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I call upon you, Honorable Rodolphe Lemieux, in the name of the freedom of the press, to rescind your recent fiat. Our fathers across the waters fought and died for the liberty of the press. Your own fellow countryman, Louis Joseph Papineau, fought and suffered for the liberty of political expression. The workers of Canada were ready to suffer what torture your capitalist masters could inflict in their struggle for the freedom to the Canadian mails of the Appeal to Reason. It is too late in the day, for you to endeavor to prevent the free circulation of a radical press by harsh, discriminatory and reactionary postal charges.

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Cowansville, P. Q.

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robbed of so much of the products of their toil that the capitalists of the United States hardly know how to invest their swag. Our Ottawa government members wildly wave their arms to attract the attention of the plunderers and yell, "Come on over here into Canada. The workers are dead easy chumps and pickings are fine."

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rousing the ire of the Bostonians by  
his history of the American Revolution.  
In this book he asserts that Ben Frank-  
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in tyranny and resulted in the capitalist  
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ers of their republic other than ordi-  
nary men with their eyes out on the main  
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Say. When are the men who run  
the railways and coal mines and fac-  
tories and do all the hard work, going  
to get mad and tell the parasite capi-  
lists to quit their job of idle consumers  
and get onto a job as productive work-  
ers?

What are the soldiers for? They are  
to keep the workers in subjection?  
What does Laurier want a navy for?  
He wants it to train Canadian workers  
to think in deeds of blood and without  
questioning to shoot to death their fel-  
low-workers when the time comes that  
the slave-drivers of Canada must main-  
tain their rule over the labor of their  
fellow men by arms and the shedding  
of blood.

NOTE THE RED ADDRESS  
LABEL on your Paper

If it is No. 78

Your subscription expires Next  
Issue. You should renew at least  
two weeks before your sub expires  
so that you will not miss any  
numbers.

H. A. WEBB, BUSINESS MANAGER

Total No. of Subs  
for Issue of Feb. 24

5,178

Total Edition  
Last Week 10,000

W. U. COTTON, Editor and Prop.

This is No. 77

COWANSVILLE, P. Q., CANADA, MARCH 3, 1910

Sub Price 50c a Year—25c for 6 months

# What Do You Think of Your Postmaster General?

## THE FOLLOWING LETTER

**And Accompanying Notarial Protest are now in the Hands of the Postmaster General. They Speak for Themselves.**

TO THE HON. RODOLPHE LEMIEUX:

POSTMASTER GENERAL OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA,  
OTTAWA, ONT.

Sir:

Your recent fiat ordering the postmaster at Cowansville to charge sixteen times the amount of postage formerly collected, on bundles of Cotton's Weekly ordered and paid for by the Socialists and workingmen of Canada, has been duly communicated to me. Sir, allow me to inform you that such a high-handed exercise of your functions as Postmaster General will not be allowed to go without protest by the great body of laboring men of Canada. These workingmen your government has handed over as wage-slaves to be mercilessly exploited by the capitalist plunderers of this fair Dominion. These workingmen your government is enslaving to the bondage of a military dictatorship in the time of labor struggle. At Fort William, at Glace Bay, your government has ordered out the troops to keep the workingmen of Canada in hard bondage to their masters.

I have protested through the columns of my paper against the capitalist government at Ottawa. I have raised my voice against the handing over of the natural resources of Canada, the mills, mines, forests, factories, elevators, and the government of Canada itself, to the men who live off the sweat and toil of the working classes of Canada.

The Canadian workers are grown restive. They are not submitting with good grace to the bondage your government is fastening on them. They are eagerly reading Cotton's Weekly. This you and your government like not.

You know that the one thing you and your government have to fear is an untrammelled Socialist press. Your government is well aware of this fact and not long ago, ordered that The Appeal to Reason should be excluded altogether from the Canadian mails. Your government felt that with the Appeal excluded you could work your will without let to the detriment of the working classes of Canada. But you did not reckon with the aroused spirit of the men whose free press you were suppressing. Letter after letter poured into Ottawa and your predecessor in office was forced to retire from the position he disgraced. This protest should have warned you that the working classes will fight for their press.

You, as an educated man, as a Postmaster General, are aware that the Socialists of the world are endeavoring to provide newspapers within the reach of the workingmen. You are well aware that the Socialists are endeavoring to provide cheap literature that the workers of the world may be brought to a realization of the robbery practised upon them by the capitalist class. This cheap literature you have set yourself to deny the workingmen by arbitrary manipulation of the postal rates. You dare not suppress Cotton's Weekly, but you are resolved to hamper it, and to hamper the workers who are endeavoring to spread the Socialist philosophy among their fellow men.

The price of Cotton's Weekly in bundle lots is fifty cents a hundred copies. There are many wage-slaves whom your government and the preceding governments have bound to the plundering capitalists of Canada. These are the toilers who are robbed by the owners of the Canadian Pacific Railway, by the contractors of the Grand Trunk Pacific, by the Dominion Steel Company, and by the other capitalist exploiting companies. These men are looking to the light. These men are struggling towards economic liberty. These men are looking to the day when the power of the plundering capitalists, your government so sedulously protects, shall be broken.

These men, out of their scanty wages, flung them by their capitalist masters as a pittance for their living, send their half dollars and their dollars, for a hundred or two hundred copies of Cotton's Weekly with which to waken their fellow workers. I make the price low because I am dealing with those who are robbed, not with the capitalists who rob.

You, Honorable Rodolphe Lemieux, are resolved the workers shall not be allowed to waken their fellow workers if you can prevent it by excessive postal charges. You are resolved to make the workers pay dear for their literature. Listen.

You will deliver one hundred copies of Cotton's Weekly to one hundred different addresses for one cent. The law is plain and you must perforce obey. You will deliver one hundred and twenty copies of Cotton's Weekly to a regular newsdealer for one cent. The law is plain and you must perforce obey.

But when a workingman in the city drains, a coal-miner, black from the profit pits of the capitalists, a pittance-paid track-hand of the C. P. R. slave-system, wants a bundle of one hundred copies of Cotton's Weekly, you say, "Hold, pay me from your scanty wages, sixteen cents by postage stamps affixed, or you cannot have your papers." You charge the workingmen fifteen times what you charge the Montreal News Company. You stand at the gateway of economic knowledge and forbid the worker to enter unless he pays your department an excessive toll. YOUR ANIMUS AGAINST THE WORKING CLASS IS SHOWN AND PROVEN WHEN YOU CHARGE HIM A POSTAL RATE ONE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED PER CENT GREATER THAN THE TOLL YOU CHARGE THE PROFIT-HUNTING NEWS COMPANIES.

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(Concluded on page 2.)

## WHAT ABOUT IT, LEMIEUX?

On January 17th, 1910, a question was raised in the House of Commons which is of great interest to the Socialists of Canada, for behind the question asked and the answer given is a story of the cry of Patriotism used for the suppression of the circulation of the Appeal to Reason in Canada. It is a story of a Canadian minister of the crown smarting under the lash of the indignation of Canadian public opinion, using the cry of patriotism in an attempt to do indirectly what the people of Canada had declared with no uncertain voice, that he could not do directly.

On the seventeenth day of January, 1910, Clarence Jameson, Esq., M. P. for Digby, N. S., asked the Postmaster General the Honorable Rodolphe Lemieux, the following questions.

1. Upon what class of newspapers or publications mailed out to the United States of America is postage charged and not charged, respectively?

2. What number of newspapers, if any, mailed out to the United States of America is exempted from paying postage, and upon what number is postage charged?

3. When was postage first charged on newspapers going to the United States of America?

4. What discrimination has since been made, if any, as to the class to be charged, when did it become operative, and why was it made?

5. What amount has been paid yearly as postage on daily newspapers and other than daily newspapers respectively?

6. What reduction in circulation in the United States of America of the class on which postage is charged, has followed the imposition of such postage?

To these questions the Hon. R. Lemieux answered as follows

1. and 2. Postage is charged on all classes of newspapers and periodicals addressed to the United States.

3. In the year 1783.

4. No discrimination.

5. No separate account of postage collected on papers addressed to the United States is kept at the Post Office Department. The rates applicable to such papers being the same as those charged on some other classes of mail matter, it would be impossible to make any separation at this date.

6. This department has no statistics relative to the matter for the reasons given in answer to No. 5.

Mr. Jameson in the above question desired to find out the discrimination against weekly papers and in favor of daily papers on all papers going to the United States. Owing to the nature of the question, Lemieux managed to wriggle out of a nasty position without being forced to utter the lie literal, but he practically uttered the lie direct.

Mr. Jameson asked upon what classes postage is charged and not charged. Lemieux declared that all classes are charged, but he neglected to state that the charge on weekly papers going to the United States is four hundred per cent higher than the postage charged on dailies. In some cases the discrimination against the weeklies amounts to two thousand per cent. The slippery Lemieux got on his feet and blandly told the House of Commons that there was no discrimination.

Question No. 4 is the really important question. Mr. Jameson wanted to know what discrimination was made, why it was made and when it became operative. Lemieux brushes the question aside by declaring there is no discrimination. Notwithstanding Lemieux's bald assertion, there is a serious discrimination and the story back of that discrimination is not one which adds dignity to the members of the Canadian Cabinet.

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it was not to be delivered to subscribers and rejoiced at the little despotic trick he had played. He was proud of his arbitrary exercise of power, until the storm broke, until an indignant Canadian people began to register their protest against a minister recreant to his trust, a destroyer of the freedom of the press for which our British forefathers fought and died. Letter after letter poured into Ottawa. The government trembled at the storm a reactionary minister had raised and the Postmaster General was ignominiously retired from a position of Postmaster General which he had attempted to run on arbitrary principles.

Thus endeth the first chapter of the history of the affair. Now enter the Honorable Rodolphe.

The Appeal to Reason could not be excluded from the mails because of Canada's indignation. And upon Lemieux developed the task of excluding the Appeal from the mails without excluding it. Now watch the cunning process of government Ministers who love darkness rather than light. Watch the conduct of the whole Cabinet in backing up a minister who desired that the Canadian people should not be allowed to have an opportunity of reading and finding out for themselves the principles of the new movements that are throbbing in the hearts of millions of human beings of the civilized countries of the world. It is a tale of reactionary ministers using the cry of patriotism to cover their schemes. Remember, the task was to exclude the Appeal to Reason.

Suddenly and without warning the government foisted upon the people the cry of imperial ideas. The government was going to exclude the American ideas by excluding American papers, and import British ideas by getting cheap postage from Great Britain. No American paper was to be admitted to Canada through the mails, save under a prohibitive charge. The rates from Great Britain were to be reduced. The scheme was put into operation against the U. S., much to the disgust of the Canadian public.

So far there was no discrimination. That was to come later. The American papers not being allowed into Canada, the Canadian papers were not allowed into America except under the same prohibitive charges. The Canadian weekly papers objected. To stop their objections, Lemieux increased the area of free distribution for weekly papers from twenty to forty miles from the place of publication. The Canadian government now charges nothing for distributing the country weeklies anywhere within the radius of forty miles from the place of publication. Lemieux bribed the local weeklies with a gift of free distribution. They took the bribe and ceased to protest. The big American weeklies simply shipped their copies into Canada by express and the prohibitive mail charges did not affect them. The big American weeklies came in just the same and as soon as the calm settled over the country, the government bribed the big dailies by reducing the charges on dailies going to or coming from the States from four hundred to two thousand per cent as compared with the charges on the weekly papers.

Lemieux rejoiced. The Appeal to Reason a cheap publication with a widely distributed subscription list, was forced to raise its Canadian subscription price from twenty-five cents a year to a dollar a year. Its subscription list under the old rate was twelve thousand in Canada and it was rapidly increasing when the mailing rate was increased to exclude it.

Its circulation thereupon began rapidly to sink till today its circulation in Canada is two thousand six hundred.

The Canadian government has hurt the power of the Appeal in Canada. The cry of Patriotism and imperial ideas was a mere blind in order that a cabinet minister might get his revenge on a Socialist weekly and that the Socialist idea might be excluded from Canada.

The American dailies come into Canada at a cheap postage rate. The American Weeklies and Monthlies flood the Canadian minds with

(Concluded on page 2.)

## NOTIFICATION AND PROTEST

**At the Request of Cotton's Weekly To and Vs. the Postmaster General of Canada.**

ON THIS twenty-fourth day of the month of February, in the year one thousand nine hundred and ten.

AT THE INSTANCE AND REQUEST OF WILLIAM ULRIC COTTON, of the Village of Cowansville, County of Missisquoi, District of Bedford, Province of Quebec, Canada, Advocate, Publisher and Editor; of "COTTON'S WEEKLY;" Hereinafter called "THE REQUERANT,"

I, Mtre. PERCY CLARE DU BOYCE, the undersigned notary Public for the Province of Quebec, residing and practising at the Village of Cowansville aforesaid,

DID PROCEED to the Post Office of said Village, being the particular place where said "COTTON'S WEEKLY" is delivered to the care of the Post Master General of the Dominion of Canada for the purposes of distribution through the mails to subscribers to said newspaper and to all other parties:

WHERE, Being and speaking to a grown person in charge of said Post Office, at the request aforesaid, I did declare that—

WHEREAS: It has been enacted by Parliament of said Dominion that the Postal Rates for news papers from the office of publication to recognized news-dealers and to bona fide subscribers be fixed at the bulk-rate of one fourth of one cent per pound, the same being for the transmission thereof through the mails of said Dominion;

WHEREAS it has been enacted by Parliament that the postal rates aforesaid upon all specimen copies to non-subscribers be fixed at the bulk rate per pound of one cent:

WHEREAS Parliament has left to the determination of the Post Master General the rates upon postage to be paid on copies other than specimen copies and copies to subscribers and news-dealers, the same to be paid by news-paper proprietors from office of publication:

WHEREAS the Socialists and working-men of Canada, order many special copies of "Cotton's Weekly" in bundle lots ranging from fifty copies upward, to be sent to them through the Canadian mails:

WHEREAS said Socialists and Workingmen pay for these copies in advance:

WHEREAS the Post Master General has given special instructions to the Post Mistress of Cowansville to levy and assess a postage-rate, on all such bundles, of four cents per pound, to be paid for by postage stamps affixed:

WHEREAS the Post Master General has given strict instructions that the said postage rate of four cents per pound shall be paid before the said bundles shall be accepted for transmission to the purchasers thereof:

WHEREAS the said rate of four cents per pound is three hundred per cent greater than the rate charged on specimen copies and one thousand five hundred per cent greater than the rate charged to recognized news-dealers:

WHEREAS the said rate is excessive has the effect of fostering a combine of news-dealers in Canada:

WHEREAS said excessive rate is made against the true intent and spirit of the Post Office Act of Canada:

WHEREAS the said order to the Post Mistress at Cowansville was issued with a view to hamper the Socialist press of Canada, to prevent the working-men of Canada from purchasing Socialist Literature for distribution at a price which said working-men can, at their present scale of wages, afford:

WHEREAS the said order was issued to stifle the spread of Radical thought in Canada;

WHEREAS the Post Office of Canada is intended to be for the use of all the people, at fair, just and impartial rates:

WHEREAS the Post Master General, by his present order, is acting in an unjust and discriminatory manner, is using his office for the suppression of Radical thought and is not acting as the servant of the People but as their Master and against their interests.

NOW THEREFORE, SPEAKING AS AFORESAID, and at the request aforesaid, I did, for the said Requirer, Protest in the interests of the great Canadian People and in the interest of a fair, impartial and untrammelled distribution of the mails that the Post Master General revoke the said order, imposed without justification, and against the true spirit and intent of the duties imposed upon the said Post Master General by Parliament of the Dominion of Canada:

And I did further notify and protest the said Post Master General to accept and deliver through the mails all copies from the office of publication of "Cotton's Weekly," at a reasonable and impartial rate and without postage-stamps affixed:

And, speaking as aforesaid and also at the request aforesaid, I did notify the said Post Master General that, unless he fulfilled the duties of his office according to the true and impartial intent thereof, the said Requirer would call upon the Representatives of the People in Parliament assembled to remove the said Post Master General from the office which he now holds.

THUS DONE AND PROTESTED at the said Village of Cowansville on the day firstly above written and remaining of record in the office of the undersigned Notary, under the number Nine hundred and seventy-eight.

And, in order that the said Post Master General may not plead ignorance in the premises, I have, this day, at the request aforesaid, served upon him an authentic copy of these presents, speaking as aforesaid.

(Signed) P. C. DU BOYCE, N. P.

A true copy of the original hereof remaining of record in my office.

Socialism means that the man who does his fair share of work to produce necessities of life shall have his fair share of the products of the social activity. At present the men who are the most useful get the least pay for their work.

James Henry Stark of Boston, is rousing the ire of the Bostonians by his history of the American Revolution. In this book he asserts that Ben Franklin was a thief and Samuel Adams a defaulter. American freedom was born in tyranny and resulted in the capitalist system. Under such conditions could the American people consider the founders of their republic other than ordinary men with their eyes out on the main chance?

What are the soldiers for? They are to keep the workers in subjection? What does Laurier want a navy for? He wants it to train Canadian workers to think in deeds of blood and without questioning to shoot to death their fellow-workers when the time comes that the slave-drivers of Canada must maintain their rule over the labor of their fellow men by arms and the shedding of blood.

Say. When are the men who run the railways and coal mines and factories and do all the hard work, going to get mad and tell the parasite capitalists to quit their job of idle consumers and get onto a job as productive workers?



## WHAT ABOUT IT, LEMIEUX?

(Concluded from page 1.)  
American ideas, ideas which the Liberal government declared with many patriotic utterances, that they were going to exclude. It is only the little Appeal against which the postal rates were rigged that is hit.

The Liberal government was going to exclude American ideas and import British ideas by cheap rates. The American idea, as expressed by capitalist controlled papers, still flood Canada. The cheap postal rates from Canada to England are not in evidence.

It was only the Appeal to Reason the Liberal government wanted to exclude. The Appeal to Reason had humbled the pride of a Laurier Minister and forced him to resign. The Appeal was showing the Canadian workers how the capitalists of our Dominion were robbing them. These two things the Laurier government found very bitter to swallow. So it sunk itself to use the sacred cry of Patriotism to restrain the freedom of the press. It sunk itself to aid and abet tyranny under the ostensible of fostering liberty as represented by the British flag.

When Clarence Jameson, in the House of Parliament, questions the present Postmaster General, the Postmaster General informs the House that there is no discrimination. And he calls himself an Honorable Minister of the Crown.

But the story is not done, J. A. Wayland, proprietor of the Appeal to Reason, in whose defence the people of Canada administered a merited rebuke to a Cabinet Minister, has been instrumental in making Cotton's Weekly a Socialist paper in Canada. The same influences that were at work to suppress the Appeal, are at work to crush Cotton's.

But I defy Lemieux, Laurier, and the Liberal Cabinet, to dare attempt to suppress the free expression of thought in Canada. I know that my ideas are not liked by the Laurier government. I am camping on the trail of their misdeeds. I am representing the new movements of thought. They do not like it. But it matters not what the Laurier Government likes or desires. My appeal is to the Canadian people and I rely upon the expression of that opinion, poured into Ottawa in an unmistakable manner to protect Cotton's Weekly from the attacks of the same faithless servants who endeavored to suppress that fighting organ of the new Socialist Movement the Appeal to Reason.

### ABSTINENCE

The capitalists do not get rich by their abstinence.

They get rich by the abstinence of the workers.

The apologists for capitalism make the absurd claim that the reason the capitalists have accumulated money is because they have abstained from buying things, while the poor have squandered their money.

But the truth is that the poor are the people who have abstained.

The workers have abstained from living in decent houses.

They have abstained from the use of modern conveniences.

They have abstained from wearing decent clothing.

They have abstained from eating choice foods.

They have abstained from buying books.

They have abstained from sending their children to the colleges and universities.

They have abstained from availing themselves of the broadening influences of travel.

They have abstained from practically everything that conduces to wide culture, and physical, mental, moral and spiritual growth.

In other words, they have abstained from practically everything that distinguishes men from beasts, and makes life worth living.

In the meantime, the capitalists have lived in luxury.

Formerly the slave was owned by the master and was fed and clothed by the master. The capitalist discovered a more profitable slavery and has applied it to Canada as elsewhere. By this modern slavery the slave is called free.

He is set to work in a slave-pen called a factory or a mine. His product is taken away from him and appropriated by his master, and the slave is given coins with which to go out and buy himself a shelter for the night and a few coarse victuals. Slavery abolished? Slavery is rampant today in Canada.

The capitalist is the slave-driver, the ownership of what the slaves produce is the means of enforcing that slavery, and hunger is the lash the slave-drivers use to herd the victims into the modern slave-pens of capitalism.

Mail your Protest to Ottawa, Liberty of the Press.

Watch for Next Issue.

## Your Reply to Lemieux

There is a Subscription Blank in this issue of COTTON'S. On that Blank write your reply to Lemieux's attempt to suppress Cotton's. If you are a friend of the paper which is bearing the Brunt, you will reply with a club of subscribers.

### AND MAR MARVELLED

A. G. McCallum.

And it came to pass in the time of Laurier, that Mars approaching close to planet Earth sent a noted investigator, by name one Mar, to Earth, who visited many cities.

And he saw great store houses filled even unto bursting with food, and little children dying of starvation.

And great clothing likewise did he see, and little children naked. Also were there great heaps of coal and wood, great storage of heat, and the people died from cold. And he marvelled greatly. And that he might tell Mars when he returned, he said unto man, "Lo, beside the bake shop the child dies of hunger, and beside clothes are the little ones naked. So is it that near the heat many die of cold. Wherefore all this? Is it because you work not?" And man spake and said,

"Behold all that you see was produced by me." And Mar, marvelling asked, "Then why hunger beside food?"

And man replied and said, "Because, thou one of little brains, I am not the owner thereof." And Mar marvelled and said, "How then, does Mother nature claim proprietorship over your products?" But man answered and said, "Not so. Know, thou foolish one, that someone owns these things."

And still Mar marvelled and said, "How then can someone own what thou hast produced?" And man answered saying, "Because, Thou knowest nothing; such is the law."

And Mar, still marvelling, said, "What manner of thing is this law, which says that thou, the producer, shall not partake of the toil?" And man answered him and said, "The law, thou ignorant one, are the rules drawn up for the welfare of the people."

And Mar marvelled and said, "Tell me, O wise one, who maketh the law?"

And man spake up and answered, "Know, thou King of Fools, that the laws are even made by the government, our members of Parliament." And still Mars was satisfied not and said, "Who then maketh the government, thy members of Parliament?"

"Why," said man, "of a verity thou art the Fools of Fools. Know then that we producers elect the members of Parliament who form the Government."

And Mar marvelled.

Sir Geo. E. Drummond, late Senator of the Dominion, has left a fortune of six million dollars. Sir Geo. Drummond did not earn this money. Through the laws passed by himself and others an opportunity was given him to exploit the labor of others. He hands on his fortune to his children, grown men who are strong and could do their share of the productive work of Canada. But they are not forced to work, because thousands of dollars roll in upon them, which the workers earn but do not get. Why should any sensible workingman vote for the continuance of this system is a question being asked by the sensible workingmen of the Dominion of Canada.

Canada must be stirred, stirred from Atlantic to Pacific. Canada must not be allowed to sleep while the whole comity of civilized nations are throbbing to new hopes, new aspirations, new blazings of the spirit of liberty. Canada must take her place with the civilized nations of the world. It will mean suffering and privation for the bold spirits who dare awaken her, for her citizens are asleep, and the robber barons plunder. Who will join the ranks for the emancipation of the working classes of Canada, and for the dawning of the joy of economic liberty in the heart of The Great North Queen?

The C. P. R. management is going to spend eight million dollars in the construction of new lines in the west. That the lines are to be built is good. Canada needs more railways. That the title to those new lines as well as of the old is to be vested in a lot of idle dividend receivers who will use them to dig more profit for themselves out of the workers, is bad. The Canadian workers should rise as one man and declare that they will no longer be content to work hard and suffer want that others may riot in luxury without performing any useful work.

The freight rates are lower. Surely, you say, this will benefit the workers. Does it? John Haggart, M. P. for the South Riding of Lanark, Ont., declared in the House of Commons, with regard to the I. C. R. freight rates. "The average is brought down by the rates on two or three commodities. Coal, lumber, shingles, and some other things—and the coal is principally carried out of the maritime provinces—are carried at a ridiculously low rate."

Are the workers benefited by those

## THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

The Intercolonial Railway is a question much discussed. Some of the capitalists want the railway taken out of the hands of the government, and other capitalists want the railway kept in the hands of the government.

There are capitalist papers who cry out for continued government ownership and there are other capitalist papers that cry out for private ownership.

A great discussion is raised and hardly one point is put in issue with regard to the railway from the point of view of the interest of the men who do the work of Canada, from the viewpoint of the men on whose toil the idle live in luxury. What of the Intercolonial Railway from the viewpoint of the Socialist?

On February first, George Graham, Minister of Canadian Railways and Canals, discussed the Intercolonial Railway before the House of Commons at some length.

From his report I gain the following facts. The average pay of the employees of the railways of Germany is \$252.82 per annum. Of Great Britain and Ireland, \$261.00. Of the United States, \$641.00. Of Canada, \$505.00, and of the Intercolonial Railway under government control, the average pay per employee per annum amounts to \$633.00.

The passenger rate on the I. C. R. was less than the passenger rate on the rest of the Canadian railways. The freight rate per ton mile was less than one-tenth the freight rate of the private railways of Canada. Although the wages paid were higher and the freight rates far lower than the private roads paid or charged, nevertheless the surplus from the government operation of the Intercolonial Railway amounted on Dec. 31st 1909, to \$662,388.61.

These are some of the facts we have to deal with in the question of the Intercolonial railway. What benefit does government ownership under capitalist control bring to the workingmen of the Dominion of Canada. Let us see. The capitalist-apologist, with the figures before him, would immediately exclaim that the workers are benefited. Yet there is very little benefit in government ownership for the workingmen when the capitalists control the government.

On the Intercolonial the wages of the employees average one hundred and twenty-eight dollars higher than the wage paid by the privately owned roads. Here, if any is the great advantage. But not too fast, the capitalist government has seen those one hundred and twenty-eight dollars and the fat has gone forth that the I. C. R. must be put "on a business basis."

Five hundred hands have been sacked. Six hundred more are going to be shipped. The I. C. R. has been put under a commission of business men who have orders to make the road pay big. Now when a commission takes over the railways with such instructions, the workers know what it means; it means less pay in the new envelope. The capitalist knows that he gets his profit by skinning his employees. The less he pays them for the work they do, the more money goes into his pocket. The newly appointed I. C. R. commission have orders to skin the workers and they are preparing to do the skinning. So the \$128.00 which the workers now get from the government road more than the workers on the private roads, is about to vanish.

The passenger rate is lower on the I. C. R. than on the private railways. Surely this benefits the workers. Does it? Who does the bulk of the travelling? Is it the workingman who is forced to stick at his job eight or ten hours a day, and is dog tired when the time comes for him to quit? Is it the workingman or his wife and children who get just enough money to buy food, clothing, and a place to shelter their heads? Do the workers do the travelling? No it is the capitalist, the man who sucks up unto himself the money that rightfully belongs to the men and women who work for him. It is the wife and children of the capitalist who use the money the capitalist gets from the workers to pay for the tickets. It is not the workingmen who profit so much as the capitalists.

The freight rates are lower. Surely, you say, this will benefit the workers. Does it? John Haggart, M. P. for the South Riding of Lanark, Ont., declared in the House of Commons, with regard to the I. C. R. freight rates. "The average is brought down by the rates on two or three commodities. Coal, lumber, shingles, and some other things—and the coal is principally carried out of the maritime provinces—are carried at a ridiculously low rate."

Are the workers benefited by those

## IN TWO WAYS

You can reply to Lemieux's attempt to crush Cotton's. Send a club of subscribers by return mail on the Blank enclosed and place a Bundle Order. Do Both.

cheap rates? Coal is carried at a ridiculously low rate. The railroads of Canada in 1909 consumed 6,831,108 tons of fuel, mostly coal. The railroads paid \$2.56 per ton for the coal they burned. The railroads made a profit last year of over forty million dollars. The cheap freight rates do not benefit the workers. They benefit the capitalists who take in profit all they can skin out of the workers. The Ottawa government is a capitalist government. Therefore the big fuel burning capitalists order that the government railroad carry their coal cheap for them.

Lumber is carried ridiculously cheap. Do the workingmen use lumber. Do the workingmen of Montreal own their own homes. Or do the capitalists own them? Are the prices paid for rented houses lower in Montreal because the government railroad carries lumber from the forests of New Brunswick to Montreal at a ridiculously low rate? Do the capitalist landlords sit down and say, "I am going to build some new houses to rent. The government is carrying lumber cheap. It does not cost me so much to build. I will therefore rent the houses lower than I otherwise would." Does the capitalists say that, or does he say, "I can build houses cheap because the government railways carry my lumber at ridiculously low rates. I can rent them dear because there are many workingmen and I own the land and houses. I will therefore build my cheap houses and make big profits." I need hardly ask a workingman of the Dominion of Canada which position the capitalist takes. He knows from experience that he has to pay high for the shack he lives in.

No. The cheap freight rates do not benefit the working classes. They benefit the capitalists who control parliament.

But then there is the surplus. Six hundred thousand dollars profit. "Surely," you say, "that will benefit the workingman by relieving him of taxes." Not at all. The more revenue the government of Canada gets the harder is the lot of the working classes. The working classes produce all the wealth. The capitalists take it all, sparing their wage-slaves only enough to feed, clothe and shelter themselves so that they can be strong enough to work on the morrow. These slaves revolt at times. They are revolting at Springhill, and at Glace Bay in Nova Scotia. The government at Ottawa is an instrument in the hands of the master class of Canada to keep the wage-slaves in subjection. For this purpose judges are appointed and courts established. For this purpose an army and a police force is maintained. The keeping in subjection of the workingmen of Canada is the chief function of the government. Government is expensive and revenue must be found. The six hundred thousand dollars surplus from the I. C. R. comes as a welcome fund to the capitalists to spend in the maintenance of a repressive government.

Government ownership of the means of production and distribution, with ownership of the government by the capitalists, does not benefit the working classes. The sooner the workers discover this fact and act accordingly, the better it will be for them.

WRITE TO YOUR M. P.

And ask this question: "Why the Postmaster General has resolved to crush Cotton's Weekly by Unjust and Excessive Postal Charges?" Be sure to address the letter "House of Commons, Ottawa," and it will go FREE of postage. Do this at once and get your friends to do the same. Send your answer to Cotton's.

A system which compels people to attempt to save for old age is vicious. The people ought not to have to save, or attempt to save, for old age. They ought to be perfectly free to spend their incomes for their physical, mental, moral and spiritual development, without having to worry as to whether or not they are going to starve to death in their old age.

Socialism will remove the brutal and desperate competition for a bare animal existence. It will thereby give men a full and free opportunity to compete with each other for prominence in such things as making products, managing industries, inventing machines, curing disease, developing any and all of the many sciences, writing books, painting pictures, and the thousands of other things which these suggest.

Comrade, if you allow this Postal Ruling to stand, there is more to follow. I know this to be a fact.

## THE PEOPLE'S POEMS

### A SELF-MADE MAN

I am a self made man, a millionaire, Ten times a millionaire. What care I for the suffering "under dog?"

I am on top. D'you hear me? I'm on top. This gold is mine. I drink to its increase. Let the world suffer. I need never care. Listen to me. I am a self made man. A self made man.

I am a self made man, upon my soul, My soul? I never had a soul. I could not buy a peanut for a soul. Souls are not rated on the stock exchange.

Give me the gold. The cold, hard, glittering gold. That is the key to every human heart. Take luck, take enterprise; but give me gold. And I will shine when all your lights are out.

I am a self made man. D'you see this pile? I buy my victims singly, one by one. The preacher, lawyer and the editor Are mine, Mine, I say, in body and brain. They quake at my approach and bend the knee. In holy reverence as I pass them by. The politician is my puppy-dog. Each school and college dances to my tune. Listen to me. I am a self made man.

I pay my way in silver, bills or gold. Soup-kitchens and church windows and the like. I print what news I wish my slaves to hear. And have the sermons preached that I dictate. The laws are changed to suit my varying needs. And schools teach only what I wish to teach. I pay my way. God: how I pay my way. It costs like hell to be a self made man.

### "THE UNKNOWN."

### THE WORKING GIRL

You ask me to smile and be happy, And not mind the rough road of life; To lighten the burden of others, And press to the front in the strife. You say that the shadows hang deepest Before the dawn breaks o'er the hills; The stars gild the bleak vault of midnight; There's balm for the bitterest ills.

You tell me God tries us by fire To bring out the pure shining gold; That strong natures face the fierce tempest And exquisite beauties unfold, That he who would enter the kingdom, In his heart must become as a child; The peaks of the mountains are lonely, And swept by the winds that are wild.

Yes, I know; I have thought it all over As I sit in this dumb, stupid grief; And I wonder why thinking and knowing Still fail to bring any relief. I look at you happy, protected, With a heart that is joyous and warm. You walk in the glow of the sunshine, And I in the night and the storm.

For you the sweet roses are blooming, For me does the dread nightshade spring; For me the lone whip-poor-will moaneth, For you does the merry lark sing. Ah, madame, your hope has a substance; But life asks a different problem For answer, to me and to you.

IDA CROUCH-HAZLETT.

Toilers and Idlers  
Our Serial Story  
Copyrighted, 1907 by John B. McMahon.  
(Continued.)

CHAPTER XIII.  
Sonia, the president of the Ladies' Shirt Waist Union, coolly eyed, the indignant victim. In view of the charge, she did not choose to apologize for what was in fact an accident.

"You have ruined my dress. What do you mean by it?" "Perhaps it was an accident," said the girl, slightly smiling. Her manner seemed further evidence of malice.

"It was nothing of the kind. What do you mean by it?" "What do you mean?" asked Sonia, in a low voice, her jet eyes ablaze, "by coming here to make fun of the people? You and your friends ought to stay uptown where you belong."

"The people uptown at least do not show animosity by spilling tea." "No, because they haven't even tea running in their veins."

"I shall report you to the manager." "He isn't my landlord or employer."

Madeline bit her lip. "Please tell me what you have against me. It's a mistake to think I was making fun of anybody—that is, seriously. Why do you dislike me?" "Because you come from uptown," said Sonia, and passed on.

(To be continued.)

Socialism proposes to pay the brain worker for his brain work, not for investments.

## GET INTO ACTION.

The subscribers list jumps two hundred and twenty-four. That is the first answer of Cotton's Army against the attempt of the government to prevent them getting cheap bundles of Cotton's. The Ottawa gang burned their fingers over the Appeal to Reason. But that was some years ago and they think that the time is ready for another trick to be played on the Socialist press. They have reckoned without taking into consideration the spirit of liberty that is in the hearts of the Army.

The government at Ottawa has come to think that it rules Canada. It has come to think that the workers of Canada are here to be handed over to the exploiters. It has come to think it can do as it likes. When the workers of British Columbia telegraphed Laurier demanding that he declare his stand on the Asiatic exclusion question, he got huffy and refused to answer. He lectured the workers upon their impudence in daring to demand an answer from him on any question. Was he not the great IT. Was he not the man who could shove anything down the throats of the Canadians whether they liked it or not? How dared the workers demand anything of him? If they came on their bended knees, he out of his ample mercy, might vouchsafe a few large words of empty comfort to them.

The Ottawa gang have grown bloated with rank conceit and of wind of vanity. They are strutting up and down their little halls at Ottawa and devising chains for Canada. Laurier backed by the men who misrepresent their counties, is forcing a fleet on Canada. Lemieux, backed by the same gang, wants to prevent the only enemy Laurier fears, the Socialist press of Canada, from circulating cheap literature. But Lemieux and Laurier and the whole government may as well learn now as later that they are pursuing a course that will lead them to political destruction. Cotton's Army is after them, and unless the government turn from its evil ways and allow the workers a fair, cheap and impartial mailing privileges for their press, it may as well quit the job of governing Canada, before the people of Canada rise in wrath on it.

Get busy on those letters to your M. P. at once.

If your paper does not reach you, write the Postmaster General at Ottawa and write to Cotton's Weekly. I am resolved to make the Postmasters of Canada do their duty.

Look out for next week's issue.

Following is the circulation of COTTON'S for the issue of last week Feb. 24th.

	OFF	ON	TOTAL
Ontario	12	171	1717
Prov. of Quebec	6	22	752
British Columbia	2	61	650
Nova Scotia	—	22	533
Alberta	3	11	525
Saskatchewan	1	5	321
New Brunswick	—	2	265
Manitoba	2	10	318
Elsewhere	—	1	58
Yukon Territory	—	—	21
Prince Ed. Island	—	—	10
Newfoundland	—	—	8
Total	26	305	5178

Gain for week 279

Total issue last week 10,000.

A capitalist has no more right to property which he did not earn than a burglar has.

## Unionist Combination

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

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

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

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

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## CAPITALISM IN CANADA

In the United States the striking batters at Danbury, Conn., have been fined two hundred and twenty-two thousand dollars for boycotting the hat manufacturers. This fine has been assessed against the batters individually and their little bank accounts and little homes have been seized to satisfy the fine. Theodore, fresh from the jungles of Africa, approves of the fine.

There is a strike of street car men on in Philadelphia. The local troops were called out and in the struggle with the strike sympathizers the troopers were rolled in the mud and their guns and cartridges taken from them. There were numerous arrests and the capitalist court of Philadelphia sent some of the prisoners to the penitentiary for six years.

"Shocking," you say, "but that is across the line where people do not know how to govern themselves."

Listen to the following:

The Dominion of Canada has handed the coal areas of Cape Breton, N. S., over to a group of profit hunters. This group has employed many persons at bare living wages to mine the coal. The workers got little and the group of exploiters got much. The government of Canada, being run for the benefit of the exploiters, have passed harsh laws against anyone who dares interfere with the profits of the company.

Some of the workmen want a larger pay. The exploiters who were getting large incomes from the operations of the company would not pay higher wages. The wage slaves said they would not work and produce profits for their masters unless they were giving a wage they could live on. The profit-hunting masters, knowing that their slaves were powerless, told them to stop working if they so desired. The masters knew that their slaves would be forced by hunger to come begging for work. Had they not seen to it that the pittance the slaves got was barely enough to keep the slaves from day to day? If the slaves ceased to work then they would starve and the lash of their hunger, the cry of the empty bellies of their wives and children would drive the slaves back to the slave-pits.

The slaves ceased to work. I am not telling something that happened away off in the days of Rome, but something that happened last year in Canada and is still happening. The slaves ceased to work. The master class, the profit-hunting owners of the coal areas, cared not. Hunger and cold and a shelterless condition could be relied on to drive the slaves back to their tasks.

But the masters knew human nature. The masters knew that when a man is hungry, the fierce beast in him rises and he is apt to snarl and grow ugly. So the masters, while letting their slaves cease their work, sent their orders to Ottawa, and the Ottawa authorities immediately dispatched armed men to Cape Breton to keep the striking slaves down, to shoot them should they turn ugly under the stress of famine.

At first all was peace. Then the masters began to turn the slaves out of the miserable dwelling-places that sheltered them. The slaves went into tents, and to warm themselves, went and gathered coal that was sticking up out of the ground, placed there for the benefit of mankind.

But the capitalist masters ordered that the gathering of coal be stopped. The courts were invoked and the government having given the masters the power to do as they pleased with the coal, saw to it that the slaves were driven off and not allowed warmth.

Now hunger began to work among the idle slaves. This the masters expected. Just as in the days of Rome the lions who were to tear the Christians in the amphitheatres, were starved till they raged with the pangs they suffered, so the striking slaves were starved till they raged with hunger, and rushed in blind rage, not on defenceless Christian prisoners, but on the guns of troopers hired to shoot to kill, should the pangs of hunger rouse the slave to action.

There was a fracas. The strikers, untrained and weak from hunger and the fear of the powers of their masters who controlled the laws and who had made the courts of such a nature as to be a protection to the plunderers against strikers, retired baffled and beaten.

But this was not the end. The slaves, hunger-smitten, and with the sorrowful look in the eyes of their wives and children burning into their brains, had transgressed the capitalist laws of Canada. They had shown temper and had attacked the men who had guns in their hands. The slaves must be taught

a lesson. If the lesson were not taught then the laws made for the protection of rent, interest and profit, would be of no effect.

So a capitalist police apprehended the rioters and dragged them before the courts established for the maintenance of the capitalist system, and the capitalist criminal law of Canada was rigorously applied. The hunger-smitten rioters were condemned by a capitalist judge sworn to administer the capitalist law enacted by the capitalist parliament at Ottawa, condemned to two years behind the grim grey walls of the penitentiaries of our Dominion.

I am not criticizing the judge who condemned. He had sworn to enforce the law as was enacted by the representatives of capitalism at Ottawa. He but obeyed his oath.

But I do criticize the system under which we live. I say that slavery, hard, grievous slavery, exists in Canada. I say that the whole system of industry as carried on in Canada to-day, is based on slave principles. I say that there is not a man to-day in Canada who is enjoying an income from the possession of stocks and bonds and houses and lands, in which other people live and work, but is deriving that income from the labor of slaves.

I want to drive this lesson home to the members of the classes who toil. I want to impress upon them that the wage-system is a system of slavery of a most oppressive kind. I want to impress upon them that as long as they do the work and let others own the machinery of production at which they must work, they are slaves. And I want to impress upon the working classes that our laws are not just laws passed for the protection of the men who toil but enacted for the purpose of protecting the privileges of the men who live on the labor of others. The Glace Bay condemnations proves this without a possibility of denial.

Socialism is not going to destroy the home. Socialism is going to give home life an opportunity to develop. Socialism is not going to rob men of what they earn. Socialism is going to give to men the full product of their labor. Socialism is not going to destroy religion. Socialism is going to give religion a chance to develop in the hearts of the people. Then why are people frightened of Socialism? First because they do not know what Socialism stands for. Many persons shut their ears to the truth and open them wide to error. Many persons will repeat, parrotingly, what ignorant persons have told them; and think by repeating what they hear somehow makes it true. In the second place there are many men in high positions, with money and power and license, who would not be where they are were each man to get only what he himself was capable of earning. These men do not like to see Socialism come into force. So they spread all manner of falsehoods abroad as to the aim and object of Socialism, thinking that thus they can prevent the people from discovering the truth. For these two reasons Socialism is misrepresented over the length and breadth of Canada.

Do the capitalists produce the food men eat? No, the farmers produce the food. Do the capitalists produce the shoes and clothes men wear? No, the laboring men and women produce the shoes and clothes men wear, in the mills and workshops by the aid of machinery. Do the capitalists make the mills and machinery in which the shoe makers and cloth makers work? No, workers build the factories and make the machines. Do the capitalists carry the shoes and clothes from the mills to the farmers, and the food from the farms to the makers of shoes and cloth? No, other workers do that. Do the capitalists dig the coal out of the coal mines, or silver out of the silver mines? No, workers do that. Then what do the capitalists do for which they should have workers build them fine houses, and prepare delicate food, and produce all the luxuries the capitalists consume? Nothing. Absolutely nothing. Then why do the capitalists get all these nice things? Simply because the laboring many are foolish enough to work hard for the capitalists who do nothing in return.

Socialism aims at dividing up the work of the world and giving each man a chance to do his share in the productive labor that sustains the human race. There is nothing very dreadful in that proposition is there? Every man feels that such a proposition is a just one. They why do so many men oppose it? Because of their ignorance. The human race has had to struggle with mental darkness. They are struggling yet. It is but slowly that the light of reason dawns in the minds of men.

## I HOLD NO BRIEF

I hold no brief to attack any capitalist or group of capitalists in particular. I hold no brief to defend any group of workers against any other workers. I hold no brief to fight the battles of the seab against the union man nor the union man against the seab. But I do hold a brief for the attack of the whole capitalist system and for the defense of all workingmen against the injustices they suffer under the Capitalist method of distribution and appropriation of the means of life.

It is a matter of indifference to me whether it is Lord Strathcona or Senator Forget who is receiving the large revenues that should go to the men who earn them. What every Socialist is aiming at is the introduction of a system under which large revenues would flow to no man. Then the power of the capitalist would be broken.

The wise capitalist is powerless if you deprive him of his unearned revenues. The veriest fool, if given large revenues becomes powerful. It is not a question of individuals but of the system. The power now wielded by the capitalists is too great a power to be entrusted to one man or to groups of men. Let the power, which giant aggregations of capital automatically confer, be vested in all the people, and let all the people who are able, do their fair share of the work in order to share in the benefits of the social revenues.

As long as capitalism continues there will be powerful Capitalists and there will be workers who are unionized and workers who are not unionized by economic conditions to seab. As a Socialist I am sworn to fight the capitalist system and to improve the condition of the whole working class. I am in a fight that is bound to win out, one that will ultimately down the Capitalist system.

Ever the word liberty is on the lips of the despoilers. How often do our Canadian rulers go abroad through the land and declare that the citizens of Canada are free? Yet are the citizens of Canada not free. When a man must work to earn his daily bread and produces ten dollars worth of wealth, yet only gets two dollars or less which he must needs use to buy his daily bread, so that, because of the robbery practised on him with the full approval of the government of Canada, he must needs labor long hours for a bare subsistence, while his masters take unto themselves the greater part of his earnings, can that man be said to be free? He is in slavery, a bitter, galling slavery. Slavery stalks through this Canada of ours. It stalks impudently and without shame. It is praised by politician, educator and prelate. The slave drivers occupy the chief places in the nation and the representatives of the people at Ottawa bow in reverence before the slave drivers.

A few weeks ago I prophesied that the wholesale price of articles would go up. The departmental stores were cutting into the business of the wholesale houses doing business with the little retail merchants. The departmental stores were cutting into the retail trade of the village merchants which in turn prevented the wholesalers from selling their goods. So the wholesalers found an opening through starting up of Rea & Co. The next step would be for the wholesalers to so act as to cut the local merchant out of any profits he might get. Now comes reports of a movement among the wholesalers to raise the wholesale prices on the little merchants. Combination and monopoly are the order of the day. The remedy is not to go back to competition but to go forward. Let all the people go into business and despoil the plunderers.

Earth was never so productive as now. The riches of the earth have been thrown on the markets by the skill of man. The laborer no longer need toil by hand to produce shoes. The machine turns them out by the hundreds. The printer no longer is forced to laboriously add letter to letter that a paper may be printed. The linotype machine does the work for him. If machinery has become so perfect why do not laboring men become wealthier and happier with less labor? Because the many do not own the machines at which they work. Because the many must work on the terms offered by the few who own the machines. Let labor own the machinery of production, then the workers will have plenty and to spare. Then will this system be abolished whereby the few riot in luxury while the many live on the edge of misery.

The chattel slave owner has been replaced by the capitalist wage-slave driver.

The capitalist is no more necessary to mankind than is the chattel slave-owner.

Socialism is an international movement to bring about government of the working classes, by the working classes for the working classes.

In the eyes of the capitalist it is a crime to give to the man who toils the full product of his labor. Did the men who labor get all they earned, where would the profits of the capitalist come from?

The Republican and Democratic parties are breaking up across the line. In Canada the Liberal and Conservative parties are showing signs of dissolution. The new social order is producing new lines of political cleavage.

At one time the feudal nobles were very powerful and thought that they would never lose their power. The feudal nobles have vanished. Today the capitalists think they are necessary and that they will never be overthrown. Even now their power is crumbling away beneath them.

The Capitalist's own the Government and the workers pay the bills of government. The Capitalist's own the soldiers and the workers support them. The Capitalist's own the mills which the workers build. The Capitalists are in power because the workers let them rule. When giant labor awakes, the day of the Capitalist will be over.

In any country of Europe, the revolutionary element may soon gain the upper hand and usher in the freedom of the toiling many. Germany is undergoing a period of repression and the common people are answering with all the peaceable weapons at their disposal. Not since 1848 have such scenes been witnessed.

There is now a talk of a merger of Cobalt silver mines. Combination is better and cheaper than competition. Co-operation is better than economic war. Combinations are bound to come. The only real, live question is whether those combines shall be owned and run by and for the people, or by and for the few.

Socialism simply means the giving unto the man who does productive labor the full value of his labor. As labor is no longer carried on along industrial lines but along social lines, Socialism must necessarily take the form of social labor with social enjoyment. Were every man a Robinson Crusoe on an uninhabited island then individual production with individual enjoyment must be social production and social enjoyments.

Socialism does not aim at destroying the home. Socialism aims at providing homes for the people. Capitalism aims at destroying the homes of many people. For under capitalism many persons possess no homes of their own and must go and rent houses from the capitalists in which to live. A rented house is what capitalism provides. A home is what Socialism will give.

Are you tired of paying rent? Would you like to free yourself from that fear of being evicted from that horror of modern life, a company house? Would you like to have a home from which you cannot be turned out? If you want a home of your own, get into the Socialist ranks and march forward to the overthrow of capitalism, of the system that is robbing you.

When will men cease to realize that the so-called great financiers do not make their fortunes by private initiative and energy? The C. P. R. builders got millions of dollars and millions of acres of land as free gifts from the Dominion Government. With that money the C. P. R. was largely built. Millionaires do not become wealthy by their own activity. They become wealthy by the activity of the many. They use the social machinery of government to turn golden streams of plenty from the labor of the many to their private coffers. The millionaires are but a drag on the productive workers and the productive workers are preparing to throw them off.

A Canadian steel merger is about to be formed. Competition is wasteful. Co-operation is economical. Why should men be forced to fight each other for business. Let the merger come. But let the people of Canada own, control, and operate the steel properties. And let there be no idle dividend receivers drawing revenues from the labor of others. Social ownership, social control, and social enjoyment of the products of the steel mills is the true and proper remedy for the ills that now afflict mankind.

Capitalism is gradually and surely squeezing the land out of the farmers' grasp.

## I DO NOT KNOW LEMIEUX

I do not know Lemieux. I do not know whether I desire to know him. But I have been forced to deal with him because he happens to be Postmaster-General and is endeavoring to charge the persons who purchase my paper a postal rate sixteen times greater than the rate charged to regular newsdealers.

I have no animus against Lemieux. Life is too short and the fight against the economic bondage in which so many of my fellowmen are held is too great for me to waste my energy in cherishing enmity against any man living.

Lemieux is only an incident in the way of the establishment of a free and untrammelled Socialist press. Lemieux is but a passing episode in the long struggle that lies before the Socialist press from the first efforts of the establishment thereof to the full triumph of the Social Revolution.

There are many battles ahead of us. There is the fight for a universal old age pension. There is the fight for the social care of the weak and unfit. There is the fight for the confiscation of our railroads from their present owners and the vesting of the title deeds thereof in all the people. There is the fight for the breaking of the present power of the capitalist possessors and the raising unto power of the working classes.

There are grand and glorious fights ahead of us, close grapplings with the supporters of the Capitalist system; fierce struggles for the establishment of courts and judges for the administration of laws and ordinances based on Socialist principles.

I do not know Lemieux. But the little fellow has set himself up to hamper a free press. So I have had to tend to him in this issue and to get the army of Cotton's Hustlers camping on his trial.

There is a strike on at Sydney, C. B. One set of men own the mines and another set of men do the work. Under capitalism the men who do not own the mines have no other way to improve their condition than to stop working, which causes hardship to their families and suffering to themselves. How much better it would be did the workingmen unite and declare that one set of men shall not own the means of production at which other men must work to gain a living? When Socialism comes there will be no strikes because the workers will have all they produce. They will be their own bosses and it would be foolish for them to strike against themselves. If you workingmen want to do away with strikes and lock-outs, legislate yourselves into the ownership of the means of production.

Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love, has been corrupt and unashamed. Its whole civic organization has been bought and sold. Its streets and public franchises have been handed over to the capitalists and the corrupt Capitalist has flourished exceedingly. Under such conditions labor grows restless. Last week the Street Railway workers flared out into open revolt against being browbeaten and starved for the benefit of the few. Such clashings of Capitalist police and workers are bound to occur as long as the people allow the few to run the machinery of production and distribution for the sake of profit. Industrial peace will settle over the country only when the men and women who do the work shall own, control and operate the machinery of modern production.

The Manitoba government is introducing a bill whereby the government will erect an elevator at any point upon petition of sixty per cent of the farmers of the district who bind themselves to use government elevators only. The west is on the right track in some things. But the west is on the right track because the laboring farmers are getting wise to the skin game played upon them by the capitalists. And the best of it is that the Manitoba farmers are not satisfied with the bill. They want more.

Bautros Pacha Ghali, premier of Egypt, was assassinated last week at Cairo by a student. These assassinations, occurring in such widely separated countries, show that the whole world is in ferment with new ideas. Assassinations are not produced without cause. The old systems are cracking under the strain of the new. The rulers of the old system try to maintain the old against the new and get picked off by the assassin's knife or bullet. We are entering a period of stress and the inhabitants of the whole world are on the qui vive.

THE SUB BLANK folded in this issue can and should be used effectively in getting New Subscribers for Cotton's. Subs are needed now as never before. Grab the Blank and get busy.

Blind pigs have brought in \$2,650 to the Ontario Treasury from the new silver regions. Capitalist governments are as quick to exploit the criminal for the sake of profit as is the private capitalist.

A cargo boat merger is on the way. The Midland and Hamilton interests may unite. There is hardly a paper that can be picked up without the news of some merger or proposed merger being found therein. Combination is coming. Let it be for the benefit of all the people.

Why do we see so many men out of work who are willing to work? Why do we see so many women forced to work for starvation wages while other women wear silks and diamonds and grow discontented because they have too little to do? Surely such a state of affairs is not the best that the brain of man can devise. If the system that produces poverty and luxury side by side is bad, let us change the system.

The Laborites in the British House of Commons are asking for the nationalizing of the land and the free feeding of the school children. These are some of the reforms that will help a little. But it will be only when labor demands and gets the full control over the mines, mills, factories and railroads, that labor will emancipate itself from the power of the dominant capitalist class.

Big Tim Sullivan of New York makes it a practise of giving new shoes to all who call on a certain day at his political headquarters. He makes the shoe takers wear the shoes out of the door, so they cannot go and sell them as new shoes. Nevertheless the pawnshops of New York exhibit many shoes for sale within a few hours after Big Tim has given the shoes away. What the men want and need is not a gift of new shoes. They need a chance to do work at something useful. They will not get that chance until Socialism comes.

The retail druggists of the U. S. are organizing a syndicate to fight the chain of drug stores being flung across the American continent by the Standard Oil people. The retail druggists formed a syndicate to fight the United Cigars Stores and got swallowed up in the fight. The same thing will happen with the independent druggists. Combination and cooperation is the order of the day. Combination and cooperation is good when used for the benefit of the people. But when used for the piling up of enormous profits it is exceedingly bad.

Socialism is coming. Socialism is the next step in the evolution of society. The railroad and the steel mill and the giant machine have forced men to work together instead of apart. Socialism was inevitable from the moment the giant machine replaced the manufacturing stage by the industrial. Men are bound to work together, and when they work together at tools other men own, then they are bound to yield up the product of their toil to the men who own the machines. So the men who labor are being forced to expropriate the giant machines of modern industry in order that they may be the masters of their own jobs.

You say that the United States are under the iron heel of a political despotism? I say that Canada is no whit better. You say that the giant trusts are sucking the life-blood of the people across the border? I say that the C. P. R. and the other giant Canadian corporations whose owners live off the toil of men compelled to slavery are no whit better. I long for the day when the laboring men, the men whose strong arms have built the palaces for their slave-driving masters, shall awaken and tumble about the ears of the enslavers their fool's house of parchment deed and corrupt law.

Socialism is common sense. It is natural. It is evolutionary. It is intensely practical.

## The Worker's Collection

Here is a New Collection of Books for the Worker, Manual or Brain. These Books are to follow up the Banner Collection, and lead right up to where the student of Socialism can take 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. 50
2. Socialism, Utopian and Scientific. 100
3. Science and Socialism—Lafont. 50
4. The Evolution of the Class Struggle. 50
5. Communist Manifesto—Marx and Engels. 100
6. Wage Labor and Capital, Marx. 50
7. Value, Price and Profit, Marx. 100

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