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W. U. COTTON, Editor

# Cotton's Weekly

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H. A. WEBB, BUSINESS MANAGER

This is No. 106

COWANSVILLE, P. Q., CANADA, SEPTEMBER 22, 1910

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## THE CASE OF FEDERENKO

Once more the bloody hands of that arch criminal, Czar Nicholas of Russia, are reaching across the waters to clutch at the throat of a refugee.

Sarvo Federenko, a Russian, who escaped from Russia to Canada, has been arrested at North Winnipeg by the Winnipeg police on a charge of murder, arson and robbery, and a demand has been made to send him to Russia to be tried.

Have you heard of the conditions established by the Little Father of all the Russias in his dominions?

Do you know that he has turned loose upon the people the Black Hundreds to rob, rape and kill?

Have you heard of the secret spies whose duty and profit it is to betray the lovers of freedom into the clutches of the executioners of the Little Father?

Have you heard of the tortures that take place in the Russian prisons?

Have you heard of the universal system of trafficking in prisoners' flesh, that if the prisoners possess funds they can escape though guilty, but if they are penniless they are starved and flogged and tortured?

Have you heard of the Russian prison conditions where men rot and die from overcrowded conditions, fever infected dungeons and rotten food?

Have you heard of the comb of Siev that is used as a torture instrument that shreds human flesh into ribbons?

Do you know that extradition laws require that faith be observed and that the prisoners surrendered shall have a fair and impartial trial?

Do you know that prisoners surrendered to the Little Father have no trials but farcical condemnations?

Were Federenko guilty as hell it would be a blot on the justice and freedom loving spirit of Canada to surrender him to the bloodhounds of Russia to be tortured and rot in their prisons.

But his offence, if any there be, is a political one?

Do you think the Little Father of all the Russias cares a damn for the murder, robbery and arson of a private individual committed against other private individuals?

The Little Father cares not at all. Has he not turned the brutal soldiery loose so that no woman's honor in Russia is safe, and no woman's life nor man's life is safe?

Has he not turned the Black Hundreds loose to murder, to commit arson and to rob?

Were Federenko guilty of the crimes alleged against private individuals would laugh and let him go.

If Federenko be guilty of any crimes they are such crimes as any man of spirit would commit to get rid of the damnable rulership of Russia.

No. If Federenko be guilty of any crimes the crimes were political, and as such the Canadian flag should protect him and wrap him safe from clutching hands and vengeful wrath of the Czar.

The Governor of Moscow has written a book in which he relates how he was ordered by the Czar to get funds from the citizens of Moscow by any methods he could. For the Governor of Moscow to get funds by pillage was government. For the citizens of Moscow to recover their stolen property was robbery.

For a citizen to protect his home against the Czar's brutes and to protect the honor of his women even to the killing of soldiers, is murder.

Citizens of Canada. Shall we surrender Federenko to the Czar? Shall we let the folds of our Russian flag be stained by the tyrannies of the Czar?

In Russia little children of eight years of age have been hanged for distributing Socialist literature.

United States surrendered a prisoner to the good faith of the Little Father. He was to have a fair trial.

As the American agent handed the prisoner over to the Russian agent on Russian soil, the Russian agent drew his sword and slashed off the prisoner's hands before the horrified gaze of the American.

Shall we surrender Federenko, innocent or guilty?

No. A thousand times no.

You judge, whoever you be, who are trying Federenko on extradition proceedings, if there is a spark of manhood in you you will let Feder-

enko go free. You will not surrender him to Russian brutality.

And if you come to the decision that he must go back, according to the damnable provisions of our extradition treaty with Russia, then you will resign your judgeship before you will pronounce sentence of torture and Russian tyranny upon him, if there beats in you a heart of humanity.

The world of labor is protesting. On Sunday, September 4th, the Grand Theatre of Winnipeg was packed to the doors by labor protesting against the extradition of Federenko.

In Montreal the Socialist Locals have protested against this invasion of Canada by Russian agents.

Throughout Canada there will be protests.

Our government officials and judges care not for freedom. Otherwise there would be no extradition treaties with the Little Father.

But our government officials and judges will heed the voice of labor if it protests sufficiently.

And upon the protest of labor depends the freedom of Federenko.

## FORGET IS NEXT

Lieut. Colonel Rodolphe Forget is to do the Pellatt stunt. Pellatt has taken the Queen's Own Rifles to London. Forget is to take a Montreal regiment to Paris. The capitalist papers are full of praises for these labor skimmers who take soldiers across the waters to foreign countries. Neither Pellatt nor Forget possess an atom of patriotism. They are capitalists purely and simply.

Pellatt is engaged in stealing labor blind. Forget is doing the same thing. Pellatt is English and lives in Toronto. Forget is French and lives in Montreal. Both want to get the big labor thieves of Europe interested in Canadian skinning operations. The labor thieves realize that they must maintain their domination by force. Pellatt, therefore, takes a bunch of bayonet stickers to London as an advertisement of himself and his schemes. The British plute press is plastering him with praise, and the British capitalists will open their strong boxes and pour their capital into erecting large slave pens in Canada under the guidance of Pellatt.

Forget is taking his bayonet stickers to Paris to get the French labor thieves interested in his schemes. Forget is interested in the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Company, the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company, the Canadian General Electric Company, Toronto Railway Company, Canada Cement and many other concerns. The totting of the legalized butchers of Canada, after the fashion of a travelling monkey show, to the international money markets of the world is simply an advertisement on the part of Canada's prominent labor skimmers. There is nothing patriotic about it.

Socialists are blamed for being revolutionists and for preaching the overthrow of the present system. If there ever comes a bloody civil war in Canada over the possession of the means of production, it will not be the Socialists who are to blame but the capitalists. Goldwin Smith was one of the noted moralists of the capitalist class. Even he recognized this to be a fact. In his younger days he published a book called "Three English Statesmen." It appeared in 1863. This is a paragraph from that book. "The chief authors of revolutions have been, not the chimerical and intemperate friends of progress, but those who, in defiance of nature, struggle to avert the inevitable future, to recall the irrevocable past; who chafe to fury by damming its course the river which would otherwise flow calmly between its banks, which has ever flowed, and which, do what they will, must flow forever."

The Dominion Trades and Labor Congress meets at Port Arthur, and the National Trades and Labor Congress meets in Montreal. Rival organizations are formed, and the bosses rub their hands in glee in the hopes that competition and rivalry between the two organizations will disrupt the solidarity of the workers. But the bosses have not much to be thankful for. Both organizations are organizing the workers and will ooze into one that will put the parasites out of business.

## NINE MILLION INVESTORS

The plute press is declaring that there are nine million investors in France, that there are ten million electors of whom nine million have savings invested in mutual benefit societies, in banks and securities, in land and in unimproved property.

The idea of circulating these figures is to show the Canadian and American wage plugs that the capitalist system is all right and that if anything is wrong, the wrong lies with the shiftless Canadian workers.

There are said to be three kinds of lies, lies, double distilled lies, and statistics.

Nine million investors in France seems a lot. Yet the tale of investors in Canada could be made as great in proportion if we only want to try.

There are many union men in Canada. These union men pay funds into the treasuries of their unions. Some of these funds are large. The union men own these funds which represent their "savings." Many unions have sick and death benefits. These are also "savings."

There are co-operative societies in Canada which own stores. The members of these societies have "invested their savings" in real estate.

Thousands of Canadians are paying twenty-five cents a week to the Canadian government in the new old age pension scheme. These are also "investors."

The people of Canada own millions of dollars of post-offices and canals and railway lines. The people of the separate provinces own millions of dollars in provincial buildings and public works. The people of the cities own millions of dollars in real estate, and municipal enterprises. These things belong to all the people. The people are the joint owners and therefore the joint "investors." Reck on these up and you will see how many investors there are in Canada.

When the report goes forth that there are nine million investors in France, we can be pretty sure that the impression sought to be conveyed is an erroneous one. There are the big financiers who have tens of millions of dollars. Then there are the small investors who have a few francs paid towards a burial fee. Both of these, according to a capitalist reckoner, will be reckoned as investors.

The multimillionaires takes millions in toll out of the people. The little investor is robbed of from a half to three quarters of what he produces. The small investor joins in the game of robbery and gets a few francs a year as rent, interest, or profit, in addition to his wages or earnings. He is robbed and gets back little.

The idea of the Canadian press in declaring that there are nine million investors in France is to convey the impression that there is an opportunity for every Canadian to rise under the present system of robbery. The desire is to blind the minds of the wage workers to the fact that they are robbed of the greater part of what they produce, and to set them to work to sweat and save in order to get back a little of what they are robbed of, instead of uniting to overthrow the capitalist system and to get all they earn.

As to the true conditions in France, Comrade Robert Hunter gave a few of them in a recent article. He described that world of workers who rise at five o'clock in the morning and patter in their wooden shoes to their daily tasks while the world of the boulevards is yet asleep.

There are over a million Socialist voters in France. The Premier Briand still claims to be a Socialist.

I remember the world of contrasts I saw in France in 1905. I remember the sight of a woman eating her dinner on a street car in Montpellier. She was a scrub woman evidently. In Montpellier the street car fare is two cents. That is why she rode instead of walked to her work for the afternoon. Her dinner consisted of a hunk of bread and a piece of cheese the size of a bean. She would take a big mouthful of bread and give a lick with her tongue at the cheese. I do not know what her wages were, but the wages of farm laborers were about seventy cents a day and the cost of living was far higher for food than it was in Canada. The waiter at one of the cafes told me that the pay of the waiters depended entirely on tips. The tips were pooled and each waiter got his share. He said

that his wages averaged forty cents a day. He got nothing from the proprietor of the cafe for serving the customers. The owner of the building in which this cafe was situated received six thousand dollars a year rent for the ground floor in which the cafe was situated. In Montpellier the people use candles mostly. The owner of the candlemaking establishment in Montpellier died a millionaire.

The French proletariat are passionate lovers of freedom. The French peasants are touched deeply with Socialism. The ancestors of the French workers went through the Revolution of 1789 that was stifled by Napoleon and the bourgeoisie. The desire for economic liberty is not dead among the laboring French.

## SOCIALISM

In an article in the Century Magazine for April, 1910, there is an article pretending to show why Socialism is impracticable. The wealth in the United States is given as follows:

Railways	\$16,617,544,827
Farm-lands	16,614,647,491
City lands	20,000,000,000
Manufacturing Capital	12,686,265,673
Bank capital & surplus	3,638,927,240
Telegraphs & Telephones	619,429,800

Total \$70,225,860,031

The writer of this article declares that Socialism is impracticable because the American government would have to pay \$70,000,000,000 and the interest on this sum would amount to over \$2,000,000,000. Socialism is impracticable, because \$2,000,000,000 a year in interest would break the American government and cause it to go into bankruptcy. The aim of Socialism is to abolish rent, interest and profit. The aim of Socialism is to invest the means of production in the collective ownership of the workers, and to give to each the full social value of his labor product. The Century Magazine is erroneous in considering that the aim of Socialism is to continue the payment of interest through the state machinery. Under Socialism the \$2,000,000,000 would not be paid.

Says W. L. Scott, President of the Children's Aid Society, Ottawa. "What are the parents rights compared to that of the children—the right to a fair chance? What chance has the daughter of a prostitute, or the son of a thief? Why should they, without their understanding and consent, be committed to a life of degradation?" While questions are being asked let us ask questions. Why should there be prostitutes? Why in this fair earth that can produce in abundance the means of life, should there be women condemned to sell their bodies to obtain food, clothing, and shelter? Why should there be thieves who are forced to break the laws in order to live? Why cannot men co-operate to furnish to all the necessities of life? Are men so frightened of Socialism that they live like competitive brutes and force women to harp and men to crime in order that the Socialist system may not be introduced?

A seventy-five million dollar street light and power merger is now being arranged in Montreal. Rodolphe Forget, M.P., is in the thick of it. There will be a merger of the present companies. Much water will be added to the already watered stock of the companies. Then Rodolphe will tote a bunch of bayonet stickers over to Paris as an advertisement of himself, get the French plutes interested in himself and his schemes, unload the watered stock on the Frenchmen, then use his position as Member of Parliament to prevent any reduction in charges for a light, heat, power and traffic services because of the French "innocent investors." Is not Roddy's scheme plain as the nose on your face? But the Socialists are abroad in Canada with an increasing demand for the abolition of all rent, interest and profit.

Of seven thousand children cared for by the Children's Aid Society of Ontario during the past sixteen years, ninety-eight per cent have turned out well. This shows that conditions form character and that the Socialist contention that the necessities of life should be made for use and not for profit would be of immense advantage to humanity if carried into practice.

## DECOUX ACQUITTED COMPANY CENSURED

The following verdict was rendered on Friday, September 9th, at Macleod, Alta., in the Decoux case:

We find the prisoner not guilty. We recommend as a rider to our verdict that the attention of the Alberta Government be called to this case, and that it be requested to take immediate steps to have proper inspection made frequently and efficiently, as the evidence in this case shows gross carelessness by the mine management in matters pertaining to the safety of the lives of the workmen; and we recommend that properly certified and capable men be in charge and on the ground during all the working hours.

The authorities who were doing the bidding of the capitalist masters were not at all pleased at the wide publicity given to this worker's imprisonment and treatment.

The prosecution absolutely refused bail. Why bail should have been refused is not known. Here is a man declared innocent who has been locked up in jail for over a month in a dirty cell among bed bugs. He was innocent. Yet he was snatched from his home and denied his liberty. He was perfectly willing to give bail so that he might be at liberty. But the authorities said no, and an innocent worker was kept locked up in jail at the bidding of the plunderers of labor.

When are you workers going to waken up? You are wakening. But you wake, oh so slowly. You wakened sufficiently to make the henchmen of the master class weaken in the Decoux case. Their intention was at first to keep this worker locked up until the regular criminal term, months away. They heeded the voice of protesting labor sufficiently to hasten the trial which allowed Decoux to go free without blame, and which brought censure to the exploiting company.

When labor thoroughly awakes the plunderers will be abolished as such and converted into useful workers.

Galveston has a Board of Control. Montreal has a Board of Control. This is a system of Government which has recently been introduced by the capitalist class to protect their profits. When Galveston was swept by the tidal wave in 1900 the price of city bonds fell to sixty cents on the dollar. The squeeze of the capitalist class was threatened with destruction. So the business men seized hold of the city, established a Board of Control, cut down the wage bills, reduced the expenditure, and brought about many economies in the management of the city in order that the city bonds and the interest thereon might be paid. The Galveston Board of Control was a move to protect the unearned interests of the labor skimmers. In Montreal a Board of Control has been established. The debt of Montreal per capita is one of the heaviest on the continent. On this debt according to the capitalist ethics, interest must be paid. One million two hundred dollars each year are paid over to the capitalist labor skimmers as interest on the municipal debt. To pay this takes a lot of scheming. The old politicians were running things in such a manner as to endanger the payment of this huge sum each year to those who do nothing to earn it. So a Board of Control was instituted. The Quebec government changed the form of city administration so as to concentrate power in the hands of four Controllers and a Mayor. These get ten thousand dollars a year each for their services. They must work to earn their money. They must manage the city finances as to pay one million two hundred thousand dollars each year to the idlers. Their fifty thousand dollars salaries do not come out of this sum. It is tacked on to the people to pay. The above is the reason why the Board of Control was established. But Socialism will do away with rent, interest and profit. The one million two hundred thousand dollars under Socialism will not be paid. That sum will be added to the incomes of the useful workers, or spent in maintaining the aged and infirm. Socialism stands for skinning the many for the benefit of the few.

Socialism will restore the machinery of production to the class that built it, the laboring class.

"If we wish to empty our prisons we must stop the criminal stream at its source," says W. L. Scott, President of the Children's Aid Society, Ottawa. Correct. Let us abolish the capitalist system.

According to the census statistics the average value of the occupied farm lands of Canada for each occupier is \$5,000. Say Mr. Farmer, are you worth \$5,000 clear? That is what the census says you should have.

According to reports in the plute press the Trades and Labor Congress at Port Arthur declared against going into politics as an independent party. Now if those pesky Socialists could only be kept quiet the labor thieves would settle down to skin the workers in peace.

The Edison storage battery will work a revolution in the means of transportation. The propulsion charges are a cent a mile. This will displace the horse to a great extent and do away with many tasks which now absorb the labor of wage slaves. The revolution in the means of production is making the profit system unworkable.

The coal areas belonging to the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company in Cape Breton contain 2,556,900,000 tons of coal. Socialism says that this coal should be mined by the workers for the workers. Capitalism says that this coal shall be mined by the workers for the benefit of the labor skimmers. Which sounds the most reasonable and most pleasant to you, Mr. Worker?

The Dominion Parliament is expected to assemble on Thursday, November the 11th. The political henchmen of the labor thieves, both Grit and Tory, will gather and give to the exploiters whatever happens to be lying around loose, which the exploiters want. The only hope for the workers to ever get what is coming to them is the election of revolutionary Socialists pledged to put the labor skimmers out of business.

In the last Wilshire's Magazine is an article, "Can Capitalism come back?" The prosperity that was to return so shortly has not materialized. According to Wilshire it will never return as long as the profit system is maintained. For the means of production have become so multiplied and capacious that it is no longer possible to sell all the people to work at wage slavery and hold the goods produced for sale at a profit.

There have been twenty-two persons killed by the street railway of Montreal this year. The coroner's jury in every case has declared that the railway company is blameless. According to Quebec law the coroner's jury is chosen by the court officials from persons who happen to be standing around in the crowd at the hour set for the inquest. There is a shrewd suspicion that the persons picked on the juries to decide these deaths are paid detectives in the employ of the street railway company. Twenty-two murders committed without blame being attached to the company responsible is what we can expect under this system of robbery, where the legislatures, laws and courts are run in the interests of profit against humanity.

There has been a scandal in the government printing bureau at Ottawa. A million dollars have been stolen in fraudulent contracts. We hear little of this scandal in the daily press. The reason is simple. Laurier and the Liberal government stand for graft. They are the henchmen of those who live by the labor of others. The Canadian government is run to make the tasks of the workers heavier that the profit lords may have more millions to revel in. The million dollars stolen from the printing bureau is a mere incident. Those who got the graft merely neglected to have their graft legalized by an Act of Parliament. We cannot expect the plute press to raise a howl against those who stand in with the government to rob the useful workers, when they neglect such a little thing as to have their thefts legalized.



## State Owned Railways in Belgium

By Robert Hunter.

It is perhaps well known to most Americans that the railway system of Belgium is owned and worked by the state.

It is a well conducted, admirably administered system of transportation, and in many ways a model of what a railway system should be.

One sees frequently in our newspaper advertisements of the state railways of Belgium for the purpose of inducing American tourists to travel in comfort and safety through that country.

Fares on the Belgian railway are remarkably low, and for those who buy yearly tickets the price of travel is almost nothing.

For instance, one can travel thirty-one miles a day back and forth, six days a week, for about 40 cents.

Now this remarkably cheap transportation has had its effect on the condition of the Belgian working class.

About one hundred thousand working men travel daily on these state railways, between their tiny fields and houses and their city workshops.

Early in the morning one sees long trains starting from the rural districts in all parts of Belgium to carry the workers into the large towns to work. And from dusk well into the night one sees train after train returning from town to deposit the workmen again near their country homes.

There are cases where workmen go morning and evening as much as thirty miles to work.

The cost is so slight that it means little or nothing for a workman to live at one end of Belgium, and to work from day to day at the other end of Belgium.

Now, curiously enough, these state owned railways are of enormous advantage to the capitalists of Belgium.

Whatever the benefits to the workers may be of cheap transportation, the benefit to the capitalists is far greater.

Cheap transportation enables workmen to move easily from one place to another, and it, therefore, vastly increases the area from which the supply of workers can be drawn.

It not only enables the workers at the extreme ends of a town to compete with each other, it brings into the field of competition all the workers in the outlying districts and even from all the neighboring towns twenty to thirty miles distant.

The wages of the working class in Belgium are very low, and perhaps the chief reason for these low wages is the fact that the workers owning their own little homes are brought into competition with the town workmen.

In the country districts the wife and children raise vegetables, chickens and eggs. And when there is a cow and no rent, or very little rent, the man of the family can accept extremely low wages.

And what is the result? Almost every factory in Belgium has an available labor supply that includes practically the entire working class of Belgium.

Nearly every worker in that country can reach any factory in that country and return to his home the same night, and he can do it at practically no cost.

And the result is enormously beneficial to capital. Labor can be quickly distributed to the points where it is most needed.

The entire reserve army of labor, the unemployed, can be drawn at a day's notice to any point where capital needs its services.

The benefits to capital of cheap transportation are enormous. The benefits to labor are questionable.

Certainly there is an advantage in being able to live in the country, but it means a long day.

To own one's own house and fields gives some security against unemployment. Besides the wife and children have field work; instead of factory work.

But the town workers must suffer. Their wages are lowered by the competition of the rural workers, and their wives and children must toil to eke out a living.

And there is another disadvantage, and that is the great difficulty there is in organizing workers who live so widely apart and must rush for trains as soon as the day's work is done.

And the fact is, that the state owned railways of Belgium with their cheap transit explain in part at least why the wages of Belgium are the lowest in Europe and the trade unions are the weakest.

### THE HELPING HAND.

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 sheets of paper from letters on other matters.

Always give expiration number when renewing sub.

## THE CHAIN.

One summer evening an anglerworm stuck his head out of a hole in the ground to get a breath of air. He saw a workman sitting on the back stoop of a tumbledown house, and was seized with a desire to talk to him. The man's back was bent and his head hung down, so the anglerworm from his lowly position found it hard to attract his attention.

"What do you do for a living?" asked the anglerworm.

"I make shoes in a factory," answered the laborer.

"About how many pairs of shoes do you make in a day?"

"I make eight pairs."

"Then you get the money for eight pairs of shoes every day. You ought to be able to afford something better than this tumbledown shanty for a home."

"But I don't get eight pairs for my day's work. I only get one pair."

"Well, what becomes of the other seven pairs that you produce every day?"

"Well, a little of it goes to raw material and the rest of it goes for rent, interest and profit."

"What becomes of the rent, interest and profit?"

"It goes to the capitalist."

"Why to the capitalist?"

"So he can buy automobiles, own race horses, endow colleges, establish libraries and support the churches."

"Why don't you keep seven cents and do these things yourself?"

"Why, I'm too busy. I've got to make the shoes."

"I see," said the anglerworm and slipped back into the ground.—Puck.

## MR. DOOLEY ON

### CAPITAL AND LABOR

"It was different when I was a young man, Hinmissy. In them days capital an' labor was friendly, or labor was. Capital was like a father to labor, givin' it's board and lodgin's. Nayther interferred with th' other. Capital went on capitalizin' an' labor went on laborin'."

In them golden days a wurrukin' man was an honest artizan. That's what he was proud to be called. Th' week before illition he had his pitcher in the funny papers. He wore a square paper cap an' a leather apron, an' had his ar-rm ar-round capital—a rosy binivolt of guy with a plug hat and eye-glasses. They were goin' to the polls together to vote for simple ol' capital. Capital an' labor walked ar-rm ar-rm instead of havin' both hands free as at prisint. Capital was content to be capital, an' labor was used to bein' labor. Capital comes ar-round an' felt the ar-rm iv labor want in a while an' ivry year Mrs. Capital called on Mrs. Labor an' congratulated her on her score. Th' pride iv ivry artizan was to wurruk as long as his task as th' boss could afford to pay th' gas bill. In return fr' his fidelity he got a turkey ivry year. At Christmas time, Capital gathered his happy family around him, an' in th' prinsine iv th' ladies in th' neighbourhood give him a short oration. "Me brave la-ads," says he, "we've had a good year. (Cheers.) I have made a million dollars. (Sensation.) I attribute this to me superiour skill, aided by ye'er earnest efforts at th' bench an' at th' forge. (Sobs.) Ye have done so well that we don't need so many iv ye as we did. (Loud and continous cheer- ing.) Those iv us who can do two men's wurruk will remain an' if possible, do four. Our other faithful sarvants can come back in the spring," he says, "if alive," he says. An' th' bold artysons tossed their pa-aper caps in th' air an' give three cheers fr' capital. They wurruked till ol' age crept on him, and thin retired to live on th' wish bones and kind wurruks they had accumulated.—The Western Wage Earner.

## CHILD LABOR LEGISLATION.

The workers should never oppose the prohibition of child labor or the enactment of compulsory school laws. It is to their interests that the labor market should be relieved from the cheap labor of children.

They have everything to gain and nothing to lose by such legislation. If the million and a half child workers in the United States were compelled to stay at school until they had been given an adequate education, then their places would have to be filled by older people, and the older people, freed of their competition, would be able to command considerably higher wages.

The abolition of child labor and the extension of the school age from 14 to 16 would prove economically advantageous to the working class. S. R.

## The Advance Collection

ADVANCE is the watchword of all workers for the coming Co-operative Commonwealth. Knowledge is Power. Every worker after knowledge should get this set of books, and make himself a power in the work of the nation. This Advance Collection follows up the Banner Collection, and after careful perusal the student of Socialism is in a position to take up the heavier works. The books in this list are too well known to need much comment. Every Scientific Socialist knows they are all right. There are no better published. Clear and logical in every particular.

1. Introduction to Socialism—Richardson. 50c
2. Socialism, Utopian and Scientific. 50c
3. Science and Socialism—LaFontaine. 50c
4. The Evolution of the Class Struggle. 50c
5. Communist Manifesto—Marx and Engels. 50c
6. Wage Labor and Capital, Marx. 50c
7. Value, Price and Profit, Marx. 50c

Fifty Cents is the price for this excellent bunch of seven books. Two shiny plates of Fifty Cent Postal Note will take them from Cotton's Book Department. Be sure and list for the Advance Collection.

## WHAT SOCIALISTS WANT

We are constantly asked to explain the philosophy of Socialism in a few short simple words than can be read in a few minutes and easily understood.

This is impossible. Socialism is an elaborate system of thought that touches every phase of human life. It has a literature of ten thousands of volumes. There are men who have spent years of their lives on single phases of Socialist philosophy and still have not touched its depths.

The same thing is largely true of every great system of thought. None of them can be understood in a moment. There is no royal road to knowledge.

Yet there are certain fundamental principles of every philosophy and science that can be explained so that anyone can understand them. The same thing is true of Socialism. Its basic principles can be stated in plain simple words.

First let us state some plain facts. Indeed, nearly all there is to Socialism, as to science in general, is a system of arrangement of certain facts.

Men are working today with wonderfully productive machines. The user of the modern locomotive transports a thousand times as much each hour as the driver of an ox-team could move in a month. The child tending a battery of Northrup magazine looms weaves miles where the old hand-loom worker wove feet. The steam thrasher turns out ear loads of grain where the man with the flail threshed bushels.

This is the story that meets us everywhere.

With relation to these wonderful machines the members of society are divided into two classes—those who OWN and those who DO NOT OWN the machines.

The class that own the machines do not need to work. They may be, like the owners of the great Marshall Field estate, wards of a court. This may be insane, infants, in jail. This does not interfere with their ownership.

The class of owners does not need to do any work, yet its income flows in.

This is because of the existence of the other class—the class that DOES NOT OWN anything.

This non-owning class cannot live unless it can use the property of the owners. It cannot even set foot on the earth unless it uses the land that belongs to the owning class.

The non-owning class cannot live unless it produces wealth. In order to produce wealth it must use the land and machines of the owners.

For the opportunity to use the property of the possessing class long enough each day to produce a subsistence for itself, the propertyless class agrees to keep on producing wealth with these wonderfully productive machines all day.

The portion which the propertyless producing class creates for itself and is allowed to keep is called WAGES, and all the remainder flows into the pockets of the possessing class as PROFIT, INTEREST AND PROFITS.

In return for this the owning class do nothing but hang on to their legal titles to the property. This possession makes it possible for them to lay tribute upon the organizing, directing, managing labor as well as upon the most menial, unskilled manual toil.

The Socialists point out that since no function is performed by these owners, and since it requires neither brains nor ability of any kind to hold titles, therefore it would be easy for the workers collectively to hold these titles. The workers could just as well appoint the state as their agent to hold the titles as the capitalists can appoint banks, corporations and trust companies for that purpose.

Since it is only this private, legal title that prevents the propertyless working class from gaining access to the wonderfully productive machines, and using them to produce wealth for the producers, when once the title was transferred to the working class government, then all could use the tools and land and retain the product.

The present title is a law-made one. It can be unmade by changing the laws. Therefore the workers are asked to make use of their political power, their overwhelming majority to gain control of the government and use it to transfer the title of the means by which wealth is produced and distributed from the present idle owning class to the working propertyless class.

Unlike the present private ownership, the ownership to be established by the victorious Socialist working class will not be EXCLUSIVE but INCLUSIVE.

There will be none shut out from ownership. All will be owners and all will be users. THIS IS WHAT THE SOCIALIST PARTY IS SEEKING TO ACCOMPLISH.—Ex.

"Quality printing at economy prices" from Cotton's. Send for samples.

## JUSTICE.

(Written for Cotton's.)

He stood up there in the court room, Untaught, unwashed, unknown, Charged with the theft of some thing— He faced the world—alone!

The eyes of the court were on him; The "charge" was clearly read, "Joe Smith, you have been arrested For stealing a loaf of bread."

He stood there all in a tremble; He could not write nor read, "Guilty or not, speak louder, What do you wish to plead?"

He cleared his throat with an effort, He coughed, then looked around, But the words he wished to utter Could not as yet be found.

But hark! Back there in the court room, His eyes aflame with rage, "Rose one whose words defiant Will pass from age to age."

"Not guilty of theft, your Honour." Those were the words he said, "I speak for the hungry prisoner; He did not steal that bread."

"He sowed the seed in the Spring-time; He threshed in the glaring sun; He put the grain on the freight cars, And stayed till the work was done."

"The work in the field was over, The prisoner drew his pay, And took the train for the city, Three hundred miles away."

"He did not ride on the brake-beam, He did not hit the ties; He paid out half his savings, Because he'd heard our lies."

"We lied to him in the papers, Yes, I am guilty too, About the work in town here There was for him to do."

"I write for the Daily Howler— Yes, I am paid to lie— Of splendid jobs in the city For all who care to try."

"He came, his paltry savings, For which he'd worked so hard, Were soon paid out for lodgings And clothes, and for his board."

"Three thousand men were idle The day he came to town— All used to life in the cities, All in the cities grown."

"What chance had he, your Honour, Unlearned, untrained, untaught, 'Gainst all those struggling thousands Who with him daily fought?"

"He did not steal it, your Honour, He took what was his own, For how could bread be eaten Had not the wheat been grown?"

"He grew the wheat, as I told you, And when he drew his pay, We lured him into the city Like spiders with their prey."

"We roped him 'round in a hurry, We robbed him left and right, And there we left him, standing Against the world to fight."

"Not guilty of theft, your Honour, Blame him all ye who can— But I shake the hand of a brother, A man who is a MAN."

He stepped right up to the prisoner And grabbed him by the hand— "Fell dead; and passed out yonder Into the unknown land."

The doctor was quickly summoned, He took the judge apart, And whispered about the reporters, Excitement, and the heart."

The eyes of those in the court room, Though they'd been dry for years, Were moist when they heard the verdict, Moist, with indignant tears.

"I took the loaf," said the lone one, With haggard look and pale, And the judge with frowning visage, Said, "Guilty, six months in jail."

## THE UNKNOWN, B. C.

DON'T WAKE 'EM UP.

What did you tell that man just now?

I told him to hurry.

What right have you to tell him to hurry?

I pay him to hurry.

What do you pay him?

Five shillings a day.

Where do you get the money to pay him with?

I sell bricks.

Who makes the bricks?

He does.

How many bricks does he make?

Twenty-four men can make 24,000 bricks a day.

How much do bricks sell for?

Seventeen shillings and sixpence a thousand.

You give him five shillings and keep the rest?

Sure!

Then instead of you paying him, he really pays you twelve shillings and sixpence a day for standing around and telling him to hurry?

Well, but I own the machinery.

How did you get the machinery?

Sold bricks and bought it.

Who made those bricks?

Shut up; you'll wake the fools up and then they'll make bricks for themselves.—Machinists' Monthly Journal.

## SUB PRICE OF COTTON'S

Canada and England.  
Six Months, 26 copies ..... 25c  
Six Months, clubs of 5 ..... 1.00  
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

Quality Printing at Economy Prices from Cotton's Job Printing Department. Drop a card for prices.

## THE FUTURE MERCHANT

You will notice much in the daily press of the country about the big dry goods store trust that is now beginning to absorb a great line of developed stores. Not only in the big cities, but it is beginning to venture into the smaller ones. That it will be able to absorb or destroy thousands of retail dealers, as has the United Cigar Stores company, you will admit, but it has more far-reaching effect. Like the other great trusts it will expand and its profits will grow and grow and grow and it will wipe out not only the individual stores, but it will destroy the values of billions of real estate.

In other words, it menaces far more than the retail dealer. When it drops down one of its stores in a town of ten or twenty thousand, there will be a fading away of the small stores. They cannot meet this gigantic competition. Then the buildings the smaller stores have been occupying and paying rent for will be tenanted.

Their owners will have left on their hands costly property that will produce no income—for who would dare try competing with the octopus when those long established had to fail? Men who think themselves solid and safe today will find themselves poor. If this condition could come in a day or a year it would cause a revolution—a physical one.

But it comes creeping, slowly, day by day, for years, just as other trusts gained their supremacy. It comes with smiles and glare and advertising. But it means the death of the smaller traders and the majority of property owners.

Thousands who think they are going to leave their families well provided will leave them with worthless buildings. In my travels over the country I can see that the new idea in great buildings is also destroying property values, not only of the smaller but of the greater buildings.

In the cities you can everywhere see that the centers of business have been shifted by the building of modern structures, and there will come a time when they will be over-built and then all of them will be depreciated.

As it is they are destroying the rental values of buildings that twenty years ago commanded astonishing rents. When the monopolies begin to weed out the small dealers, and it is noticeable even now, there will be a continually decreasing need for the hundreds of miles of stores, and the big corporations can buy cheap or can build for their own use.

The profits of the great industries must be re-invested in something, and what more profitable than the retail business; what is more tempting than to gain the advantage of doing away with the wastes and costs of a hundred merchants when combined in one great, systematic department store, owned by the various trust owners who produce the very things that are to be retailed? Already this great change is rapidly taking place. The keen observer sees it. Only the blind and stupid fail to read the sentence of the small dealers writ so large across the sky of commerce.

This result is inevitable under the present planless system of making and getting goods to the people. It can have no other ending. It is inherent in the very nature of private ownership of industries. It is not a question of whether it is desirable—it is inevitable.

It is the nature of monopoly. And the Socialist sees it and smiles. He knows the people will be ready to accept his philosophy, whether they will or no. And he alone is the one who will know when to let loose and get from under before he fails. The Socialist is the lucky cuss.—Appeal to Reason.

## 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.

Be careful, above all, in all your deliberations and resolutions, to maintain among the different factions of the party and among the more or less extreme of moderate tendencies the closest possible union, and to prevent all that can constitute even a suspicion of division. Naturally, this implies that it is necessary to commence by forgetting the divisions that have existed in the past. To divide you in order the better to oppress you, such is the tactics of your enemies. Flee divisions; avoid them; crush them in the egg; such ought to be your tactics, and to that end may your program remain the broadest possible, and your title remain general enough to shelter all who, in the Belgian proletariat, wish to work for the emancipation, intellectual and material, political and economic, of the mass of the disinherited.—CESAR DE PAEPE, Father of the Belgian Labor Party.

## 14 Books for \$1.00

Send to Cotton's Book Department for the Banner-Advance Box of Books. Fourteen splendid propaganda books, in which are included such well known books as Merrie England, What's So and What Isn't, Parable of the Water Tank, The Socialists, Communist Manifesto, Value, Price and Profit and other leaders. A big dollar's worth. Sent postpaid for \$1.00.

Our "Industrial Combination" is a winner. Ten books by Debs and others for a quarter postpaid.

## OVER THE TEN THOUSAND.

Over the ten thousand mark again. This time by the narrow margin of thirteen?

Is that thirteen an unlucky sign to Cotton that the Army is going to go to sleep again and let the circulation fall? Or is it an unlucky sign to capitalism that the army is going to break into a double quick trot, give forth a mighty ululation and put the sub mark over the twenty thousand?

If I know anything of the sub husters the thirteen sign is unlucky for the plutocracy.

Socialism only advances as two factors advance. The first factor is the revolution in the machinery of production and the concentration of the means of life in fewer and fewer hands. Laurier and his gang and the plutocrats will tend to this side of the advance of Socialism.

The second factor is the enthusiasm and energy of the army of revolting wage slaves and Socialists. The Socialist agitators and Cotton's army are tending to this phase of the advance of Socialism.

Comrade Socialists of the Grand Army of the Revolution, the next campaign is for a circulation of twenty thousand. Cotton's with twenty thousand will be four times as powerful as Cotton's with ten thousand.

Behind lies a weary march. Ahead loom the frowning bastions of privilege built on the broken bodies of women and children and the quivering flesh of wage slaves.

To the capturing and overthrow of these bastions marches the dauntless army of the revolution, swelling in numbers and enthusiasm and cruel indignation as the crimes of the capitalist system come plainer to the sight.

Let us encompass the fortress of capitalism from all sides. Let us call to our aid a vast army. Let us call the slaves to lift their heads from their tasks and unite with us in the overthrow of the domination of the master class.

Shall each one of the readers of Cotton's call one new wage slave to the ranks of the rebel army? Shall the army be doubled before a New Year dawns?

The fortress of capitalism must fall. Let us gather a mighty army for its attack.

## Circulation Statement

Following is the statement of circulation for the issue of September 15th.

	OFF	ON	TOTAL
Ontario	33	493	4045
British Columbia	56	44	137
Nova Scotia	57	45	106
Alberta	0	142	142
Prov. of Quebec	57	22	635
Saskatchewan	52	40	631
Manitoba	158	11	440
New Brunswick	0	3	314
Elsewhere	0	12	116
Yukon Territory	0	0	41
Prince Ed. Island	2	0	21
Newfoundland	0	0	5

Total ..... 415 812 10,013

## Gain for week 397

Total issue last week was 11,000.

All printing sent out from Cotton's Job Department bears the union label. If you are a user of printing, send for samples.







## THE WATERLOO COUNTY EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

**The Records of the Workers in the Slave Pens of Berlin are Kept Like those of Criminals in a Penal Institution.**

**KING AND THE ASSOCIATION.** Wm. Lyon Mackenzie King is the representative of the North Riding of the County of Waterloo in the Province of Ontario. He is Minister of Labor in the Laurier cabinet. Anyone who is a member of the Laurier cabinet is an enemy of labor. King has been given the Department of Labor to play with and to fool the workers. He cares nothing for labor save as it can be made more productive for the capitalist plunderers. The banded plunderers in his own county tell the tale of King's hostility to labor.

Waterloo County has a local Employers' Association. This Association has been formed for the direct purpose of getting cheap help, of preventing the organization of the workers, and of blacklisting the workers who will not accept without objection the conditions imposed by those who live on the unpaid labor of the workers.

The first object of the Association is to get a plentiful supply of labor in Berlin and Waterloo. When labor is scarce then the workers can stand out for higher prices for their labor power. When Berlin and Waterloo become crowded with wage slaves who must sell their labor power to live, then the competition for jobs will make the workers accept less wages. The Employers' Association is out to overstock the slave markets of the Riding.

In the Southampton Beacon, published in Bruce County, Ont., the Waterloo County labor skimmers have been running advertisements in the hope of luring the Bruce County young people to the slave pens of Waterloo. Cotton's has given former advertisements of these labor thieves. Here is the latest:

### REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD COME TO WATERLOO AND BERLIN.

#### Reason Number 4.

This is the age of the skilled mechanic. The factories of Waterloo and Berlin are the best schools in Canada for you, if you wish to learn a trade. Every worker, whether man or girl, will be paid enough to cover board, while learning. Write today for information, stating your age and what trade you wish to learn. All information given from this office is free.

The Employers' Association of Waterloo County, 59 King St. West, Berlin, Ont.

You see how the Employers work upon the noblest aspirations of the young? They know that there is pulsing within the youth of Canada the desire to succeed. They know that the future opens a glorious vista to the imagination of the young. So the employers play upon these noble aspirations to get wage slaves whose spirits they can break by the eternal grind of factory routine with never a chance to escape from laboring for the bare necessities of life.

In former advertisements the advice was given not to stay in a rut but to go to Berlin where the workers can benefit themselves. "If you want work, come to Berlin. Talk this over with your chums and write today for particulars as to wages, hours and price of board."

Does not this look generous and kind hearted? Here are employers willing to help young people to good positions, to give them a start in life? Bah. The employers want to get seab workers who will be dependent upon them for a wage to buy bread and who, through economic necessity, can be used to smash the spirit of solidarity among the older workers who have learned the wiles of their labor skimming masters.

### THE EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

Let us see the true nature of this Association. Let us see the spirit which actuates the members thereof. Let us look behind the glowing words with which these labor skimmers attract simple workers to their dens where the capitalists can live off the sweat of the exploited workers. We will see that the public professions of this banded gang of labor skimmers are totally at variance with the true objects for which they are united.

Article 2 of the Constitution of the Employers' Association of the County of Waterloo, as adopted February 15, 1910, reads as follows:

The objects of this Association are:

First-To protect its members in their rights to manage their respective businesses in such a lawful manner as they may deem proper.

Second-The adoption of a UNIFORM LEGITIMATE SYSTEM whereby members may ascertain

WHO IS, AND WHO IS NOT, WORTHY OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT.

Third-The investigation, and adjustment, by the proper officers or committees of the Association, of any question arising between members and the employees, when such question SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE ASSOCIATION FOR ADJUSTMENT.

Fourth-To endeavor to make it possible for any person to obtain employment WITHOUT BEING OBLIGED TO JOIN A LABOR ORGANIZATION and TO ENCOURAGE all such persons in their efforts to RESIST the compulsory methods of organized labor.

Fifth-To protect its members in such manner as may be deemed expedient against Legislative, Municipal AND OTHER POLITICAL ENCROACHMENTS.

These are the objects for which the Association is created, to run slave pens as it likes, to keep tabs on discontented slaves, to encourage scabbery and smash unionism, and to act politically in such manner as to keep the wage slaves in slavery to the master class. At the last election, King was returned to represent this constituency by acclamation. He was pleasing to the masters and was therefore unopposed. Had he really had the interests of the plundered workers of this country at heart he would have had a stiff fight for election.

The masters would have opposed his election bitterly. The Association has a special parliamentary committee composed of seven members. Evidently King looked good to this committee.

### LABOR REGISTRATION.

The Association maintains a labor registration bureau. You think, Mr. Workingman of Berlin and Waterloo, that you can come and go as you please. You think that you can leave the employ of one employer and be taken into the employ of another. You think, young lad, as you answer the advertisements of these labor thieves, that you are going where freedom exists and that competition among the masters will give you a fair shake. Make no mistake. The Association sees to it that when you once sell yourself into wage slavery to a master, that master owns your services and you cannot sell yourself again to another master on more advantageous terms.

When an employer desires more help he sends to the Secretary of the Association, Leo McLaughlin, 59 King St. W., Berlin, a Help-Wanted card, stating the class of work, number of hands wanted, and rate of pay given. It is to have a plentiful supply of surplus labor handy, out of which to fill the demands of the employers instantly that the Association advertises to attract the young to Berlin.

When a workman is hired his employer must immediately send a report to the Secretary of the Association, giving the date, the firm's name, the full name of the workman hired, his address, trade department in which he works, age, nationality, whether married or single, where last employed, date of leaving last employment, wages earned there and the reason for leaving.

When the worker is discharged or leaves, the employer must immediately send a discharge report to the Secretary, giving the name of the firm, name of the workman discharged, date of discharge, trade of worker, department, and rate of pay.

On the discharge report form furnished to each employer by the Association is a series of numbered squares running from one to thirty. Beneath these squares is the line, "Mark (X) in square, indicating item to be reported."

These numbers are puzzling until you get the key which the employers keep secret and locked away from sight. The numbers represent the characteristics of the worker as explained in the following key.

1 Skill good. 2 Skill average. 3 Skill poor. 4 Production fast. 5 Production medium. 6 Production slow. 7 Interested, ambitious. 8 Careless, indifferent. 9 Obedient. 10 Disobedient, unreliable. 11 Diligent, energetic. 12 Indolent, wasteful. 13 Prompt, regular. 14 Not prompt, irregular. 15 Loyal faithful. 16 Discontented, unreasonable. 17 Agitator, trouble maker. 18 Untruthful. 19 Dishonest. 20 Intemperate. 21 Talks too much. 22 Laid off. 23 Discharged. 24 Left on own accord. 25 Wants higher pay. 26 Bad health. 27 Too young. 28 Not suitable for the class of work. 29 Left without notice. 30 Left the city.

The masters can have their organizations. The unions of the workers must be fought. The agitator is marked out and not wanted. Those who accept slave conditions and work hard that the masters may get much unearned wealth are the ones who are kept and speeded up. The record of each slave is kept on file like the records of criminals in a penal institution.

What is the remedy? There is only one remedy. That is Socialism. As long as the workers of Berlin are content to let the capitalist class own the machinery of production and therefore the jobs of the workers, just so long the masters can enforce slave conditions. The remedy is to take away the mills and workshops from their present owners, the members of the Employers' Association, and vest the titles thereof in the collective working class. Then the slaves of Berlin will become free. Then they will produce for themselves and will not be robbed.

The master class will object to being deprived of their present powers of living off the unpaid labor of the wage slaves. Mackenzie King will fight such a move. For he is an applier of the profit system, hand and glove with that traitor to the liberties of the workers, Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Mackenzie King must be broken politically and a revolutionary Socialist elected in his place.

The profit system must go. The mills and workshops must be restored to the possession of the class that built them, the working class. The parasite owners must be turned out of their parasite positions.

Workers of Berlin, you see the conditions under which you work? Are you willing to vote yourselves into control of the legislative means by which you can end forever the days of your slavery?

### The People Who Make and the People Who Take

By Ed. Moore.

Wealth, as everyone can see, is made by the labor of the working people.

No one goes to a court room to buy shoes, for even the ignorant know that judges, lawyers, court clerks, epiers and tipstaves do not work making shoes in the courts.

Farmers, while they "respectfully petition" Parliament and Legislature for laws to curb the greed of corporations, never go to these places to buy farm machinery or fertilizers.

Working people, whether organized or not, never go to army posts or naval stations to purchase household furniture and groceries.

But the judges and court officials, senators and legislators, soldiers and sailors wear shoes, eat what the farmers grow, and use household furniture and groceries.

You do not have to be a giant thinker to see, that if people use things that they did not make, they had to get them from those who did make them. And as senators and legislators, judges and lawyers, soldiers and sailors do not make wealth they must give what was made by others for what they get.

Only ignorant or foolish people will give wealth that they produce by labor to non-producers, and those who divide up with government officials are neither ignorant or foolish. But they do not produce wealth. They hire, for wages, working people to produce it. And they use Parliament, Legislatures, judges, lawyers, soldiers and sailors to force working people to make wealth for wages.

Parliament and the Legislatures make the regulations which give the ownership of the wealth made by poor people hired for wages, to the rich, people, and out of this wealth they pay taxes. Out of the taxes Parliament, Legislatures, courts, army, navy, and the state militia are supported.

Sometimes the working people get dissatisfied with the little bit of wealth, they get for producing it, and they refuse to work. Then the class character of the government shows itself. Police drive the strikers away from the neighborhood of the boss's shop. Judges issue injunctions forbidding the strikers to tell what made them strike, and the militia charge open air meetings and chase away those assembled there with the points of their bayonets.

For keeping the working people afraid, and to make them agree to work for wages, the rich people pay high salaries and bribe the big government officers. They have no more respect for the common soldiers and sailors than they have for the people they hire for wages, for they know the army and navy is recruited from the down-and-outs.

It would be a bad thing for those who take wealth if the makers of it knew they were being robbed. This knowledge would make the common soldiers and sailors unreliable and if they were unwilling to murder wealth-makers who objected to being robbed by law, the power to oppress and enslave, now held by the rich, would end.

It pays the rich to give some of the wealth they take from those who make for wages, to buy teachers and public speakers magazine and newspaper writers to tell working people that they cannot get along unless they keep a lot of idle wealthy people.

The most valuable hirelings of the rich are those who have the confidence of the organized workers, and, trading on this confidence, persuade them that it would be wrong for them to own the "fruits of their own labor"; that it is far better for them to pay business agents to arrange with the rich not to take too much of the wealth from the poor who produce it. Producers of wealth are the only kind of people that we must have. It is their labor that provides for the rich and the poor, the educated and the ignorant. And as long as the producers must work to give others time to get an education, they will only get a limited chance to get an education for themselves.

Political power is what puts the forces of government in the hands of the wealth-takers. It gives them ownership of wealth they did not make, and which, by legal means, they take from those who do make it.

They took this wealth before there was any labor legislation because they bought for wages the labor power of the workers. They take more wealth now—from those they hire for wages in the states of the United States where they have the best "labor laws." If you doubt this, compare Pennsylvania with South Carolina.

It is unwise for wealth-producers, whose limbs and lives are in constant danger while at work, to trust the movement to take the political power to those, who, whether they know it or not, are influenced by their association with wealth-takers, and are more concerned not to shock them than to put an end to the robbery of the makers of wealth. Reforms will give the lawyers work, but they will not take the titles away from those who pay wages to get profits out of the labor of the workers.

Wealth is made by labor. Ownership is made by law.

Wealth-producers must, therefore, take the law-making machinery—the government—into their own hands to vest the ownership of the wealth they make in themselves. Until they do this the government, now run by non-producers for non-producers, will use all its powers to make them keep the non-producers.

### THE WORKMEN'S LIBERTY.

"Fellow worker, they tell us all men are free. Are you yourself free?"

"I am sure that I am free!" "Let us think a little; who grants you the right to work?"

"The employer."

"Who fixes your wage?"

"The employer."

"Who sells the produce of your toil, and pockets the profits?"

"The employer."

"Who grants you or refuses you a day of rest?"

"The employer."

"So, then, to have no right to the produce of your labor, to submit to the will of your employer from morning to night, to be unable to eat, yourself, your wife and children, without the permission of your employer, is what you call being free. What fine liberty you have! Let us continue. Who has the liberty to enrich himself by making the worker, with his wife and children, also toil?"

"The employer."

"Who has the liberty to impose upon the worker that kind of work that will bring him the largest profits?"

"The employer."

"Who has the liberty to show the worker the door when he no longer needs him?"

"The employer."

"Who has the liberty to send the old workers to die of hunger in the gutters, who, in their prime, built up his fortune?"

"The employer."

"Who has the liberty to starve the workers by locking them out when they ask for an increase in their wages?"

"The employer."

"Who has the liberty to use the police, the soldiers, and the judges to subdue the strikers he has driven from his workshops?"

"The employer."

"Friend, our civilization has given all the liberties to the employer and slavery to the workman."

—Adapted from the French of Paul Lafargue.—Australian Worker.

Socialists are blamed because it is said that Socialism will break up the home by taking the children away from the parents and putting them in state institutions. Nothing of the kind. Socialism will give children good homes by giving them parents the full value of what they earn. At present the working parents are robbed, and the children of workmen and women are robbed of good homes that the capitalist class may riot on the proceeds of the legalized robbery.

If you like to be robbed of fourths of what you produce, Mr. Worker, keep right on voting for the capitalist politicians and capitalist domination. The capitalists will be only too glad to accommodate you.

## WHO GETS the BIG HAUL

**Grain Growers Unite! You have Nothing to Lose but your troubles. You have a world of Knowledge, Power and Happiness to Gain.**

A few months ago I stepped into a small store in the little town of Yeomans located on the new line of the C. P. R., going west from Weyburn, Saskatchewan. I purchased a quart of flaxseed oil and was waiting for the clerk to wrap up some other articles, when a travelling salesman, with a view of doing a little plugging for his patron, stepped up and asked me, "How much do you pay for that oil?" I answered, "Thirty-five cents." "Well!" said he, "you are lucky to get it for that." "Why?" I asked. "Why," said he, "in most towns along this line they are selling the same oil for forty and forty-five cents. And in many cases won't sell more than a gallon at a time." "Well," said I, "at that rate some one must be getting fat. Now, who is getting the big haul?" I asked.

The answer came quick and short from the owner of the store, "The farmer." "How is that?" says I. "Please explain." "Look at the price you are getting for flax," was the answer. Here the travelling salesman, chipped in again and attempted to show that flax was selling at a higher price today than a year ago; and said that the price of oil was practically the same. He looked at me in a way as if that settled the whole thing.

"But," said I, "old man, that doesn't mean anything to me; you will have to go a little deeper. Can you tell me how many gallons of oil come from a bushel of flax?" "No, I can't," was the answer. "Then how do you know who is getting the big haul?" No answer.

I went on to say: "The price of flax today has nothing whatever to do with the present price of oil, for the simple reason that the flax the farmer is selling today at \$1.50 or \$1.75 per bushel will be for sale in the shape of oil one or two or three years later, and at that time the price of oil may be two or three times what it is now, for all you or I know."

I was beginning to warm up a little and talk loud and fast. "Now," says I, "let me tell you who gets the big haul. It's the manufacturer." "How do you know?" I was asked. "By the amount of their wealth and size of their bank accounts," I answered.

"Now, look here," I says, "I know when I am paying a high price for an article as well as any other man. But I never ask you to cut prices for me or anyone else. I go out among farmers and hear them kick and howl and whine about high prices and tell how the town men are robbing them and getting rich off the labor of the farmers. I come to town and hear you business men telling how prosperous the farmers are, how much this farmer and that farmer had two or three years ago and how much they are worth today. You claim that the farmer is living off the fat of the land and getting more than his share. You say he gets the big haul. As a matter of fact, you are both wrong. The thing for the farmers, retailers and wage workers to do is to stop quarreling among themselves, and to get organized and lined up together and face and fight the capitalists to a standstill. It's the capitalists, the Standard Oil Trust, the lumber trust, the leather trust, can trust, wire trust, railroad magnates, sugar kings, clothing manufacturers, etc., that are robbing the people. It's the manufacturers who are getting the big haul."

"Yes, yes." At once there were three of a kind. We were all agreed that the manufacturer is the fellow that is skinning the rest of the people.

There is only one political party in existence that recognizes this fact. That party is sounding the bugle call continually in an effort to call together the farmers, wage workers and small business men to face, fight and overthrow, dethrone, end and abolish Old King Capital. That party is the Socialist Party. It already has a substantial foothold in the fair Dominion, with one member in the Alberta and two in the British Columbia Legislature.

### SELLING AT COST PRICES

A few weeks ago I was talking to a neighbor farmer about Socialism, telling him how, under a Socialist rule, he could go to town and buy his binders, his waggons, mowers, rakes, discs, seeders, coal, lumber, clothing, groceries, etc., at cost price, just what it costs to produce and transport the goods with all profit eliminated.

"Yes," said my friend, "but you see, then we would have to sell our

wheat at thirty-five or forty cents a bushel." "Not on your life, old man. There is no profit in wheat today. In fact, you are selling wheat under cost today at \$1.00 per bushel."

"How do you make that out?" was the next question. "Well, just this way," I answered. "Now we will suppose the Socialists are elected to power today. We look up the statistics and find that for every man employed at gainful occupations, there is an average annual production of wealth to the amount of nearly \$3,000. This means that at the present selling price of goods each worker produces about \$3,000. And since the object of Socialism is to end all profit and give to each worker the full value of the product of his toil, it follows that each will receive in the neighborhood of \$3,000 per year. Understand at this rate, you are paying the same prices for everything as today. Now, all the miners, the factory hands, railroad employees, and even the dirty lumber jacks and bush whackers, of which class I was a member from the age of 14 to 22 years, are getting a nice \$3,000 per year, each working for the public, paid by the public, according to the amount of services he renders to the public."

Now, we come to the public farm. Under Socialism, the public are going to decide all questions concerning the public welfare. And since they have decided to pay the average miner, clerk, factory hand, railroad man and woodsmen \$3,000 per year, it will be necessary for them to decide on a like amount for the farm hand. It is only fair that they should, since the services of the farm hand are as valuable to the public as the services of any other industrial worker. Think of the farm hand on our large, modern, well equipped farms getting \$3,000 per year. Now you can see that wheat cost quite likely \$3.00 per bushel. It would be necessary to raise the price of wheat to \$3.00 in order to pay express.

This would only be raising the price of wheat to a point where it would correspond with the price a farmer is today compelled to pay for his machinery and other necessities of life. And raising the pay of all wage workers to the same extent, will wipe out all profit and give every man the full value of his product. "But I don't want to work on a public farm," said my friend. "I want to run my own farm and be my own boss." "All right old man, I don't think any one will object. If the public doesn't, I won't. And I don't see as the public would have any reason to object since you would not be robbing anyone or taking a part of another's product or making profits out of your fellowmen by working on a little private farm. And at the same time, your wheat would be worth as much on the market as that raised on the public farm. Now what's the matter with Socialism?"

"Oh! hold on here now. Don't get gay. You can't make it work out so nice as all that. All your public officials will get in a grafting spell and start and plunder the whole country from start to finish."

"Is that so?" said I. "We are going to hold a good stiff line on all our public officials under Socialism and not allow them to run away with God's earth and the fullness thereof, the way they do today."

"How will you do it?" "Why, easy, easy, just like falling off a log. Initiative, referendum and recall."

"Oh, you are going to have that too, are you?" "Yes, sir. Democracy and more of it all the time."

"Well," said my friend, "I guess you and your Socialism are all right if you can get the majority to think the same as you do." "But you are just like a kid I used to know."

"How is that?" I asked. "Well, he was always crying for cake. If there was anything he liked better than cake, it was more cake. And you are always crying for democracy. If there is anything you like better than democracy, it's more democracy."

"Well," said I, "that's me from the word go." And I went.

Dear reader, I am only a poor farmer here in Southern Saskatchewan. But I have studied Socialism for three years and I believe it is coming fast. I believe it is a God-send to the people. Study Socialism, you will find it's a beautiful dream of the people that is going to come true as soon as the people wake up.

Please subscribe for a Socialist paper and by all means address: Cotton's Weekly, Cowansville, P. Q.

EDGAR N. CRANDELL, Clearfield, Sask.

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