity. Capitalism renders this the penalty for capitalist success.

A NEW U. S. PARTY

Now comes the announcement that Roosevelt will head a new party in the U. S. Pinchot and Garfield will be among the lieutenants. The aim of the party is said to be the conservation of natural resources and would be radical. The party has been launched by the Roosevelt Club of St. Louis.

The old parties in the U. S. are breaking up fast. There are regular Republicans and insurgent Republicans. There are regular Democrats and insurgent Democrats. Graft reigns in Washington and is king. Big Business rules the country and backs up its orders with bullets.

Such a condition of affairs is heading straight for an armed revolt on the part of those who do not enjoy the graft and who are squeezed by Big Business. Armed revolt means that rent, interest and profit will be endangered. Therefore armed revolt must not come. Even Big Business recognizes this.

On the other hand there are the Socialists who are aiming at the complete abolition of rent, interest and profit. They are aiming at this end through legislative and political methods. The triumph of Socialism is more feared by the plunderers than is an armed uprising. Troops can cope with a rebellion. But troops cannot cope with the legislative will of the majority when free political institutions exist.

So something must be done by the laborers to stave off Socialism and prevent an armed uprising. That something is the formation of a new political party with radical promises, with a press made hero as the centre of the party, and without the stigma of graft attaching to the two old parties. It will have a clean start.

With this new party it is hoped to sidetrack the drift to Socialism. Roosevelt is being prepared to do the side tracking. He is to be a sort of hybrid politician, a mixture of Briand and Bismarck.

Roosevelt believes in rent, interest and profit, but not in dishonest rent, interest and profit. He actually tries to persuade the people that rent, interest and profit may be honest. He is a great declaimer of moral precepts. He is the man therefore for the plunderers to use to mislead the people and do the work of staving off the revolution.

But history in the United States shows a party formed for compromise which ended in the triumph of that which it was formed to stave off. The Republican party was formed as a party for the compromise of the slave question. It was to bring about a compromise between the slave states and free states. The Roosevelt party is formed to bring about a compromise between the people and the plunderers, to allow and protect rent, interest and profit in certain forms and not allow it in others.

Yet the new party will be forced to give industrial democracy or be broken on the wheel of progress. As there is one party already in the field fighting for industrial democracy the new party will be thrust out of the arena or will maintain itself by fighting the battles of the reactionists.

Reforms if won by revolutionary Socialists are a benefit to the working classes. Palliatives, when granted by the master class, are dangerous. The working class must free itself and when the workers can loosen their bonds a bit by their own power it shows that the master class is weak and tottering. When the master class loosen the bonds of the slaves of their own accord, it shows that slavery is so little endangered as an institution that the master class can give some liberty to their slaves without danger to the dominant position of the slave owners. Recently in the United States there have been granted by the bosses raises of wages, compensation for injuries to workers and a few other like palliatives. These however, were not granted voluntarily. They were granted because of the pressure from the workers.

The Secretary of the sugar trust has been convicted for conspiracy to defraud in the underweighing of sugar for duty purposes at the port entry. It is notable that only the servants of the corporation get jailed. The proprietors who get the profits go free.

Capitalism rewards the schemers and selfish persons while making the hard working and the generous live to benefit the selfish. Capitalism stands condemned.

CONFISCATE. CONFISCATE. CONFISCATE.

The confiscators of the labor power of the workers howl that Socialism is confiscation.

United the working classes can abolish wage slavery. Divided the workers are robbed.

Every workingman Socialist should be a trade unionist and every trade unionist should be a Socialist.

Rent, interest and profit can only rise from the robbery of the workers.

Capitalism is a dividing up system. It takes away the earnings of the energetic and active and gives them to the idle, vicious and lazy. Capitalism is robbery and should be abolished.

The Tory papers are declaring that Borden's Ontario tour is a "Campaign against dishonesty" at Ottawa. When Borden starts a campaign against rent, interest and profit, the Socialists will listen to him. Not until then.

Capitalism takes away the incentive to work. Who wants to work and save when he knows that all he will get out of his work is a bare living? Under capitalism there is no incentive to a worker to save his money and be frugal.

In Montreal Judge Davidson has decided that a tenant in poor health cannot repudiate a lease of a house because of its unfitness when such a house is suited to the needs and requirements of a healthy person. Such a decision means that a sick person must stay in an unsuitable house and die or else get another house and pay the rent for the old place as well as the new. Property rights under capitalism always come before the sacredness of human life.

The machine made farm is coming. The old order is passing. Formerly a man could work a piece of land with his own hands and make a living. But now the farmer must have expensive machinery. Each year the machinery is becoming more expensive. Electric farming may be the next advance. Steam plows will soon be a necessity. The farmer will either rise into the ranks of the labor exploiter or sink into the ranks of the exploited. Capitalism is seizing the farm and is bringing the Socialist revolt.

THE CLASS WAR AT SPRINGHILL

Comrade Jules Lavenne has been arrested in Springhill charged with violating an injunction against picketing. The injunction was what is called an interim injunction. The bosses go to the judge and tell him that their business is being hurt because of picketing. The judge, before the evidence is taken or proof given, orders all picketing to cease until the case can be heard on the merits. These interim injunctions are generally issued when the strike is at a crisis and the bosses rely upon hampering the workers, or jailing them under the interim injunction in order to win. The idea is to keep the workers from striking while conditions are ripe from picketing while scabs are being imported, and from fighting the battles of labor in the hour of battle. That is the function of an interim injunction. The injunction is slapped against the workers on the mere word of the bosses. After the fight is over and the interim injunction has broken the strike, the case is decided on the merits, which is small comfort to the workers who were slugged by the courts in the heat of the fight.

The case of Jules Lavenne came up at Halifax and was postponed till the 24th. of the month. Jules Lavenne is charged with contempt of court for daring to fight the battles of the wage slaves.

Rosecoe A. Fillmore will be at the trial and will report the proceedings from the class conscious revolutionary standpoint. Comrade Fillmore reports that there will be lively times when the case comes up. His first article will be from Springhill. It will appear next week.

Seaman Terris, candidate for Cumberland County on the Socialist ticket, writes that the persecution of the strikers is making Socialists rapidly and that he expects six hundred votes in Springhill alone to be cast for Socialism.

Look out for next week's issue.

HALF SLAVE, HALF FREE

No nation can exist half slave and half free. Either it must become wholly free or wholly slave. Such was the argument advanced by Abraham Lincoln with regard to the slave states. In the United States of America before the War of Secession, the states to the north of Mason and Dixie's line were supposed to be free from the institution of chattel slavery. The states to the south were slave states. Lincoln declared that this condition of affairs could not exist. Either the slave practices of the south would sweep north and engulf the whole nation in slavery, or else the free institutions of the north (which were not really free) would sweep south and give the negro personal freedom. The sequence of events proved the latter alternative. The north fought the south and gave liberty to the negro.

No nation can exist half slave and half free. That applies to humanity in general and to present conditions. The working classes cannot exist half slave and half free.

At one time in the history of humanity there was a slave class and an owning class. This was at Rome as elsewhere. The owning class possessed the land and food and clothing and shelter of the slaves. They also owned the bodies of the slaves. The master could kill a slave, flay him alive, and nothing would be done to the master. The body of the slave belonged to the master and the master had the right to do what he pleased with that body.

The struggle for freedom centered at first upon freeing the body of the slave. The early Christian religion was a religion for the slave classes as it promised them freedom. The master class never let go their hold on anything they get unless they are made to. There are a few individuals from among the owners who will fight the battles of the slaves along with the slaves, but they are few. The civilization of Rome, based upon idle luxury and dilapidated literature at one extreme and hunger and nakedness and sores and hard labor and death at the other extreme, was racked to its foundations by the struggle. The revolt of the slave classes, the cruel struggle for freedom, the hatred engendered for all that the master class held worthy, brought Rome to ruin and was the precursor of the dark ages.

Humanity has achieved the liberty of the body of the slave. But that is only half the battle for liberty. The freedom of the body is not complete unless the body has free access to the things which the body requires to exist. The freedom of the body will not last long if the owner of that body has to sell it in order to obtain the food to keep the body alive, the clothing to shelter it from the cold, and a place to keep that body at night and when it eats its food.

No nation can exist half slave and half free. No individual can exist half slave and half free. Although the arms are free the body is still in bondage if one leg is hitched to a chain and that chain is hitched to a post. And a man is not free whose body is hitched to a job owned by another man in order that that body may obtain food, clothing and shelter. The body becomes enslaved, and to free the body the food, clothing and shelter must be freed for the use of the body.

Socialism aims at social production for social needs. Socialism is the new aspect under which the age long struggle for human liberty is manifesting itself in this age. It is bearing forward the banner of freedom against the enslavers of humanity. And, as ever, it is the enslaved who are struggling to be free.

A story is told of an ignorant Russian peasant and a pawnbroker. The peasant wanted to raise some money, so took his cloak to the pawnbroker and raised a dollar and a half on it, agreeing to pay back two dollars in the fall. Then the pawnbroker started to talk to the peasant telling him how hard it would be for him to raise two dollars in the fall. The peasant agreed. The pawnbroker explained how much easier it would be to raise fifty cents. The peasant agreed. Then the cold of winter was dwelt upon and how the poor peasant would suffer if he could not redeem his cloak when the time came. Finally the peasant was persuaded into giving back the dollar and a half in order that he might have but fifty cents to pay in the fall when it came time to get back his cloak. Foolish, no doubt. But the workers of Canada are standing just that kind of fool treatment under the legalized thefts of capitalism.

THE FIRING LINE

About Cotton's

The work on the new building is proceeding apace. The cement foundations for the press and engine have been completed. The hard wood floors are being laid down. But there is much work yet to be done on the new building before it is completed and the sub hustlers will have a chance to put the circulation over the ten thousand mark before Cotton's moves to its new home.

One Comrade writes in wanting to know what he shall do. He writes that he is supporting six Socialist papers and wants to know whether he should concentrate his efforts on Cotton's Weekly. This is a question he will have to answer for himself. But the question is dependent on an answer to a question which always comes first. That question is, "What is the best way I can propagate Socialism in Canada?" If Cotton's is the best way, then support it. If it is not the best way, then find the best way and bend your energies to attacking capitalism in that manner. I am endeavoring to make Cotton's a powerful organ for Socialism. I am trying to make it an organ for pulling down capitalist robbery, and for building the intellectual and political foundation for the Socialist regime. Capitalism will provide the economic foundation.

This summer I am going to try and put out a special edition during every week in July, August and September. This means much hard work during the summer months. But if those issues are put into the hands of the wage slaves of Canada by the sub hustlers I will be more than content.

Not only will they be special issues but there will probably be special exposures. At Springhill some capitalist judge issued an injunction to prevent the strikers picketing, etc. The Socialists still picketed. They have been arrested for contempt of court. Jules Lavenne, the man who preached Socialism without truce nor rest in Springhill, is the one especially singled out for vengeance. He has been railroaded to Halifax, there to stand his trial, charged with daring to refuse to obey the mandate of the benchman judges of the capitalist plunderers. Roscoe A. Fillmore, who writes an article in this week's issue, has hurried to Halifax as the special correspondent of Cotton's to write up the trial.

In Toronto another special agent of Cotton's is digging up information that has been carefully suppressed by the capitalist politicians.

There are many grave abuses which I have got a trace of. When the time and opportunity comes these will be traced up and exposed. Canadian politics are corrupt, corrupt as hell, and the daily papers and weekly publications dare not open their columns to the exposure of this corruption. It remains for Cotton's to get after this information and give it to the public.

When we get into our new building and have the space to work in and machinery to do it with, Cotton's can turn out a far bigger output of Cotton's Weekly than it is doing now. The sub hustlers are the ones upon whom the real battle for the spread of Cotton's depends. It is the lone outpost, the man who picks the sub hustlers up one by one, the little band of flying hustlers, it is these agencies who will spread Cotton's and make it the dread of every form of reaction.

There are glorious fights ahead of us. We can sniff the battle from afar and already see in imagination the quaking jellyfish bellies of the frightened plutes.

THE TOP NOTCHERS.

W. K. Bryce, DeMaize, Sask. . . . 15
A. C. Blackwell, Woodstock, Ont. . . . 10
Geo. Penfold, Guelph, Ont. . . . 10
P. Bergquist, Polson, Sask. . . . 9
T. C. Woods, Sandwich, B. C. . . . 8

Two yearly subs tumbled in from Vernon, B. C.

Cotton's new Book Catalog is ready for delivery. Send in for one. Two halfers drop in from Cobalt, per Comrade M. Murawchik.

Two halfers from Comrade S. J. Kreid, Montreal.

Comrade Edmond Arcand, Montreal adds five halfers.

Five halfers from Comrade Sam. B. Betzner, Dawson, Y. T.

Two yearly from Comrade George Wainwright, Toronto, Ont.

Comrade C. E. B. Weymouth, N. S., makes Cotton's visit four halfers.

If you are not getting your paper regularly, write to Cotton's about it. A post card will do.

Comrade James Jackson spreads the gospel of discontent with five halfers for Nanaimo, B. C.

Three plunks from Comrade K. Johnson, Montreal for bundles for Montreal Local No. 1.

Comrade F. E. Bassley, Malakawa, B. C., wants Cotton's for a year to lead others to the light.

"I come with two more scalps for the wig of Socialism," Comrade M. Nix, Renfrew, Ont.

Five dollars from Comrade V. A. Hintz, Berlin, Ont., in payment of the bundles sent the local.

Comrade L. Brennan, Red Deer, Alta., guides two yearly to the sashem wig wam.

Every remittance to Cotton's Weekly of \$1.00 or over, is acknowledged on our new picture post cards.

Comrade A. C. Blackwell, Woodstock, Ont., orders ten half yearly sub cards.

This paragraph is a jogger about those Sub Cards you have on hand still unused. Get them into service.

Comrade George Penfold, Guelph, Ont., takes ten half yearly sub cards to further boost the Ontario sub list.

"Please find enclosed one dollar for two subs as a plunk for the ten thousand." Wage Slave, Carleton Place, Ont.

Use the noon hour to advantage. Talk to your fellow workers, and land their names for Cotton's sub list.

"I will sure try to help the work along more in the future. Enclosed four yearly," Comrade Ardie Simpson, MacLeod, Alta.

"That bunch of sub cards is all gone. So I enclose three dollars for cards as per slip." Comrade W. K. Bryce, De Maize, Sask.

Five half yearly sub cards for \$1.00. Why not get a supply? Boost for the 10,000 and put Cotton's into a building where it can work.

Five half yearly subs come shooting the shoots from the push imparted to them from Comrade Albert Dahl, Wavy Lake, Alta.

"Enclosed find one dollar. Please send five sub cards more. Like to have some on hand." Comrade H. M. Hugh, Blairmore, Alta.

Use the noon hour to advantage. Talk to your fellow workers on Socialism and get them to subscribe for Cotton's.

Tap. Tap. Tap. So says the hammer on Cotton's New Building. Every Sub Card as it lands, is a tap against capitalism and a boost for Cotton's Keep 'em Tapping.

Comrade J. H. Kirk, Maple Creek, Sask., picks up a halfer and hurls him down the sub shoot. "Finds the exercise good and two days later hurls another halfer.

"Yours for the good cause," writes Comrade D. W. Brown, Central Station, Ont., as he feeds the bulldog on a dollar bill and gets five half yearly post cards to feed the wage slaves.

Three halfers drop in from Norwich, Ont. Comrade Frank Winters the sender writes, "More to follow. Looks like something doing. Just moved here. Am talking 'Soc.' every day."

Sub Cards should not be laying idle at this particular time. Every card sent in boosts the circulation and drives a nail in the home now going up for Cotton's.

"I am just starting on a new bush farm and it keeps me guessing to make ends meet," writes Comrade A. E. Faulkner, Conjuring Creek, Alta., as he renews his sub.

"Below you will find four new yearly-ies that I want you to take care of and teach good sense for a whole year. For the third dollar please send me sub cards." Comrade Peter Bergquist, Polson, Sask.

Let those who are taking a bundle of Cotton's Weekly each week use the copies to get subs with. The more you can get to subscribe for themselves the more people you will have contributing to the support of the Socialist movement.

"I have got a few subs. You know how it is with a farmer. Not much time. Nothing but grind. Don't forget to show the farmers where they stand." Comrade C. Woods, Sandwich, B. C. Comrade Woods forwards seven yearly-ies and a halfer.

Ever have that hungry feeling after reading Cotton's? Hungry for more dope. Can't get it till the next number comes. And if your sub has expired it won't come. Renew at least a week in advance to get every issue.

"Am forwarding you one yearly and two halfers. This is my first start. I am Secretary of the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers International Union No. 12, Berlin, and I am trying to get Cotton's among the one hundred members." Comrade A. P. Plummer.

Use the Yellow Sub Blank sent you in the last issue of Cotton's. Shove it through the mail at the earliest opportunity. Stop the slump in the sub list, and at the same time drive home a good big spike in Cotton's New Building.

"Keep up the fight against entrenched hypocrisy and never say die. To fight in such a cause is the only way to steer past oblivion and I wish I had a few thousand dollars laid out so I could use them in the cause." Thus writes a wage slave forwarding two dollars to the agitation battery from new Brunswick.

The Glace Bay Socialists cancel their order for fifteen copies a week and order a bundle of one hundred copies for three months. Comrade Roscoe A. Fillmore is going to Glace Bay to organize the county for victory at the polls. The strike has started the working plugs of that district in the direction of economic emancipation.

Helpful Directions

Please assist Cotton's staff by signing your name and address to everything you write. Make all money orders payable to Cotton's Weekly.

Write book, bundle, card or sub orders on separate sheet of paper from letters on other matters, in order to ensure prompt attention.

Underwood says that the beef trust makes nothing out of the carcass of a beef. Perhaps they make money out of the carcass of the workingman.—Nebraska Enterpriser.

SUB PRICE OF COTTON'S

Canada and England.

Six Months, 26 copies 25c

Six Months, clubs of 5 50c

One Year, 52 copies 50c

One Year, clubs of 5 2.00

Three Months, club of 5 50c

Three Months, club of 10 \$1.00

ADVANCE COLLECTION of Books for 50 cents. Seven standard pocket-fitters. Best published.

Chase up those sub cards you have lying about the house, and put them to work. Every one is needed at the present critical stage.

All remittances to Cotton's Weekly of \$1.00 or over, are acknowledged by mail.

World-Wide Socialism

It is reported that an anti-Japanese uprising is being planned by Koreans in the north of Korea.

The Social-Democrat Tanner has been elected first vice president of the Finnish Landtag.

The number of Socialist votes in Brussels, Belgium, has increased from 57,770 in 1906 to 68,000. In Antwerp the increase amounted to 2,000.

Victor Berger declared in New York that he could win that city for Socialism in from five to ten years' time.

Premier Canelajas of Spain has announced freedom of religious worship in Spain. Hitherto only Catholic worship was allowed in public.

Delegates to the Provincial Assemblies being held at Pekin, China, are demanding a constitution for the empire and parliamentary institutions.

One hundred and twenty-eight Italian deputies, 15 of whom are former Ministers, have sent an address to the Duma protesting against the attack of the liberties of Finland.

Premier Briand wants to increase the strength of the French navy. At the same time the granting of the old age pensions in France is to be postponed a year for lack of funds.

The Metal Workers' Journal is a German labor paper published in Germany with a little subscription list of 400,000. It is a powerful weapon in the hands of organized labor.

The Socialists of South Dakota in their state convention at Huron have nominated a complete state ticket for the coming elections. The convention was the best in the history of the state.

The Socialists of Milwaukee have discovered that the Street Railway Company has been dodging the taxes on its cars for years. The unpaid taxes amount to \$72,000. The Socialists are going to collect the money.

In Basel town, Switzerland, there is a vacancy in the Government, and the Social-Democratic party claim it as their due, and have put up Dr. Blocher as their candidate. There is already one Socialist minister at Basel—namely Dr. Wullschlegler.

Statistics issued by the bureau of labor show that at this time there are 6,000,000 wage earning women in the United States and that they are not only working for less wages in the same industries, but are required to work more hours than the men.

The military tribunal at Barcelona, Spain, has taken proceedings against Pablo Iglesias for certain anti-militarist and anti-monarchist declarations made by him recently at Barcelona at a meeting of the Bakers' Trade Union.

The Socialist Vorwarts, frequently the best informed of all German papers regarding the secret intentions of the government, announced today that a bill for another big increase in the navy will be presented in the fall session of the Reichstag.

A number of governmental students broke into the press rooms of the Socialist paper in Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic, and destroyed the presses and equipment. They then went to the hall where the Socialists were meeting and engaged in a riot in which several people were injured.

Since the granting of the universal suffrage in Sweden not long ago, the Social-Democratic party of that country has found its voting strength so increased that it is able to sever its alliance with the liberal democrats, and run its candidates independently, which it was formerly unable to do.

Copenhagen Socialists made use of the phonograph as a stump speaker during the late campaign, records of a speech by Comrade Borgberg being distributed among all of the comrades who possessed machines, and played in hundreds of homes and public places.

Bernhard Dernberg, German Colonial Secretary, has resigned because the German government is going to tax commercial companies in German African territory. The tax is levied to repay fifty million dollars spent by the Empire to repress native uprisings. Dernberg, who got his training in a New York Banking establishment, thinks the companies should not be taxed.

The New York State Legislature has passed a law preventing messenger boys under twenty-one years of age being employed by companies or agencies at night. Trade unionism is getting a strong grip on Oklahoma. The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners last year had thirty-six unions. Now they have sixty. A Mill Workers' Union has just been organized for the men in the planing mills.

The result of the municipal elections of Stockholm is that of the 50 seats 16 have fallen to the Social-Democrats, 12 to the Liberals, and 22 to the Conservatives. The Socialists had hitherto held only two of these seats. In the other elections for town councils, as far as the returns are available, there were elected 12 Socialists (hitherto two) 10 Liberals and 20 Conservatives.

Walter Thomas Mills has been appointed special commissioner on municipal enterprises by Emil Seidel Socialist Mayor of Milwaukee. Mills will tour the world seeking information to aid the Milwaukee Socialists in giving the people the best experience of the world has produced. Mills will visit Europe, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. Mills will deliver addresses on Socialism during his trip.

F. Steyne, ex-president of the Orange Free State, faces the issue squarely. He says: "If Racism means one race suppressing another, it is abominable. When a better mutual racial understanding shall be reached, the present political parties will all go into the melting pot, and the new issue will then be 'Capitalism versus the rest of South Africa.'"

Two hundred and fifty laborers from Montenegro are starving in Cordova, Alaska. They are without work and the American government does not know what to do about them. Were they just plain Americans they would be allowed to starve and no fuss would be raised.

The Bethlehem Steel Company is the "Barbarous Mexico" of the States. It is the most oppressive of labor skinning steel plants and the most favored of the government in getting contracts for warships. Now it is being investigated for having putty in the cracks of the big ship guns sold the government.

A United States Congressional Committee is investigating the charges that American officials have been using the forms of law to hound back to Mexico the political opponents of Diaz, there to be tortured to death. Oscar Lawler, who was so active against the Appeal to Reason, is implicated in the prostitution of American justice to Diaz tyranny.

Between twenty-five and thirty street meetings will be held by the Socialists of Philadelphia during the summer. Congressional district committees have been organized in each of the six congressional districts of Philadelphia, and the members are planning a systematic distribution of literature that will reach every member of the working class in Philadelphia.

Oscar Ameringer the "farmer orator" of Oklahoma City, will be one of the speakers in Wisconsin during the Socialist campaign this summer and fall. Ameringer was largely instrumental in organizing the farmers of his section of the country and bringing them into the Socialist ranks. His efforts will be spent in an endeavor to teach the farmers of Wisconsin the principles that brought the men of his state into the party.

The Socialists at New Castle, Pa., are engaged in a desperate fight to maintain the freedom of the press. Because a paper published by them criticised most sharply the murderous tactics of the constabulary during a strike the editor of the paper has been arrested for "seditious libel." This is a charge that has not been brought in any American court for more than a century. It is a charge which has no place in a country claiming to grant freedom of speech and press. It is a charge, whose legality, once established, will make impossible any criticism of the powers that rule.

Union labor in Cleveland has won a sweeping victory over the Cleveland Baseball Club. The boycott which has been on all summer was raised this month when Dan Johnson, President of the Baseball League, signed closed shop contracts for all teams. The agreement provides that all contracts for tearing down, construction or repairs of parks shall contain a clause requiring the employment of union labor exclusively and all printed matter shall bear the union label. All cigars and tobacco sold within the park must also bear the union label.

John Curtis Kennedy declares that the following American organizations with a total membership of over three hundred and sixty thousand have declared for Socialism. In addition the United Mine Workers have also declared for Socialism. This brings the total up to over six hundred thousand.

The following are the organizations enumerated by Kennedy:

International Association of Machinists 48,000
Pattern Makers' League 9,000
United Metal Workers 22,000
Boiler Makers and Iron Shipbuilders 14,000
Amalgamated Engineers 2,000
United Brewery Workmen 39,000
Bakery and Confectionery Workers 14,000
Boot and Shoeworkers 32,000
Textile Workers 10,000
Ladies' Garment Workers 1,500
United Cloth, Hat and Cap makers 33,000
Woodworkers 20,000
Flint Glassworkers 10,000
Amalgamated Glassworkers 2,800
Carriage and Wagon Workers 3,200
Western Unions, including W. F. of Miners 100,000

Total 360,800

The Spanish government, it is reported, has decided to demand a fresh inquiry into the cause of the Maine disaster if the wreck of the battleship is raised. If an investigation is thoroughly made it is held by many people here that evidence will be produced showing the disaster was precipitated by foreign capitalists, especially American capital, as a means to further its financial interests in the island. For several years Cubans have been demanding the raising of the Maine, as it interferes with the traffic in the harbor. It is held that the answer of the United States government that the Maine would be left in the harbor as a monument to the men who went down with it was simply a scheme to keep concealed the truth about the Maine's explosion. Some officials have suggested that a charge of dynamite be placed under the wreck and that it be blown to pieces before it is cleared from the harbor. It is a matter of common knowledge that the wreck has not been left to lie in the middle of Havana harbor because of patriotism, but for fear that if it were raised the real motive behind its destruction would be discovered. Already there is a strong spirit of dissatisfaction among the natives with the way Americans have and American capital is now ruling Cuba. The mass of the workers, it is claimed, are not as well off as they were under Spanish rule. When the Spanish government owned Cuba there were large stretches of land owned by Spanish nobles who had never seen it. They held titles to this land by inheritance and did not bother with it.

THE Sub List DROPS this week, and it looks like a further DROP next week. Every reader of Cotton's has the machinery at hand to STOP the DROP. Last week Every reader received a Yellow Sub Blank folded in his copy of No. 92, with a strong urge to Boost the Sub List over 10,000 before Cotton's moves to the new building. This week the urge is doubled. Every Loyal Reader will AT ONCE put that SUB BLANK into use, thus stopping the DROP in the circulation figures and spiking a spike in Cotton's New Building.

JAPAN.

The history of Japanese Socialist movement is a history of severe persecution. The present situation is much the same as that of Germany under Bismarck of Russia under Alexander the Second.

Japanese Socialists started their political movement for the first time in 1901. The government, however, soon prohibited Socialist organization. Thereafter many meetings were continually dissolved by violence. Some twenty Socialist leaders have been thrown in the prisons under several pretexts during the last two years. Nearly all our publications were, of course, prohibited. Many books and pamphlets were confiscated, and our periodicals were suppressed. Even the publication of the translation of Marx and Engel's "Communist Manifesto" was met with a heavy fine. The monthly Shaka Shimbun, edited by Comrade S. Katayama, who was our delegate at the Amsterdam Congress in 1904, is the only Socialist paper now in existence. An especially great disadvantage we labor under is the fact that the workers have not the right of the franchise and we cannot even send a representative to the Diet.

Under such circumstances it is not surprising that no public movement is possible, and devoted Socialists forced to become secret propagandists. It is thus very difficult to present exact statistics of the number of our comrades, their works, and its measure of success. The rapid spreading, however, of Socialism among the workers, and of anti-militarism among the soldiers, is proved by the fact that strikes and the number of deserters from the army are daily increasing.

On the other hand, the government is striving to weaken the hostility of the working class, deceiving them by the foolish policy of "State Socialism." They introduced to the present Diet a factory bill, though they drew it back owing to the demand of a powerful bourgeois party. It is rumored also that they are considering the laboring insurance question.

At any rate the centralization of capital and the increase of poverty are making Japan day by day a most hopeful land for Socialism, which may ere long become the greatest power in economics and politics of that country.

With The Battery

Can't keep the Agitation Battery down. Only thing that holds it high head this week. Sub list drops, new bundle boosters in hiding, but the Battery looms up as big as ever, with faces set sternly in the direction of Quebec.

The province of Quebec has furnished much "charming" historical material for the pens of paid writers of the plute press, but when Socialism gets a good strangle hold, it will make history that will fade all previous records.

Say, you ought to get behind the Battery in its march through Quebec. Look through this list of contributors. See if it won't make you wish to be "Next." \$100.00 wanted.

F. Somers, Vancouver, B. C. . . \$1.50
W. J. Reddy, Celista, B. C. . . . 2.00
F. Auger, Ehalt, B. C. 1.00
J. W. Graham, Grand Forks . . . 2.00
J. Assman, Borden, Sask. . . . 1.00
P. A. Klassen, Borden, Sask. . . 1.00
J. W. Dargie, Medicine Hat . . . 5.00
G. D. Homer, Reid Hill, Alta. . . 1.00
H. M. Lawrence, Ross Creek . . . 1.00
A. E. Faulkner, Conjuring Creek . 50
C. Steffen, Harris, Sask. 2.00
A. Simpson, Macleod, Alta. . . . 1.00
A. Friend, Moncton, N. B. . . . 2.00
B. Silent, Sackville, N. B. . . . 2.00

Since last report . . . \$23.00
Previously acknowledged . . . 26.41

Amount on hand . . . \$49.41

RESOLUTION RE COTTON'S.

The eighth annual convention of the Labor Educational Association of Ontario was recently held at London. The following is the report of a resolution re Cotton's passed at the convention. The report is clipped from the Industrial Banner.

A resolution that this Association correspond with the Postmaster General and ask that Cotton's Weekly be accorded the same mail privileges as other papers caused quite a discussion. It was shown that in the United States, a move was under way to discriminate against the Labor press and destroy its efficacy. In Canada the liberty of the press must be maintained. Cotton's Weekly was not accorded the same privileges as the Globe, Mail and other publications, and it might not be long before the Banner and other Labor papers might be hampered similarly. A delegate wanted to know if Cotton's Weekly used the union label, and the answer was in the affirmative. It was also pointed out that while Cotton's was not a trade union paper, it was extremely friendly to organized labor and did not attack the movement or its leaders, but was most favorably disposed towards the cause. It was finally carried that the secretary correspond with the Postmaster General and urge strongly that Cotton's Weekly be given the same treatment as other publications in regard to postal rates.

Editorials from Cotton's Hustlers

THINK AND UNITE

How often is it, that we stop to think of all the misery in this world, of all those that are starving, homeless and sick, of all the children that come in this world, and are brought up in the very poorest condition of life, never having a chance to go to school, even the common schools, because their parents have not got the means to be able to stand the expense of giving their children a common school education, they have to send them to work as soon as they are able to do anything, as the money is needed to keep the family from starving.

Then again there are other parents, that did not receive any education when they were young, and they do not understand how much benefit it would be to their children to receive an education.

Then there are the rich, they bring up their children, amidst all the luxury of life, they never know a want, as they are supplied with all that money can buy, they are taught to shun the children of the poorer class, as they are told that the children of the poor are rude and ignorant, and altogether unfit for a rich man's child to associate with them. But the poorer children soon learn that they have to bend themselves to the power of the rich as they hold the wealth of the world between their hands and therefore can starve the poor man till he is ready to do as they bid him.

The circumstances of the poorer people are getting worse all the time, as the rich are trying to gain more and more of the world's wealth. Prices of the necessities of life are rapidly increasing. A few wealthy brokers get together, and decide on buying up all they can of some one line of produce, then they store it away and let the newspapers circulate a report, saying that there will be a shortage in this line of produce, up goes the prices on this line, the brokers have taken a few million out of the pockets of the workers, then another line is taken, and so on, the rich are getting richer, and the poor are getting poorer.

It is true that labor unions have been of some help to labor, but often they have failed. A labor union will only be of benefit to the members of that union. The union is successful in forcing the employer to raise the wages of his employees, but he will at the same time raise the price of that which they are producing, as the employer is not paying this raise out of his pocket. No, the raise comes out of their own pocket and others that are in need of the goods they are producing. The higher wages the workers get, the more they have to pay for their necessities of life.

Small labor unions will never be able to remedy the miseries of humanity. It is Socialism we need, that is the only remedy that will be of any effect. It will unite the whole human race into one union for the purpose of making the life on this earth what it should be, and not what it is now.

—S. Eldjanson, Gimli, Man.

SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

Everyone who appreciates the work Cotton's Weekly is doing, is invited to co-operate along the lines of this Special Subscription Offer. Printed government postal cards, each good for six months subscription to Cotton's Weekly, will be furnished in lots of Five, at the rate of \$1.00 per lot.

Anyone ordering these cards may sell them at 25 cents each, thus making a commission of 25 cents on the dollar, or he may place them to his satisfaction in other ways, finding compensation in the fact that he is forwarding the cause of education and enlightenment in the forward movement of the race.

These cards may be paid for when ordered, or may be ordered and remittance made after they are sold. A coupon is printed below for the convenience of those who desire to increase the circulation of Cotton's Weekly.

COTTON'S SPECIAL OFFER

Application for Six Month Subscription Post Cards

	5	10	15	20	25	50

Cotton's Weekly, Cowansville, P. Q.
I am interested in increasing the circulation of Cotton's Weekly, and desire you to send me a supply of Half-yearly Subscription Cards. I agree to use my utmost endeavor to sell the cards, and will remit for them at the rate of \$1.00 for each Five Cards, when sold.

NAME

Box or Street No.

Town Prov.

Indicate the number of Cards wanted by marking X under one of the numbers printed on top of this blank.

If you believe this paper is doing a work that merits encouragement, fill out the above coupon and mail it to COTTON'S WEEKLY, Cowansville, P. Q.

Every Book Order helps Cotton's on the way up. Get one of our new catalogs.

A FABLE

By D. S. Webster.

Now in the third month, in the reign of the Caliph T-fat-the-Fat, whose reign was known of men as the Great Reaction after the Great Spasm, the people murmured against their masters. The masters had made a law, saying: "He that murmureth twice in the same place, the same shall lose his job." But the people still murmured. Yea, verily, but they were a sassy people!

Now, these people who made noises like unto kicks were possessed of a pearl of great price, the name whereof was the ballot. And this pearl of great price was worth as much as a beer; yea, upon great occasions, when the country must be saved, it was worth two beers.

And the people, not being experts on pearls of great price, cast them before swine. And the swine's name was The Boss. And it was so that each voting district had a porcine animal of its own, the breed varying alternately, being now Democratic and now Republican; with peradventure a slice of Independent bacon or a Reformed porker thrown in.

And it was so that upon the day of election the people, lacking faith in themselves, sought advice as to how they should vote. And some conscientious souls sought wisdom from the Great Spirit, who resideth in paradise, making week-end visits to the great temples. But most of the people sought wisdom from the lesser but more ardent and intimate spirits, which abide over in the sanctuary called a saloon. And the advice handed out by the priests and bartenders and other holy men who handle spiritual advice was always and ever the same: Vote ye as the Boss telleth, and vote 'er straight, or great evil shall come upon the land.

And about the first hour after sunset of election day, after the people had delivered up their pearls, it was so that the election boards gathered together to set a value upon the pearls. And the election board was a law unto itself when it came to valuing pearls.

And the boss came also. And he called unto the cops to chase all Socialists and other inquisitive people from out of the polling place.

And they chased.

And the Boss counted the ballots, counting thereof with his right hand and stuffing with his left, whereof the saying hath arisen: "His right hand knoweth not what his left doeth."

And after the Boss had counted to his heart's content he came before the people, crying in a loud voice, while he winked with the eye: "Oh, noble and wise people, ye have again saved the country. Ye have elected another great and grand statesman who will right your wrongs and peradventure wrong your rights, so that your murmuring shall cease and be no more."

And the people wished that it was so.

And the great statesman, whose greatness no man perceived until three months before election, girded up his loins and went unto the Scribes and Pharisees who ran the newspapers that he might make known unto the people exactly how he was going to rescue the country. And he set a date, saying, "In one week I shall save ye, but a contingency may arise whereby I may have to postpone the saving for two weeks or, peradventure, three."

And the people, not knowing what a contingency meant, were hopeful, and again wished that it was so.

And upon the evening of the next day the great man straightway forgot all about the people.

Now, it was so that this kind of dunghill business had been going on for lo! these many years. But the people after lo! these many years finally began to get a hunch upon themselves, the meaning whereof being that they began to get wise.

And the manner of their getting wisdom was an exceedingly painful manner. Some needed the assistance of a policeman's club, which striketh where it listeth.

And many others were given long vacations, after the master had pronounced certain cabalistic words, saying: "Thy services are no longer required," or "Get the devil out of here." These also pondered the question long and well, and some got unto themselves wisdom.

And it was that oftentimes when two or three had gathered themselves together they would form a Socialist party; yea, as many as six or seven would gather in divers places to make this evil thing. And they who joined laid aside all frivolous things, neither smiled they any more. And some of them let their hair and neckties to grow long, whereat many fools mistook these things for Socialism and made merry.

Now, these ascetic individuals pondered long and deeply over the reason of the murmurs of the people, and why the pearls were accounted a cheap thing. And after they had

pondered they talked among themselves, loudly and vigorously, so that many policemen were called who bunged them over the head, even as they had bunged other people. Then the Socialists knew for a truth that they were right, because of the saying: "Truth may be mighty, but you get bunged on the head if you mention the fact."

And the Socialists came before the people, crying in a loud voice, but they winked not the eye, neither smiled up their sleeve, nor yet behind their coat-tails.

And they said unto the people: "Oh, ye who possess the jewel of fabulous price, are ye not sick and tired unto death of this great man gag? Is it not so that, for, lo! these many years ye have given up your pearls and got in return a gold brick? When will you have your fill of great men who promise to do and do not? Let us forsake these great men to their own greatness. Let us trust to ourselves, who are Common Dubs, yet make the earth produce, buildings to rise, cities to grow. Yea, though we be not great, yet we do great things. And if we do the things, peradventure we can rule the things for our own good. Let us elect a Common Dub, upon a Common Dub's platform, and do things in a common sense way for the common good."

And the people wished that it were so. And of a verity a great thing came to pass. The common people did more than wish; they took unto themselves a great city and decided to run it without the confusing aid of great men.

And it was that Down Where the Wurzbeger Flows they put into office many men from among themselves—a printer Caliph, a carpenter Caliph, a mason Caliph. And these men gave a fame and glory to that city that put the old one to shame.

And the great men and bosses seeing that the people looked overlong upon this fair city, said unto them: "Kind people, look at the pretty parlor tricks we are about to perform for your delectation."

But the people, not being cross-eyed, forbore to look in two places at once.

And now a new saying arose among the people: "They that murmur twice in the same place, the same can go and do even as Milwaukee did!"

And the people wished that it was so in every city in the land.

And, lo! after a few years, it was so.

The United States Post Office Inspectors have arrested the President and Vice-President of the United Wireless Telegraph Company for misuse of the mails. These clever gentlemen organized a company, issued to themselves a lot of stock, and sold the stock to the public at from ten to fifty dollars a share by making extravagant statements as to the assets of the company and by declaring that the money was going into development work when, as a matter of fact, it was going into their private pockets. It is said that the President has cleaned up ten million dollars and that the stock which was bought for fifty dollars a share is worth put four cents. This barefaced work on the part of the promoters has raised a storm of indignation among "investors." You see the investors thought that the company was going to be a glorious labor skinning concern. They thought the company was going to hire wage slaves and make a profit of a thousand dollars a year on the labor of each slave and that they were going to get that profit. But the promoters were simply pocketing the funds and not gouging wage slaves. And that kind of work is strictly against capitalist law and the ethics of slave drivers. The ethics of slave driving capitalists is that if you want to get the swag away from slave drivers you must give them a chance to put the swag where it will be used to skin more wage slaves. For capitalist law is founded on injustice and capitalist morality is immoral in this stage of capitalist development.

Paid in Advance

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

Capitalism produces waste. Socialism will be economical. Capitalism is based on competition and competition is wasteful. That is why the bigger corporations are ousting the smaller ones. The larger corporations are more economical in management. The process of trustification will proceed until the majority have been expropriated and they will then turn round and expropriate the combines.

AGAINST HUMAN NATURE

Socialism is against human nature. How often that old cry has been raised against Socialism. Socialism is not against human nature. Communal practices under a capitalist regime may be impracticable. But Socialism is not against the nature of man.

Throughout the ages the cry has been raised that a certain thing is against human nature. But human nature is not something fixed. It is flexible to a certain extent. It adopts new customs, new manners, new morals. It accommodates itself to its surroundings.

Once upon a time humanity ran naked. Tribes do so today in Africa. Therefore, the wise ones of the no-clothes tribes would say, it is against human nature to wear clothes. But clothes are worn and humanity gets on very well.

It was the custom to eat each other at one time in the history of the race. It was human nature to eat each other up. It was human nature to torture prisoners of war. Human nature demanded revenge and he was a brainless fool who thought that prisoners of war need not be tortured. Murderers were broken on wheels or hanged in public. Johnson declared that public hangings were necessary in order to make the criminal inclined keep the peace by filling their hearts with fear. Now murderers are not hanged in public. In some places they are not hanged at all.

Human nature adapts itself to circumstances. Evolution is at work. Mankind has existed under various customs of laws. Human nature has risen from the primal slime of amphibious life and is still ascending. Socialism is an advance on the present order and is in sequence with past development. Human nature is eminently fitted for Socialism.

The next usual cry raised against Socialism is that perhaps a thousand years from now Socialism will be here but we will not see it in our time. This argument comes from the blind little reformers, men who have not read history, who have not studied evolution nor life. They think that the present order is eternal and all that we can do is to patch it up.

They have not read history. They have not read of the brutalities of Rome and how the Roman rulers considered that Rome was eternal and how Christianity rose and overthrew slavery. They have not read how feudal institutions remained dominant for hundreds of years, and how, almost in a night, the institutions toppled to the ground in the shock of the French Revolution.

Socialism is not against human nature. There are fifty million men and women who are passionately longing for the coming of Socialism. They would not thus struggle for something which was against their human natures.

And moreover we will see Socialism in our time. Socialism has been of slow growth. It has not sprung up in a night. The movement is well organized. It is becoming better organized as the working classes feel the increasing pressure of capitalist decadence. Germany is almost conquered. And every country where capitalism reigns the power of the masters is drawing to a close. Socialism is not against human nature and it is on its way and will arrive soon.

"Society is continually committing crimes against criminals, four-fifths of the crimes in our greatest cities commence through hunger. Bret Harte tells a story of a priest who was stoned by some rude boys in Paris and who knelt down and prayed for the boys; it then occurred to him that those who were bringing them up were responsible for their conduct, and he prayed for their parents; he then thought that their parents had been largely moulded by society, so he prayed for society; and then the thought came to him that he himself was an integral part of society, so he prayed for himself.—Benjamin Fay Mills.

John W. Norton, aged forty, employed by the Cobalt Power Company, Cobalt, Ont., was electrocuted in the power house on June fifteenth. He crawled under the safety screen and came in contact with a live wire. He leaves a wife and three children. The bread winner is gone. The Power Company gets the profits. The wife and children lose the support of the husband. And the labor skinner gets fat. But such conditions will last just as long as the workers will allow the master class to continue to be the master class. For what use is there being the master class unless you can get big revenues from the sweat and sorrow and death of others?

The unearned incomes of the idle will become under Socialism the earned incomes of the useful.

TOUCH NOT EFFECTS ABOLISH CAUSES

Roscoe A. Fillmore.

Considerable confusion exists in the minds of many people today as to the process by which surplus or profit is created and realized by the capitalist. The prevailing idea appears to be that the cost to the capitalist manufacturer of the commodity he manufactures is really the value of the commodity. And profit is, in their opinion, a slice added at will by the various dealers and middlemen who handle the article after it leaves the factory. The final price to the consumer being the value plus whatever additional swag it is possible to wring from the dear public.

It is due to this erroneous idea that we hear so much about "high prices" and "tariff walls," etc. Of course to the superficial outlooker it looks unreasonable to claim that profit is realized by selling commodities at, approximately, their values. But let's investigate.

When you and I, fellow-worker, want to buy a barrel of flour, we must first sell something ourselves in order to obtain the price. This something that we sell is our power or ability to take hold of the tools and natural resources and so change their forms as to make them of value to society. This power—labor power—we sell is a thing—a commodity and is sold in the same way as other things whatever it will bring on the market. It is found upon investigation that the workers of the world receive just a bare living in return for their labor power. We get just enough today to enable us to be back on the job tomorrow with another supply of energy. In other words we get just enough to enable us to produce more labor power—the cost of producing it and no more.

Now the capitalist who buys our labor power owns tools and forests, mines, railways, mills, etc., and he sends us (in reality his property, for he has not paid for us?) to work these things, he taking as his right all that we produce. He buys our labor power at its cost of production or value (the terms are synonymous) and he has in return the use of it for a certain number of hours per day. In America labor is so productive that the product is four to five times the amount necessary to reproduce the labor power used. In one-fifth of our working day we produce the amount necessary to feed ourselves and the little slaves (to be) that we are raising at home. The other four-fifths of the time we are producing value for our masters—surplus value.

The finished product, then, is the cost of producing whatever labor power was consumed in the process plus the surplus that we have created. The surplus represents the labor time that we expended after we had produced the equivalent of our wages. The value of the finished product is based upon the total amount of labor contained in it both the paid and unpaid. Then the capitalist class has as profit the difference between the value of the commodity and the amount necessary to reproduce the labor power expended in producing it—wages. There is where profit comes in, not as an addition to the value but as a part of the value of the commodity and it is merely the product of the labor power expended after the equivalent of our wage had been produced.

Now when a barrel of flour is completed it contains all the value that it can in its present form as flour. Make it up into Mooney's sodas and it contains more value as more labor power has been consumed in the productions. But although the value is there in the barrel yet in order to realize that value the flour must be sold. When sold or exchanged the capitalist then realizes in money or its equivalent a part or the whole of the surplus contained in it as well as the capital he advanced in the form of wages. He may sell it less than the real value at some time in which case a part of the surplus goes to enrich some other shark. He may sell at more than its value and in this case he as an individual is just so much ahead of the game for the time. The next day he may be soaked for twice the amount. Business is a huge gamble. The capitalists as individuals are continually knifing each other in the world's markets.

But whether the profits of an individual capitalist are large or small makes little difference to us as workers. We get just a bare living. They get the rest. It matters nought to us how they divide the spoils once we are mulcted of it. It matters nought to us whether prices are high or low—we only get the soup bone anyhow. At the very best capitalism only holds out to the workers who are lucky enough to have a job, a bare existence. To the rest the misfits and incapables—well, it isn't a pleasant subject to think upon. It is hell.

There is no hope for us in demanding more wages. In spite of all our unions our rations are being cut down

and they are bound to be so long as we are compelled to sell our labor power to a master. When we awaken and demand and take the tools that we must use in producing our bread and butter—then we will be free. Eight hour day bills, old age pensions, etc., are but dirty morsels thrown at us from the masters' garbage heap in order to keep us quiet. He who would be free must free himself. That which is worth having is well worth taking, especially as we cannot exist without it. Strike, comrades, not at crumbling monarchies or feudal figure heads; not at red herrings drawn across your trail but strike with might and main at king capital and his pack of hell hounds. Touch not effects—abolish causes, and sooner or later the earth and its fruits will be ours.

The Reason Why

Wherever the Socialist party has been entrusted with power, it has stood honorably by its principles. The reason is quite simple.

Entirely aside from the idealism and revolutionary spirit that make Socialists an exceptionally trustworthy lot of men, the control exercised over them by the organization that lifted them to office prevents them from going wrong.

It may be easy to sidetrack or corrupt an individual. It is impossible to corrupt a whole movement.

The hand that gives is the hand that can also take away. Let me explain.

I am a workingman. I belong to the Socialist Party. So does Sam Jones. Sam Jones is nominated at a duly called meeting of the entire party membership to contest an election. Before he is allowed to run under our auspices he must sign a pledge that he will obey the party mandate in all things or resign from office. And his legislative work is cut out for him by a well defined platform that admits of no equivocation.

Mr. Jones takes his seat in parliament. If I think the government should contribute money to the funds of trade unions for the benefit of their out-of-work members, I first of all introduce the matter at a party convention. If my idea is endorsed by the majority, it is then obligatory upon Jones to bring the matter up in the house of representatives. He may disagree with the proposed measure, yet he must abide by the decision of the party in such a matter—or step down and out. That may seem unfair to him, but it is not. He has the privilege of fighting my resolution in the party convention, but, if not defeated, he must swallow it. He is in the legislature to represent, not himself, but the rank and file.

Or suppose an eight hour day bill is introduced into the legislature. The employers of labor want it killed, and to make sure of having it killed resort to wholesale corruption. Their agent approaches Jones and offers him \$7,000 for his vote against the bill. That is a big temptation to Jones, but the knowledge that the party he represents is closely scrutinizing all his conduct restrains him from being untrue to his class. He has reason to fear certain exposure, public disgrace and an end to his political career.

If Jones should fail to support the bill, I as a member of the party will want to know the reason WHY. Likewise with all the other members. We are in the party to carry out a definite program. We elect representatives for that purpose. If they don't carry out our will, their punishment is swift and sure. That is why there is scarcely any corruption in the Social-democratic parties of the world.

W. R. S.

Our Canadian government does not represent the workers. It represents the master class. When there is a strike on at Glace Bay the government money is used to pay soldiers to prevent the men from winning the strike. The government collects funds and gives the funds to the master class as bonuses for exploiting the workers. The striking workers never see a cent of government money for strike benefits or to pay rent for the idle men. The government is an instrument for the oppression of the workers. But it can easily be made an instrument for the abolition of the master class. The workers have only to get together and elect revolutionary Socialists to parliament. The workers have the power. Let them use it.

In the United States they call them trusts and go after them with a big stick. In Canada they call them combines and pat them gently on the wrist to make them feel at home. We in Canada are contented to be robbed. We seem to like it. In the United States, however, the people are in revolt. The Canadian people are, in the mass, still hypnotized by the two old party gangs of pirate legalizers.

THE ARMY OF THE UNEMPLOYED

By W. R. Shier.

The army of the unemployed is not only a source of misery to itself, but it is a source of misery to everybody else except those who profit by the degradation of labor.

It is the army of the unemployed that hammers wages down to a very low level, since in their eagerness to obtain bread the workers underbid each other for the jobs.

It is the army of the unemployed that furnishes scabs to the employers for the crushing of organized labor.

It is the army of the unemployed that prevents the labor unions from effectively "cornering the labor market," thereby making it impossible for them to gain humane conditions under which to work.

It is the army of the unemployed that fills our masters' barracks with uniformed automation and their ships with trained destroyers of life.

It is the army of the unemployed from which tramps and criminals and prostitutes are principally recruited.

It is the army of the unemployed—especially the unemployed rich—that deprives the productive workers of a large portion of the wealth they create.

It is the army of the unemployed that breeds squalor and disease and worthlessness all over this fair continent of ours.

Yet the army of the unemployed is to be pitied, not denounced. It is the natural child of a vicious industrial system. If not today, then tomorrow, we ourselves may belong to it.

This great army of the unemployed can be converted from a whirlpool of evil into a fountain of good once it is set to work irrigating desert lands, reclaiming marsh lands, reforesting denuded lands, constructing magnificent roads, digging needed canals, building bridges and beautifying cities.

There is lots of useful work that the unemployed might do, but alas! the federal, provincial and municipal governments are in control of men whose wealth and power depend upon them keeping the workers in a humble frame of mind, humility and hunger being almost synonymous terms.

The legislatures, courts and police, and the old historical parties that are nominally in the saddle, are owned body and soul by the kings of industry and finance, by the trust magnates, the manufacturers, the wealthy merchants, the big landholders, all the big and little Napoleons who dominate the hosts of labor because they control the means of employment.

If the state undertook to provide unemployment to the unemployed by prosecuting great public works as we have suggested, these gentlemen would have to part with some of ill-gotten wealth in the form of income and inheritance taxes to finance such a project, and, furthermore, they would have to pay considerably higher wages to their employees.

Now, high wages mean low profits. And the decline in profits would cause a tumble in the value of stocks and bonds and paper securities of all sorts.

Hence it is easily understood why the capitalist class will fight state employment of the unemployed to the last ditch.

As long, therefore, as the government is controlled by the rich, this problem will be left unsolved.

Not until the government is captured by those who will profit by the change need we expect this great piece of humanitarianism to be put into practice.

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