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COWANSVILLE, P. Q., CANADA, JANUARY 19, 1911

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A Toronto Objector Answered

A LETTER OF REASONED PROTEST

Toronto, Ont.
Dec. 30th.

Dear Sir:—
For the past month I have been following your Socialistic arguments and I must confess that they have failed to convince me. If Socialism has any strong points in its favor, why don't you bring them out and not be continually harping upon imaginary wrongs and heaping abuse upon the government which we workers have elected to safeguard our interests. You would have us believe that the present government has been forced upon us by the capitalists and millionaires and that they do nothing but "talk" and protect the interest of the money-grabbers. You also use such words as "slaves" and "slavery." Sir, as a Canadian citizen I take exception to that word being used for Canadians. In Canada we have no such class as slaves. You would by Socialism do away with what is known as the "poor class," but that is a hopeless task since Christ Himself says, "The poor you have always with you." Don't you believe in Christ?

You are endeavoring to arouse the workers by deceiving them. Someone must do the work. We workers realize that we all can't be bank managers and railroad magistrates. We all like to see our burdens lightened as much as possible but we realize that all of us cannot have a fortune and be independent.

In your editorial, "The Farmer and the General Strike" you remind us that the western farmers want government ownership of railways, etc. Are the Western farmers the backbone of Canada? By no means. Don't you know that the value of the live stock raised in Ontario exceeds in value the wheat market of the West? You would lead us to believe that the Western farmers just about own everything worth having in Canada. Right in your midst you have the I. C. R. as an example of government ownership of railways. Don't you know how this railway is draining the public treasury in order to keep it going? Why then do you condemn the government for being adverse to the farmers' demand?

Already the effect of the farmers' agitation has made itself a burden on us workingmen. Take Welland, Ont., as an example. The John Deere Plow Company, one of the largest manufacturers in the world, purchased land there and were proceeding with a large factory. They intended to employ one thousand men. Since the tariff negotiations came up the company have stopped work entirely and will do nothing until the question is disposed of. In the mean time 1,000 men who might otherwise have been employed remain idle. A similar attitude is taken by the Standard Sanitary Company of Pittsburg who were planning to build in Canada and carry on an extensive trade.

But, you may argue, that the tariff forced the Massey-Harris Co. to build outside of Canada. They have taken over a large company at Batavia, N. Y. The reason they did this was not because of our tariff arrangement. The United States enjoy certain privileges with Germany and other countries which Canadian manufacturers cannot get. Hence Massey-Harris goes to the States quite naturally, just as many more American firms are coming into Canada if tariff charges do not keep them out. Reciprocity and Free Trade appear fine in theory, but for a country at Canada's stage of development and contiguous to a great nation such as United States, it would be extremely dangerous in practice.

In conclusion I would ask you if it would not be better for the Socialists if they would cease hammering the government which the workingmen have elected (the workers are in a majority at the polls) and devote their attention to helping it. Socialism in Toronto is put forth by a few foreigners such as Lindala, Sidall, etc. What business have these gentlemen got to stir up strife among our people? They don't come to help. They come to knock, and as long as they assume that attitude I, among hundreds of thousands of broad minded workers will cease to follow their course.

Yours truly,
Francis McMullen.

ANSWER THERETO

For the first time in a long while, Cotton's has received a letter of reasoned protest. We get many letters of abuse, but the writers of such letters cannot be argued with. Therefore this letter is all the more welcome as it shows the viewpoint of our conscientious opponents.

It is not quite correct to say that I consider that the present government has been foisted on us by the millionaires. That would give the impression that the Conservatives were worthy of our support. Both political

parties are controlled not in the interests of the workers but against them. A Conservative government would be as hostile to the interests of the workers as is the Liberal government. The people have no control over the government during the four years it is in power. What would you think of a man who appointed a set of men to run his business and who would say of them, "I won't interfere with you for four years. Run the business as you like. But mind, if you don't run it honestly or as I like it, at the end of the four years I will turn you out." You would think him very foolish. Yet that is what the people of Canada do with regard to Laurier. Monk proposed that the question of the establishment of a navy be submitted to the people. Every Liberal voted against the referendum. So Laurier does not want the people to rule through initiative, referendum and right of recall. The Liberals can give sixteen millions as a present to the makers of steel. That is what the Liberal government has given to the multimillionaires of the Canadian steel plants. This was given AS A PURE GIFT. The Liberals and Tories have given a hundred and thirty-five millions to the private owners of the railway systems of Canada. This was given AS A PURE GIFT. Yet when the men strike against these private owners the government gives them no money to help them support their families. Instead they let the railways starve them into submission and at the least sign of resistance on the part of the men to slow starvation the government turns the soldiers loose on unarmed workers. Millions for the rich in gifts and hot shot and cold steel for starving workers. Do you consider this a square deal for the workingman, Mr. McMullen?

Mr. McMullen objects to Canadians being called slaves. This shows that Mr. McMullen has not studied slavery. You put a slave in a tobacco field, make him work under the overseer with a physical lash to urge on the slave. This to Mr. McMullen is slavery. But put a worker into a tobacco factory under an overseer who has been chosen because of his driving powers, make the worker work till he is exhausted and has barely the energy to crawl home. Tie the worker to the slave job day in and day out by the fear of unemployment and starvation for himself and family. To Mr. McMullen this is not slavery. Strange that people cannot recognize the same thing when it is called by a different name.

I am endeavoring to rouse the workers by deceiving them? There are millions of workers who are marching under the banners of Socialism and these millions are constantly being added to. It is strange, to say the least, if in the Socialist movement the process of history is being reversed and error is triumphant over truth, that millions are basing their hopes on error and that the brightest scientific and literary minds of the day share this same error.

Do I believe in Christ? Which Christ does Mr. McMullen mean? Does he mean the Greek Catholic Christ, the Roman Catholic Christ, the Calvinistic Christ, the Church of England Christ, the Salvation Army Christ, the Pelagian Christ, the Arian Christ, the Mystic Christ, the Christian Science Christ, the Mormon Christ, the Mohammedan Christ (Mohammedans recognize Christ as one of the five great Prophets) or some other Christ? No doubt Mr. McMullen will reply, "I mean the Christ of the Bible." Now this Christ of the Bible is sketched only in outline. Boswell wrote the Life of Johnson in two or three large volumes. Johnson was a very unimportant author and dictionary maker. Christ was a very important personage. But Christ's life is given in the Bible in a bare dozen pages. The result is that we know little about him and that each one who strives to grasp what he was like has little historical data upon which to base their conception of him. Consequently each makes of Christ their Ideal Man. They read into him all their noblest aspirations. They fill in the blank spaces in his life, and character out of their own imagination and say, "This is Christ. Do you believe in him." These different imaginations of what Christ was

like have been crystalized into the various church dogmas and conceptions of him. Do I believe in Christ? I can only answer, which conception of Christ do you mean?

"Some one must do the work. All of us cannot have a fortune and be independent." This is what Cotton's has been saying. There is work to do. Then let those who are doing the work organize, capture the political power and usher in a condition of affairs wherein the work will be reduced to a minimum, and those who do the work shall have the control of the distribution of the wealth produced by that work. Of course if the workers want to do the work, surrender all they produce to the master class, and get a daily wage while at work and let the masters say whether the workers shall work for a slave's pay or go workless and starve, if the workers want this condition to continue let them keep on voting for the politicians who support wage slavery.

"Some one must do the work." This is not wholly correct. The proposition should be stated, THE NECESSARY work ought to be done. There are three inaccuracies in the proposition as stated by Mr. McMullen. First, Some ONE need not do the work. All can do it. Special labor can replace individual labor. "Must" is too strong a word. The work can go undone. Under capitalism people get consumption because of a lack of proper clothing. The work of properly clothing the people is left undone. Consequently the work need NOT be done. Capitalism proves this when it lets people die for lack of proper clothing, proper housing and nourishing food. Third, "the work" are terms which give an idea that the work to be done is a fixed and settled quantity. This is not true. A lord hires a valet and says "Go clean my boots." The valet says, "You go to blazes. That is the work of some one else." The lord replies, "The work must be done, and I have no bootblack to do it." The valet is fired, and the lord's boots go unpollished for that day. "The work" of polishing milord's boots was not done.

Have you ever stopped to think how much "work" is absolutely wasted. Under a social system of production and exchange the lawyers' work will be done away with. The commercial traveller will be dispensed with. The stock broker, the land speculator, the landlord, the rent collector, the bill collector, the selling of dope as medicine, the banks, the retail managers, the lightning rod agents, the personal servants of the capitalists, champagne suppers, company promoting and the terrible expense of POLITICAL GOVERNMENT will be eliminated. For under a sane system, the political state will be swept away and merged in the industrial state. Fully half of the work now considered necessary will be done away with.

"All of us cannot have a fortune and be independent." A fortune depends upon the possession of the machinery of production. Those who own take toll of those who own not but do the labor. Mr. McMullen's argument is that as we all cannot rob the workers let the workers submit to robbery and uphold with their votes those who if elected will enforce that robbery. This argument is very foolish. It is in fact no argument at all.

Mr. McMullen has missed the whole point of the editorial on "The Farmers and the General Strike." This was written to show that the interests of the OWNING farmers was NOT the interests of the PROLETARIAN workers. The gist of that editorial was that the farmer wanted cheap transportation of their goods so that they could get bigger profits. The railroads would not give it. Therefore the farmers were provoked at the railroad owners and when the railway men strike for higher pay the farmers sympathize with the men and want to see them get higher pay in order to hit the pockets of the railroad owners. But let the farmers control the railways by government ownership or otherwise, then every strike that raises wages will mean higher cost of transportation. The western farmers' agitation simply shows that the property owning farmers want bigger returns on their "capital." In other words they want to get more wealth from the unpaid labor of wage workers. I think I have made this clear in former editorials.

I do not think that I have stated that government ownership is Social-

ism. We do not aim at government ownership. We aim at working class control of the means of production and distribution. The private railroads drained the government of over a hundred millions in cold cash and have fifty million acres of land given them free. The I. C. R. has drained the government. You see, the government is controlled by the capitalists. So the government is used to keep the workers in slavery and as long as the capitalists control, it matters not whether a railroad is government owned or privately owned. It will be used for the private gain of those who possess.

Mr. McMullen has not grasped the first principle of working class ownership. The John Deere Co. was going to "give work" to one thousand men. He looks to the capitalists for employment. He does not see that labor creates all wealth and that under Socialism the workers will "give work" to themselves, that they will OWN the John Deere Plow Company's works, the street railways, the tobacco factories, the railroads, the coal mines, and the workers themselves, producing the food, clothing and shelter which are necessary for the workers to live, and CONTROLLING these things, will look to no capitalist for employment.

Mr. McMullen is still worrying over the fate of the various classes of capitalists. He is arguing between free trade and protection. This is a question for the capitalists. To him it is a great question whether a thousand wage slaves will be employed in Welland or in the United States. He has not yet realized that the wage slave has been pried loose of all property and must follow the job. If a factory is built in Welland to employ one thousand slaves, the jobless slaves from the U. S. will flow in to the work. Mr. McMullen has not yet perceived that it matters little to the propertyless wage slave whether he is exploited in England or in Canada, in Germany or America. To him, wage slavery in Canada smells sweet.

Mr. McMullen would have us Socialists support the Liberal government instead of hammering it. Mr. McMullen has not yet learned the first step in practical politics. It is just such confiding natures as Mr. McMullen possesses that the capitalist exploiters love to see possessed by voters.

Practical politics is composed of getting all you can from the government. The practical politician hangs on to power for all he is worth. If one man goes to this practical politician and says, "You are a good man, I will support you." The practical politician knows that that man is safe. He need do nothing to get that man's vote. If another goes to the practical politician and says, "I won't support you unless you do this and that, and if I can get any other politician who will give me more, I will vote against you." The practical politician begins to cultivate that man. The easy man who votes for a rogue for conscience sake will be left in the lurch and the rogue who votes for the rogue for the sake of the government plunder will get part of the plunder.

If we were playing a little Sunday School game for children, and we were being asked by a Sunday School teacher with side whiskers, "Now children, who was the First Man, and who was the Meekest Man, and who was the Oldest Man?" We might support the Liberal government.

But we are not playing a Sunday School game. We are dealing with a pack of practical politicians who want power, and glory and snug berths. And we are dealing with a set of labor skimmers who promise the politicians nice fat berths and good jobs and a chance to strut before their fellow men, if these politicians will but pour the wealth of Canada into their banks and railroad treasuries and even directly into their pockets. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. Unremitting opposition is the only hope of the workers. If the workers will but pull with the capitalist benchmark of the labor skimmers the capitalists will have a nice time. The capitalists can work this dodge on labor leaders and trade union officials. But they can't work it on class conscious Socialists.

Here comes the question of the foreigners. Lindala is a foreigner. And others are foreigners. What business have these foreigners stirring up strife among our people?

When speaking about foreigners we are pretty nearly all foreigners. This

country belongs to the Indians. What business has Mr. McMullen or his ancestors coming to Canada and depriving the Indians of their hunting grounds? It was a shame. Was it not? If Mr. McMullen can come against the will of the Indians, why can't Lindala come against the will of Mr. McMullen?

Mr. McMullen would have foreigners come who have good ideas according to his point of view. He is perfectly willing for foreigners to come, if they will only think as he does about Socialism. But I am a Canadian. My father was a born Canadian. My grandfather was a born Canadian. My great grandfather came to Canada sent out by the religious people of England as a missionary to the heathen. Now I hold Socialist views. I want people like Lindala to come to Canada to wake sleepers like Mr. McMullen. Would McMullen deny me the support of Socialists who come from abroad to help me spread my ideas and to wake sleepers like Mr. McMullen. Would Mr. McMullen only admit such persons as were opposed to my ideas. In the fight for the spread of intellectual concepts would Mr. McMullen overwhelm me and other Canadian Socialists by swamp- ing us with ignorant foreigners? You think yourself a fair man. Play fair Mr. McMullen. Play fair.

As long as Socialists knock, Mr. McMullen, along with hundreds of thousands of broad minded workers will cease to follow their course.

The Socialists cry in the ears of the workers. "You are being robbed. You are asleep. Awake! Arise! Your wives and children suffer because of the robbery of those who live by stealth." And Mr. McMullen, says, "Don't knock. I'm a broad minded man."

Once upon a time a man was set upon and robbed. He yielded to the robbers who stripped him of all but a few coppers. The plundered man smiled into the faces of those who robbed him and said, "My wife will suffer. My children will be hungry. I have worked hard for what you have taken from me. But you must live. We cannot all be robbers. Therefore I give to you what you have taken and will come again this way and you can rob me again. I am a broad minded man." And the robbers praised him they had plundered and called him brother. And the man went his way rejoicing and swelled up with pride because of the good opinion he had of himself and the praise the robbers had bestowed upon him. But when the robbers get among themselves and made merry with the plunder, they said one to another, "What a poor simpleton."

Japanese competition is making serious inroads in British trade. Dinner and tea dishes can be bought in London for one third the price of the dishes made in England. Cotton, hardware and dressmaking trades are seriously affected. The Japanese with sweated labor are playing the same trick on England that England with its sweated labor eighty years ago played on the rest of Europe. The sweated labor of England furnished the surplus values that made the "grand empire" of Britain, and the sweated labor of Japan is furnishing the surplus values to build the Japanese empire.

Edward E. Grimmell, a New York criminal, has had an operation performed on his brain. As a result he has completely recovered from all criminal propensities and he has been pardoned. His skull had been fractured when a boy. Thus science and investigation is showing up our plute yawpers about the criminality of the people and the necessity of judges in a lurid and unpleasant light.

The Portuguese government has outlined its program of reform. The measures include a weekly rest day, old age pensions, public aid and protection for maternity and childhood, the creation of a large number of primary schools, with the free distribution of food, clothing and books to needy children, the development of higher education. Portugal is swinging into the newer lines of endeavor with a vengeance!

Eight men have been killed in Florence, N. S., by a mine explosion in a mine of the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. The workers die but the profits are very satisfactory to the parasite labor skimmers.

SABOTAGE

In France the unions are revolutionary. They recognize the class war. They live up to it.

In Canada we have a strike. A few hundred workers leave their work. The other workers keep on working and the places of the strikers are soon filled with strikebreakers. Or a thousand workers strike in a coal mine. The other workers keep on working. The other coal mines keep up the output. The coal needed for running the machinery of production and distribution still goes on the market. The other workers work longer hours and make more pay for awhile and therefore are glad for a chance to scab on their striking fellow workers.

The strikers strike for months, perhaps for years. And their fellow workers keep on scabbing. In France two tactics have been developed, the general strike and sabotage. The general strike is not prolonged. It is short, sharp and sudden. The railway workers walk out and stay out eight days. Then they go back to work as quickly as they struck. Commerce is tied up. The whole country is in excitement. Then the men go back to work and commerce moves again. They have tested their power. They know their strength. They wait a little while and strike again thus finding the number of men who read their own interests aright.

Sabotage is the destruction of property. The workers work in the mills of slavery. The masters get all the profits above the bare living cost of the workers. The workers have to have a living or they die. So wages cannot go down.

The workers thereupon work and camp the jobs. They put in poor material. They hit the bosses in their profits, in the place where it hurts the most. The cost of building in Paris has gone up twenty per cent owing to these tactics of the workers.

In Canada the general strike is not attempted. You know, the capitalists would not like it. And the masters must not be discommoded. Of course the workers may strike a few at a time, just tickle the bosses a little as it were, so as to make them feel like giving a few cents more wages.

As for sabotage, it is not tolerated among Canadian workers. The bosses must have their profits. The workers are conscientious. They have been well taught in the religion the masters have educated the ministers in the churches to teach. Servants obey your masters. So the slaves of Canada are filled with reverence for the religion preached for slaves and conscientiously fulfil their slave tasks and watch the masters bourgeon out in houses and automobiles, and yachts and mistresses.

Some say that "They do these things better in France." But the Canadian workers have heard that France is an impious country. Hence they close their ears to the call of the French workers. It is the masters who, having piled up fortunes out of the labor of their slaves, go to Paris.

Hush! Don't say a word that will waken the workers. The bosses would not like it.

Two hundred jobless men gathered at a Toronto library stable in answer to an advertisement for two men, and the police were called out to disperse them. The workers can go jobless and hungry, but Canada is filled with prosperity and there is no need for Socialist agitation. Sure thing. Do not the capitalists who live off the unpaid labor of the workers tell us how prosperous Canada is?

In British Columbia the provincial authorities are working the insane on farms as a cure for madness. In this age of the struggle for jobs the plute governments are setting the insane to work to help the capitalists get surplus values. And Premier McBride is slated for the next Conservative Premier of Canada.

A Chinese oiler was killed at Hong Kong when his queue got entangled in some machinery. This was effectively cited in the campaign among the Chinese for the cutting off of their pig tails. Within a few days eleven thousand pig tails were shorn off. Capitalism is prying loose the ancient habit of the immemorial East.

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THE LAND QUESTION.

FALSE DEMOCRACY

The farmers are meeting in their granges, in their grain growers associations, in their dairymen's exchanges and passing many resolutions about government ownership and against trusts and combines and high freight rates and many other things which sound really democratic. Yet the Socialists smile in their sleeves for they have studied the development of the modes of production and can readily compare the modern farmers' movements to the movements of the little manufacturers in days gone by.

At one stage in the development of industrial production in England there were not the giant industrial establishments which now exist. There were the little manufacturers employing, five, ten, a dozen, a hundred hands. These were widely scattered. The little manufacturers like the modern farmers worked their hands long hours on small pay.

The little manufacturers had grievances of their own. There were the corn-laws which protected the wheat raised in England against foreign wheat and which made the cost of living high and which necessarily made the nominal wages paid the workers rather high because of the high cost of living. There were the rotten boroughs which elected members of parliament nominated by the landed aristocracy.

The little manufacturers felt these burdens keenly. Consequently, in the name of democracy they agitated for the repeal of the corn laws and the abolition of the rotten boroughs. They really wanted cheap food so they could pay less wages and they wanted a wider franchise that would allow the little bosses more political power. They did not want to shorten hours or raise wages or do away with child labor. They did not want to improve the condition of the working classes. Nevertheless they took unto themselves an air of patriotism and righteousness and thundered for cheap food. They did this in the name of all the people of England but in reality for their own pockets.

They got what they wanted. Their influence became great. Amalgamations took place in factories. Machines were used more and more, and now today the democracy of the little manufacturers has resulted inevitably in the giant corporation, poverty wages, unemployment and industrial tyranny.

In Canada the little farmers are complaining. They are agitating for cheaper transportation. They are wanting chilled meat industries carried on by the government. They want government elevators and telephones. They cry aloud against monopolies.

These things are against the economic interests of the farmers who own their lands. Just as the landed aristocracy got great revenues through dear food to the detriment of the manufacturers, so the Canadian railroads and elevator owners, and milling companies get large revenues to the detriment of the farm owners. The farmers, speaking more or less in the name of democracy, declare that these monopolies must cease, that these services must be made cheaper to the detriment of the railroad owners.

The farmers' demands show that the farms are being turned into little manufacturing plants. Five hundred farmers went to Ottawa at a cost of eighty thousand dollars or \$168 a piece. The farmers could leave their farms. They could pay out money. This shows that the farmers are getting where they can rely upon wage slaves for surplus values. A few years ago a farmer would have found it mighty hard work raising \$168 without mortgaging his farm. Moreover he had to stay at home to do the work himself. The farmers are numerous just as the little manufacturers were numerous. And they assume to themselves the monopoly of patriotic impulses when they are simply advocating those measures which will give themselves greater revenues.

Neither manufacturer nor farmer looks to the interests of the wage slaves. The farmer says that the manufacturers are robbing the people through high charges. They say nothing about the manufacturers robbing the wage slaves through low pay. The manufacturers say the farmers rob the people. They do not say anything about the farmers robbing the hired help through poor pay.

There are many farmers who do their own work. How can these rob the hired help when they hire no help? They cannot. But these little one horse farmers are doomed to extinction. They will not be able to compete with the organized farm any more than the little artisan can compete with the organized farm any. And the little organized farm will not be able to compete with the giant industrialized farm. But that is in the future.

The democracy of the farmer is but

the democracy of the little manufacturer of days gone by. "Give us democracy," they cry, "of the brand that will put money in our pockets as farm owners."

SCIENCE.

IDEOLOGY

Ideology is the science that treats of the history and evolution of human ideas. This is a new science. It sprang into being together with all the other evolutionary sciences that resulted from the discovery of the law of evolution.

At one time people thought the world was stationary and that nearly everything was stationary. The idea of the universe was that man was made perfect. Man fell. Man some day will be replaced in his perfect condition by an act of a supreme being. It was an accident that he fell. When it was thought that man was stationary as it were, it was considered that ideas just happened. There was no reason except chance why an idea was not thought of five hundred years ago instead of yesterday. And it was considered accident that an idea was thought of when it was instead of five hundred years later. The progress of ideas was purely accidental and fortuitous.

The old philosophers wrote under these limitations of outlook. They regarded thought as stationary. Kant (1724-1804) wrote under these limitations. According to him all thought and knowledge originate from within. Our sensations furnish the perceptions. But we could not know things as they really are for the sensations of things come to us through our senses.

While all thought and knowledge come from within, according to Kant, nevertheless all our thoughts are limited. We cannot think of anything except as extending through space, as possessing body, or as extending through time. Consequently Kant declared that all our ideas were limited by time and space and that our sensations gave us only the appearances of things. Hence it could be inferred that when we died our thoughts and knowledge would be freed from the limitations imposed by time and space and that, things being no longer colored by the senses, we could know things as they really are. Kant has been a favorite philosopher of thinking ministers.

Kant's philosophy of the origin and limitation of ideas gave no hint of evolution. His philosophy could be grafted on to a conception of an unchanging, non-evolving universe. Kant was limited by his age in his conception of things. Hegel (1770-1831) carried forward the philosophy of Kant and made it evolutionary. He held that thought and being are one and that the universe is the unfolding of the absolute, or the universal divine idea. The thought is everything, a sort of scientific Christian Science.

In tracing out his idea of the unfolding of thought upon earth, he showed how ideas and thoughts have grown more complex. He proved that thoughts change through the ages. And he called this evolutionary change and amplification of ideas the self development of God.

Along came the materialists who found Hegel a fruitful philosopher. They declared that Hegel's philosophy was fine and good, if you only stood it on its head. They held that our ideas come from our sensations and our sensations are produced by our environment. Therefore as our environment changed our ideas changed. Through millions of years of struggle for life upon earth the instinct of self preservation, of preserving the life in each of us is one of the strangest we have. Consequently our ideas are largely shaped by the method by which we are forced to gain our living.

The materialists declare that there has been an evolution of ideas upon earth, but this evolution is only the reflex of the evolution of the nature of man and results from the altered environment into which he is flung.

The materialists declare that there is no victory. They are pressing on. They have something upon which to base their philosophy. Idealism, when pushed to its conclusion, has nothing upon which to base itself. It has to fall back upon an unexplainable power. But materialism finds the world to be far more complex than its term would imply. There are many things, unseen forces, unknown powers, deeper depths to be analyzed and resolved. So while materialists base their ideology on nature and its forces they walk very humbly in the presence of the powers seen and unseen, known and unknown of nature.

Abusive language does not convince. When discussion degenerates into argument it is time to quit. Printers' ink is better than talk.

The little messages of Socialist stickers stick in the memories of passers-by.

BUNCOME & SCRAPP'S

By R. W. NORTHEY

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR "COTTON'S WEEKLY"

CHAPTER IV.

Scrapp and McSurly Rehabilitate Themselves.

(Continued.)

"Oh, I'm not worrying very much about Harris, Miss Wimple. It is—your good opinion that I'm worrying about. Believe me, I value it very highly."

Miss Wimple made no reply to this, only the keys clattered a little louder. McSurly might have taken encouragement from her silence, as he went on: "I have tickets for the opera tonight to hear Melba; would you do me the honor to accept a ticket, Miss Wimple?"

"I am very sorry, Mr. McSurly," she said, "but I have promised to call on Mrs. Harris this evening. They live quite a long distance out at the North end, and I'm afraid it will be too late by the time I get back to think of going out again tonight. I have to finish these letters before I leave, and it will be nearly five o'clock by the time I can get away."

"Oh, please excuse me, Miss Wimple, I'm always putting my foot in it. I didn't know you were in a hurry. But would you mind giving me Harris' address? I may have to send him a note tonight. Just write it down, please, as I am apt to forget."

She did as requested and handed him the slip of paper.

"Thanks, very much," he said. "If the Harries need any financial help I wish you would let me know. It would give me great pleasure to assist." Of course the Harries did not need much in McSurly's benevolent offer. He wished to stand well in Miss Wimple's estimation—a fine but common sample of human selfishness.

"Very well, Mr. McSurly, I will." She nodded smilingly as he bowed and went out.

The clatter of the typewriter went on even faster as it seemed to keep up with her rapid thoughts. "Well, well, the devil is not so black as he's painted; this devil isn't anyhow. He isn't in that class at all, and it was a shame to put him there. And Scrapp, too. He assays a much higher grade than I could have believed had he not been tried by actual test. Now here's another lesson for you, Bertha Wimple, a lesson I hope you will not again forget—never judge a man, no, not even a dog, from one viewpoint alone. Humanity is pretty much the same all the world over—a conglomerate mixture of godlike attributes, spiritual devilry and physical defects. We are all creature of our environment, and under existing conditions the environment is mostly evil. Had McSurly been trained in a different school, away from the horrible grind of competitive business, he would have been a good man. The harshness he is credited with would not have been brought into life—he would not have been forced to use it as a weapon to gain his ends. But we are all victims of the system under which we exist. If we could only change the system! Ah, well, some day, when ignorance gives place to wisdom! Well, I'm nearly through with these letters and it's only half-past four. I'm glad they have both been able to rehabilitate themselves. I thought there must be some mistake about Scrapp, but as to McSurly I fully believed he was all they represented him to be—a man without a redeeming feature. Well, I'm done! Twenty-five minutes to five! In five minutes I can be on a Green street car."

CHAPTER V.

Old Man Harris gets the Surprise of his Life.

It was ten minutes to five when Miss Wimple boarded a Green Street car, and she was fortunate enough to find a vacant seat. In another ten minutes the rush of workers going home would begin, and if she hadn't hurried like she did—well, then the peaches and other delicacies she was carrying would stand a very good chance of being crushed and bruised by the closely-packed, swaying strap-hangers. So she was quite thankful to be ahead of the crush. Although it was nearly four miles out, the car made it in fifteen minutes, and the conductor showed her from the rear platform where to turn to reach Baker's Row. She was not long in finding No. 23, for it was the second cottage from the end of the lane, there being twenty-four houses of varying sizes in the row. No. 23 was apparently the smallest house in the row, consisting of three small rooms and no upstairs. In answer to her knock the door was opened by Old man Harris himself.

"Oh, Miss Wimple," he exclaimed, "I'm so glad you're come. We have been expecting you for quite a while. Let me take the parcels. Mother, this is Miss Wimple."

The old lady made an effort to raise herself from the easy chair she was reclining in, but Miss Wimple gently placed her arm around her shoulders and laid her back again.

"No, no, Mrs. Harris," she said, "you're an invalid, you know, and I have come out to spend the evening with you. I am glad to find you are not so ill as I expected. I was afraid I should find the doctor here and you in bed."

"Oh, the doctor was here today," said the old man, after laying Miss Wimple's parcels on the table.

"And what did he say?"

"He said that there was no actual disease; it was partly the extreme heat and that she had been worrying too much lately. He left a prescription for a tonic which I got filled at the drug store. He said she must cease worrying and have a more nourishing diet. You see, Miss Wimple, old people's blood gets thin and this brings on rheumatic pains. I've suffered from rheumatism for years myself, and I know what it is."

"Yes," said the old lady, "he has been almost crippled with it lately. He is getting too old to walk such a distance, and then walk home again after being on his feet all day. That has worried me more than the poor living, Miss Wimple. But we can't afford car fare now everything is so dear; and last June the landlord raised the rent. All the rents in the row have been raised lately, and some of the tenants have received notice of another raise next month. Of course if their rent is raised our turn will come."

"Oh, these heartless landlords, exclaimed Miss Wimple. They seem to have no compassion. They squeeze the last penny out of their poorest tenants while they themselves live in affluence and prodigal waste."

"The landlords don't know anything about it, Miss Wimple," said Old man Harris. "The rents are collected by agents, and as these agents work on a percentage commission it is to their interest to raise the rents as high and as often as possible. The more they collect the bigger their commission. So you see, it's the system again. If you complain to the landlord he will tell you he knows nothing at all about it and refer you to the agent, and if you go to the agent he will tell you that if, he is slow in collecting or not collecting enough he would quickly lose his job. So there's only the system to blame."

Miss Wimple could not repress a smile at the old man's habit of laying everything on "the system." Although there was more than a tinge of sarcasm in what he said, it would be hard to get him to admit the heartlessness of the individual. But he was right—it was the system.

"Well, it is God's will, I suppose," said Mrs. Harris. "The poor must suffer that the rich may spend."

"I do not agree with you there, Mrs. Harris," said Miss Wimple. "I do not believe it is God's will. If we believe in free will we must believe that every man is free to make his life whatever he chooses to make it, that is so far as his environment permits. But under present conditions nearly every individual is the slave of his environment. But God did not make these conditions. Therefore it would not be true to say that God wills it. That is only an excuse from making any attempt to better the conditions, which everybody admits ought to be better."

"And the environment of the poor forces them to submit to extortion by their landlords and slavery by their masters—or starve," said Old man Harris bitterly.

(To be continued.)

A MOMENT WITH THE POETS.

KIPLING

Oh, East is East and West is West,
and never the twain shall meet,
Till Earth and Sky stand presently at
God's great Judgement Seat;
But there is neither East nor West,
Border, nor Breed, nor Birth,
When two strong men stand face to face,
though they come from the ends of the earth.

Kipling struck a new note in English poetry. He sang the songs of commerce and colonization and empire in modern terms. There is little reflection in him. He takes the world as he sees it and sings its glory. As he was born under the English flag, why the glory of the world is the English flag, to him.

Kipling was at the height of his renown during the Boer war. He sang for the lords of commerce. Their fights were his fights. Consequently when the Boer war was being fought the plute organs were filling themselves with Kiplingese poetry. The masters needed him to rouse the people, hence his fame.

Kipling did rouse the people. The people were tremulous and Kipling gave them tremors. Taxation for wars of commerce, the greatness of the commerce to be protected, the glory of dying for the trade of England, the fear of foreign foes, the need of great men to guide the people, Kipling sang all these things and fell in with the economic aspirations of the plutocracy and the ideological mood of the British public during the Boer war.

Kipling sang the note of individuality. The strong men from the ends of the earth meet and know each other. There is little democracy about Kipling. In his song of Diego Valdez he tells of a Spanish pirate who because of his success as a pirate was made Lord High Admiral of Spain. The Admiral longs for the days when he roamed free before the cares of state settled upon him. He is no longer free. He is sold "to bondage of high deeds."

"My word can loose ten thousands
To seek their loves again,
But not Diego Valdez
High Admiral of Spain."

Such sentiments are very comforting to kings and lords who get large sums of money for doing nothing, and feel weary with their servants.

He sings the note of commerce.

The cities are full of pride
Challenging each to each,
This from her mountain side,
That from her burthened beach.

They count their ship's full tale,
Their corn and oil and wine,
Derriek and loom and bale,
And rampart's gun-flecked line,
City by city they hail,
"Hast ought to match with mine?"

He speaks of the British lighthouses watching over the commerce of England. The lighthouses say:

"We greet the clippers wing-and-wing
that race the Southern wood;
We warn the crawling cargo-tanks of
Bremen, Leith and Hull."

There was a note in Kipling that I could not just place. It puzzled me for many months. But it was cleared up to me by a little incident. A young girl had been to a picnic and had returned. She told me how she and some other girls had gone into a field and had seen a great big bull and had run to the fence and had climbed over quick and how the bull had looked at them with an angry light in its eyes. A little while later I drove past the field with the girl and she pointed out to me the ferocious bull. It was a little calf.

That is the way with Kipling. Everything appears fearful to him. Everything is big. The Boer war was fought over seven degrees of bare brown continent. "The earth is full of anger, The seas are dark with wrath."

Kipling looks out upon the world with large round eyes and he sees everything very plain, very big and very fearful.

Kipling was born and brought up in India. Hence he sees everything from the standpoint of the east. He sees a multitude of nations kept in check by a handful of whites. He lived in a community where the native population lived under the domination of a foreign foe. The foreign

foe will be kicked out at the first opportunity. They therefore live in a continual state of alarm of rebellion. Kipling sympathizes with the white dominant people and feels their alarms. And he sees the whole world through the eyes with which he looked out upon India. Therefore to him the Empire is unstable. It needs great men to run it. The English must be very careful that the mob does not break loose.

Kipling is not a poet of democracy. He is a poet of oligarchy and of the fear that fills the hearts of all oligarchies. Wherefore he bids the people to be patient else the plutes will be overthrown and the workers will not get work. Kipling does not understand in the slightest the modern Socialist movement.

A Humping Sub List

There were a lot of offs last week. They were worrying us. Thought there would be a big slump.

But the army of sub hustlers, just waded right in and landed enough new subs to cover the offs and to boost the sub list seventeen.

That was pretty good work for the second week of the New Year. Shows that the sub hustlers have made one big resolve to hammer the plute system and make mince meat of it.

Germany is marching under the Red Flag. The Kaiser is scared into several kinds of blue fits. The French Socialists have Briand and the plutes wondering how soon they will have to go to work. The American Socialists have Taft and Roosevelt on the run. In Canada the Socialists are letting out one big hurrah and are going in to do up the system of robbery into a little paper parcel and present it as a gift to the mournful past.

This week is good. The sub army has buckled down to work and will soon see the plutes looking into the faces of an army of class-conscious workers and wondering what kind of Socialist revolution is going to bury their political henchmen in 1912.

The sub list is humping. Keep her on the jump, boys.

Circulation Statement

Following is the statement of circulation for the issue of January 12.

	OFF	ON	TOTAL
Ontario	265	141	3994
British Columbia	23	42	1463
Alberta	51	61	1128
Nova Scotia	37	26	1095
Prov. of Quebec	17	56	993
Saskatchewan	31	32	665
Manitoba	8	86	501
New Brunswick	6	5	124
Elsewhere	5	8	139
Yukon Territory	0	0	48
Newfoundland	0	0	21
Prince Ed. Island	0	0	13
Total	443	460	10,124

Gain for week 17

Total issue last week was 11,400

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Each week Cotton's Weekly receives far more communications and contributions than it can possibly use. Some weeks, these communications if published would fill the whole paper. Make your articles as short as possible. Perhaps, even then, they will not go in.

The best way to put life into your local is to get it to adopt the Milwaukee method of systematically distributing leaflets and papers in those districts where working people mostly live.

This paper is paid for. If you didn't order it, someone else did for you. You'll get no bill.

"Quality Printing at Economy Prices," from Cotton's Job Department. Send for samples and prices.

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VANCOUVER, B. C. 125

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Mrs Fletcher,
W. Saunders,
Sam. B. Betz,
John B. Ste,
Adolphe V. J.
J. W. Ross,
Neil McKenzie,
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THE FIRING LINE

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Robert F. Farley, Guelph, Ont. 15
Martin Anderson, Ranfurly, Alta. 13
L. Tredler, Toronto 10

Two halfers from Comrade W. H. Hall, Toronto.

Comrade Geo. Fisher, Happyland, Sask., boosts the sub list with two yearlies.

Comrade G. Prager, Berlin, Ont., puts Cotton's in touch with the brain of a yearly.

Have you landed for Socialism and Cotton's since 1911 started? YOUR efforts will tell. Wake up!

Comrade Margaret L. Ashby, Celista, B. C., forwards two yearlies to be kept in the ways of revolution.

Two dollars from Porcupine Miners' Union for bundle, per Comrade E. P. McCurry, Secretary.

Comrade Charles J. Hardy, Halifax, brings in two yearlies for the fight upon the system of robbery.

Three yearlies, three halfers and two trials is the New Year's greeting of Comrade L. Tredler, Toronto, to the Army of the Revolution.

Comrade J. Day, Prairie Grange, Alta., captures five halfers and shoves them through the tent flap of the sashem wigwam.

Let everybody start in and do something to boost the sub list. Isn't it about time to start a move for 1911? Get into a hustler's uniform.

Enclosed please find one dollar for two yearlies subs. I am making a special effort to get your book of Facts." Comrade B. Daniels, Longueuil, P. Q.

Comrade John Lowden, Edmonton, Alta., is not going to let the capitalist rags get ahead of him. Two yearlies come to Cotton's through his efforts.

Comrade Mrs. Fletcher, Gibson's Landing, also brings in seven yearlies and takes one of the books of Facts. This is the second book of Facts going to Gibson's Landing this week.

A Credit Slip for Cotton's Compendium of Facts comes by return mail for all remittances or subs, cards, agitation or bundles, of \$1.00 or over. \$3.00 in orders gets "Facts."

Enclosed please find seven yearlies for which send me the sub list of Facts." Comrade W. Saunders, Gibson's Landing, B. C. The sub hustlers are sure doing things to the plute system.

Enclosed please find four half yearlies to try and stop the slump a little. Sorry to see the falling off but hope to see a better showing soon." Comrade A. L. Reid, West Toronto, Ont.

Comrade Alain Burke, Montreal, is again to the fore with fifteen halfers and seven yearlies. Comrade Burke's health is spared the plutes of Montreal will be made to work ere this old planet is many years older.

There are over 1,000 Sub Cards in the possession of sub hustlers all over Canada. Figure up where the sub list would be if every one of them hustled on the job. Start 'em boys! Right now!

Enclosed please find my renewal for Cotton's Weekly. Have been handing over my copy of Cotton's to a friend here and expect to land him. I am practically alone here. So don't mention my name." An Ontario Wage Slave.

Comrade Martin Anderson, Ranfurly, Alta., delights the heart of the bulldog with a string of thirteen halfers. Such sub hustling will make the old sub list wonder what's pushing it up the steep rocky road of revolution.

Comrade J. W. Ross, Cobalt, Ont., brings on the counter three yearlies and takes seven yearly sub cards to go whack the capitalist beast over the thick tanks of it's wage slaves. Comrade Ross takes a copy of Facts. Those little books are going fine.

Comrade Albert F. Farley, Guelph, Ont., hustles in six halfers and hits the war trail with nine half yearly sub cards. The woods are full of revolutionaries who are filled with zeal for the conversion of the plutes into useful citizens.

"A happy and prosperous New Year. Enclosed please find sixteen half yearlies for which please send me 'Facts.' This is the way Comrade John B. Stewart hustles sixteen weary wage slaves to the dope counter to have the cockles of their hearts warmed by the Socialist star.

Comrade F. Arthur Ravin, Galtus, Ont., hits old king capital a clout over the head with a club of five halfers and wants credit slip of one dollar on the three dollars for "Facts." They all want to hit the system of robbery and they all want that little book.

Comrade P. P. Cosgrove, candidate for the N. S. legislature in Pictou County, brings in a halfer and a yearly and takes a copy of Facts for three dollars of subs made up. The way those Facts are going out shows that the wage slaves of Canada want to know how they are robbed.

"I am and always have been very interested in our common cause. But am sorry to say that my age (over 70) and condition have made me almost useless to it. Enclosed find fifty cents for my renewal subscription to Cotton's Weekly which I have always liked and appreciated." Comrade J. M. Albert, Guelph, Ont.

Try Cotton's Job Department for your new stationery supply. You will get Quality Printing at Economy in price. Estimates by return mail.

Comrade Hustler is your name registered on the Army Rolls for 1911? If not, do something at once. Your help is needed, and there are big things ahead.

Comrade Ed. Tourney, Inverness, N. S., lands eight yearlies and five halfers, and says he expects to land some more in the near future. Comrade Tourney used to live in Sydney Mines and got pumped full of revolutionary philosophy among the miners. Comrade Tourney gets a book of Facts.

"I am after Facts as you will see by the list I have sent. Please find enclosed \$3.50. I will try and get as many subs as I can, but they are slow here. If you talk Socialism to any of them they take you for a fanatic or a lunatic, or something."

Comrade C. R. Stewart, St. Christian Science Fellowship, for Millet and Wetaskiwin, Alta.

"Enclosed find a yearly. Only one, but they all help. With best wishes for the upbuilding of Cotton's and to the time when we shall receive what belongs to us rightly. Yes. We have all sorts of power in the vote if we could only get men to stop and think what chumps we have been and are yet. When will the slaves wake up?" Comrade C. A. Hill, Hamilton, Ont.

"Enclosed please find four yearlies and a dollar for the Agitation Battery. I would like to fill the Bulldog with a bunch of bones, but times are none too good just now. Wishing you a prosperous New Year and doubled circulation. I remain, yours for the revolution." Comrade Neil McKenzie, Gowanda, Ont.

Comrade Neil McKenzie, Gowanda, Ont., reduces that pile of Facts in the office by one.

Comrade Adolphe V. Peterson, Sprague, Man., started the New Year by going hunting the plute system. Brings in twenty-four trials and takes sub cards for the balance of three dollars for Facts. It is such Comrades as Peterson who make the plutes scratch their heads, look at their soft hands, heave a sigh and look reproachfully at a coal shovel. Notice how the Manitoba sub list jumps this week.

Enclosed please find \$1.50 for three yearlies. A Dartmouth Comrade and myself take the liberty of sending a copy to the Dartmouth Reading Room. We expect it to bring forth abundant fruit in due season. I received the book of Facts and many thanks. It is a dandy for the size. I hope every Comrade will do his best to obtain a copy and fortify himself in the cause of Socialism." Comrade H. J. Lawrence, Halifax, N. S.

Enclosed I send you postal note for \$3.50 and list of seven yearlies. You will please extend my sub another year. I want a copy of "Facts" to carry round with me. The sub cards I hold I will try to dispose of. Others here are also trying to get up lists, so you should get a boost from here. Wishing you good success and compliments of the Season, Fraternally yours, Comrade Sam B. Betzner, Dawson, Y. T.

"I am sending you another list of eleven halfers and a yearly. Also three dollars for six months sub cards. You use such very gentle language now when admonishing hustlers. I don't encourage us much. I used to feel quite healthy again after reading your words to the hustlers." Comrade Nemo, Hespeler, Ont.—I used to urge or the hustlers till I got a letter from one who objected to being treated to such harsh statements when he was doing the best he could. He objected to being driven. So since then I have been treating the army as gentle as a love lion swain would treat his ladylove when her ma was looking. However perhaps the sub hustlers like the harsher tones of warlike clamor.

Here are four dollars for the sub cards—last sent me. Please send thirty or forty by return mail and I will put them where they will make Socialists. I have not yet received word whether I am captain, corporal or only high private in Cotton's Army, but if the latter, I am in the fight and that to stay till the war is ended and victory crowns our banner. Would like to be in the States to fight in the Appeal Army, as we gained a great victory in the jailing of Warren. But am glad that I can fight under the gallant leadership of The Appeal to Reason of Canada—Cotton's Weekly. Comrades! Just watch my smoke and get busy. Let us up and at them. Let us "be not like dumb driven cattle." The man who sits in supineness and idleness deserves to be and will be a slave. Let us do to our might what our hands find to do. Send me a Compendium of Facts. I need it badly. How long will the wage slaves and the farmers suffer before they will turn to the only refuge, Socialism? I suffer with the oppressed wage slave, but rejoice at the same time KNOWING THAT HE WILL ONLY BE AROUSED FROM HIS MENTAL LETHARGY THROUGH OPPRESSION. Awake! Arouse! TO ACTION!" Comrade John T. Jones, Lacombe, Alta.

Urgent! Urgent! Comrades holding Sub Cards are urged to start them on the return trip with the message of freedom for weary minds still under the spell of capitalist spieles. At the present writing, there are out on credit alone 700 half-yearly cards. If the comrades holding these cards will only get busy, you can easily figure up where the sub list would be. Say, Comrades, we need those cards—every one of them. Act on this notice.

If after you have renewed your subscription, you get a paper with a notice enclosed that "Your Sub Has Expired," pay no attention to it. Every subscriber gets one and sometimes two on expiration of sub. If you haven't renewed you should do so at once.

World Wide Struggle

Complete samples of Eureka Leaflets for 2 cent stamp.

Eight thousand tailors of Vienna, Austria, have gone on strike for higher pay.

The U. S. army in the Philippines has been set to work to grow potatoes.

Kansas City is organizing a "social survey" to find out the cause of poverty.

A meeting of the Republicans of Spain has been called for February 11 to take steps to reorganize the party.

Three hundred and fifty thousand miners are planning to strike in Germany.

Victor Berger is probing the factories of Milwaukee to get material for his Congressional debates.

Edmunds, a Washington, town of fifteen hundred people, has been captured by the Socialists.

According to Senator LaFollette's Weekly, Wall Street has already picked the presidential candidates of the two old parties for 1912.

The net profits of Swift and Co., the meat packers of Chicago were seven million dollars. This explains partially the high cost of living.

Those Boosters Leaflets will get you subs for Cotton's. They talk four hundred—2 kinds—with instructions for only 10 cents. Wake up!

The outrages against labor still are in full swing in Tampa, Fla., where the cigar makers are on strike. Armed bands of citizens break up peaceful meetings of strikers.

The Carpenters and Joiners of the American Northwest met on January 15th at Olympia, Wash., to discuss a more compact organization of their union.

The Chicago Socialists are out to raise twenty-five thousand dollars in order to give the Chicago Daily Socialist the funds to turn its paper into an eight page instead of a four page daily.

Russia and Germany are forming an alliance for the division of Persia. This is greatly perturbing the political henchmen of the British capitalists who have long had an eye out for the gobbling up of Persia.

The Appeal to Reason has begun a campaign for compensation for injured workmen. Six hundred thousand workers are annually injured in the states and no compensation is given. The Appeal is making things lively for the labor skimmers.

In far-off Turkey the Socialists are growing. Saloniki has elected a delegate and there are two Socialist delegates from Armenia. These treat the Turkish questions, not from the viewpoint of race and creed but from the viewpoint of the class struggle.

The Illinois state senate has appointed a committee to investigate the causes of the strike of the forty thousand garment workers in Chicago. The politicians can no longer be deaf to the cry of so many voters. They are being made into Socialists too fast to please the old line representatives.

The Irish members of Parliament of Britain are looking with fear on the spread of Socialism and may back the Tories against the spread of democracy. The Irish nationalists want home rule in order that Irish capitalists may exploit Irish workers and get the surplus values instead of having these go to England.

The French state makes matches. These are abominable. The government makes a profit of five million dollars a year on the sale of the matches. The goes in war preparations. The French have taken to a little spirit lamp to light their pipes and fires with. The government is taxing these lamps out of existence. State capitalism is not Socialism.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

AN APPRECIATIVE COMRADE

Wiggins, Sask., Dec. 21st, 1910.

Dear Comrades— I desire to place on record my deep appreciation of the stand you are taking on Religion in its relation to Socialism. Religion forms part of the ideological superstructure which is moulded and changed by the economic conditions of society. If we sincerely believe this, why not concentrate all our efforts and resources on arriving at the necessary economic condition which will achieve the economic emancipation of all men, and leave the superstructure of intellectual and moral ideas to conform to our economic base? Such a policy of social tactics will leave religion purely a personal matter and free to develop in harmony with growing sentiment of the masses for economic freedom.

Under such social conditions the Socialist Party would not commit itself to any form of religious belief, and at the same time it would not antagonize one single religious sect. The Party would thus show a deep respect for the feelings and beliefs, or unbeliefs, of all persons and by its strenuous fight for the principles of international brotherhood founded on sound economic laws, would gradually enlist the political support and confidence of the masses of men and women who can expect nothing from the present condition of society.

Such a general policy would not give much scope for the budding controversialists who prefer to waste their energies on a criticism of an-
\$3.00

will pay for a bundle of Seven Cotton's to your address for a year, and put you in line to do good work for 52 weeks. Be a Bundle Booster and promote the cause in your neighborhood. An order for a yearly bundle at \$3.00 secures a Free copy of "Facts" by return mail.

cient customs and ceremonies, but it would tend to concentrate our whole thought on the construction of a united army of fighters, steadily moving forward, gradually adding to our numbers from the ranks of the enemy, and slowly wresting away the power and possessions of the privileged few.

That man knows Socialism best to greatest advantage who, with his Marx in his hand, can untangle the passing events of the hour in the language of Socialist sentiment, illustrating the principles of working class economics and suggesting the new order that is to be.

I have been exceedingly pleased with the recent issues of Cotton's. It is such work, delving deep into the hidden facts of our everyday present life which tells. You are to be congratulated on your efforts in this direction. The Socialist interpretation of economic facts is all that is needed by the Party to gain its ultimate victory at the polls.

In conclusion, a person can with advantage be a Socialist AND a Christian. There is no such thing as a Christian Socialist seeing that Christ lived nearly two thousand years before scientific Socialism was discovered, and previous to the social conditions which made it necessary. But it is as foolish to say that a Socialist cannot be a Christian as to say that he cannot be an Atheist.

It seems to be the opinion of some of our Comrades that Christ taught submission. This is not true. Christ taught implicit Obedience to the laws of God, and was himself a revolutionist, defying and declaiming against the customs and ceremonies of Judaism.

This same doctrine of obedience we would do well to emulate. It is the great and undying principle taught by the greatest of the Greeks, Socrates. With the prison doors wide open and surrounded by friends tempting him forth; with the consciousness of right springing up within him like a will of life, he drank the cup of hemlock to the dregs. This was the decree of a man-made law. But its error could not put aside the fundamental principles of SOCIETY. "All changes in the constitution of society must be by constitutional means," a principle which all Socialists inculcate.

Yours in the work,

A. Abbott.

CALLS IT POETIC HASH

Cardston, Alta.

Dear Comrade Cotton: I send this poetic hash for my Comrades in serfdom. You know too well the story of our thralldom. We are slaves. The bright sun rises in its course and sets on a race of slaves. This is just as true today as when uttered on another occasion.

We are on the proper route. To get from under the plute. While our industrial horn we toot, toot, toot.

We shall not lick the boot Of the wicked old plute. Though he makes away with the Loot, loot, loot.

We will all give a hoot When we overthrow the plute; Then why are we now so Mute, mute, mute?

William J. Warren.

FINDS IT HOT

Carleton Place, Ont. Jan. 7th, 1911.

Cotton's Weekly, Cowansville

Dear Sir—Please discontinue sending me the Weekly. It is so hot that it is almost impossible to carry it from the office unless one is furnished with asbestos mitts, and I am satisfied if the Insurance Companies become aware of its presence in my office, an addition would be made to fire insurance rates.

Yours very truly,

C. McIntosh.

The Bundle Boosters

If there is any better method of turning people to Socialism than the distribution of a regular weekly bundle of Cotton's, I have never heard of it. I would like to see every hustler handling a bundle during this year. Thousands of people can be started thinking during 1911. Many Comrades are keeping busy, why not YOU?

Bundle rates are very low. Most everybody can afford an extra supply. Rates are as follows:

10 copies per week, for 3 months	for \$1.00
25 copies per week, for 3 months	for \$2.50
5 copies per week, for 6 months	for \$1.00
10 copies per week, for 6 months	for \$2.00
5 copies per week, for one year	for \$2.00
7 copies per week, for one year	for \$3.00

The latest Bundle Booster is: Comrade Curry, Vancouver, B. C. 10 Remember that a bundle of 7 for one year is only \$3.00, and a copy of Facts comes free.

CULLINGS.

"The conservation of human life is a more important question than the conservation of natural resources."—Julius.

"Compensation after injury is good, but prevention of injury is better. It is cheaper to erect a fence at the top of a precipice than to maintain an ambulance at the bottom."

"There should be nothing too good for the worker."

W. R. S.

We have printed an attractive pamphlet entitled "An Address to Wage Workers on Industrial Unionism" for Montreal workers. As we made an over run a quantity can be obtained at \$1.50 per thousand, prepaid. Twenty cents per hundred or ninety cents for five hundred.

Socialism in Canada

REGINA LOCAL.

Comrade C. W. Lestor has delivered nine lectures in Regina since Christmas. And still they come. He has also conducted an economical class every spare evening and nearly every Comrade attends. A pleasing feature of Regina local is the fact that they have recently admitted several women Comrades.

VICTORIA PROTESTS.

At the Empress theatre, Vancouver, last week, a resolution was endorsed by the large audience assembled there, protesting against the sentence of execution passed by the Japanese government upon comrades Kotoku Katayama and their twenty-four associates. A collection was taken up to defray the cost of cabling the resolution to the Emperor of Japan. On Monday last a delegation consisting of Comrades Morgan and McLeod interviewed Mr. C. Yada, Japanese consul, and were most cordially received. Mr. Yada expressed himself very guardedly on the matter, making no statements other than that the Socialists' offence had been a criminal rather than a political one.

LECTURES AT WETASKIWIN, ALTA.

Dear Cotton's— We are having lectures in the Bijou Theatre here every Sunday. Last Sunday (New Year's Day), we had Comrade Gribble, and he gave us a fine lecture on "Modern Slavery and the Way out." We had Rev. A. O. Alexander on Christmas Sunday again. He is a fine talker and understands his biz. Some of the fellows round here told me he was too radical. I told them he was not radical enough. I said they would not understand till they got pinched good and hard.

Comrade Charles Reid Stewart, Sec. Christian Socialist Fellowship.

See. Christian Socialist Fellowship.



Comrades Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Lestor

LESTOR AT DUNDURN

On Thursday, Jan. 5th, the people of Dundurn, Sask., had an electric shock in the shape of a visit from Comrade Lestor. Lestor held two meetings and drew large audiences. His knowledge of political economy is marvellous. He explained the Marxian standard of value and showed the farmer where he was at. Neither Grain Growers' Associations nor government ownership could free him from economic servitude. For weal or woe the chains of slavery were riveted upon the farmer. Evolution had brought him into line with the working class. The working-class ownership of the means of production was therefore his only hope.

The "Evolution of Society" was also dealt with, and the past history of the human race was unfolded as a scroll. After two hours, speaking the lecturer wound up, but the audience refused to budge and Lestor gave them some more. It was a wonderful effort, and although the people of Dundurn are not Socialists, they want some more Socialists speakers.

If Comrade Lestor is a sample of the Socialist propagandist, the party of revolution will soon be dominant in Saskatchewan. His sincerity and courtesy compel both admiration and respect. The people of Dundurn are hoping that another meeting will take place ere many moons.

Yours in revolt,

Farmer.

MRS. LESTOR AT REGINA.

Mrs. Lestor is recovering and is able to take the platform. On January 2nd she spoke in the Trades Hall of Regina, Sask., upon the question of "Women's Place in the Social Fabric." The following report of the speech is from the columns of the Regina Daily Leader: "The early Christian Fathers said the speaker, described woman as a painted evil, a natural calamity, a necessary temptation, and other things. In the middle ages if a woman showed signs of superior intelligence, she was burnt as a witch at the stake. Hundreds of thousands of women were sacrificed in this manner. It is a notable fact, said Mrs. Lestor, that for every 10,000 women burnt in this manner, only one man was burnt as a wizard."

The speaker then referred to the time when women would succeed in getting the vote, and said she knew that they would use it in an intelligent manner. It is not the women who send the reactionary members to Parliament now, it is the men. There is no difference in the way capitalism exploits men and women. In the economic fight each must sustain life on the bare necessities. It is not a difference of sex or age which is the chief factor in determining the industrial position of women. Machinery knows neither sex nor age, but chooses the labor embodied in each, which is the cheapest in relation to the degree of its efficiency. They must rouse the women of the working class, said Mrs. Lestor, then Socialism would become the atmosphere of the home and instead of breeding slaves with slavery in their blood, they would breed warriors of freedom. Many women had such miserable wages paid to them that they were forced to eke out their wretched existence by selling their souls on the streets.

The speaker then went on to show that capitalism not only encourages the white slave traffic, but profits by it. All the wealth of the world, she said, had been produced by her class, and if there is such a thing as justice, it is the working class who have a right to it. They must not rest content until the wealth of the world is in the hands of those who toil.

Mrs. Lestor concluded an eloquent peroration thus: "We want every child to be well fed. We want every child to be well clothed and educated, and we shall not rest content until all the past is bequeathed to us in the shape of knowledge. All that tends towards goodness and greatness, and nobleness of life shall be placed at the disposal of every child of whatever race, creed, or color it may be or have."

"Socialism is inevitable. It is either Socialism or starvation," said Mrs. Lestor. "He who owns my bread or even owns what I must have in order to obtain my bread, owns me, body and soul. We are the slaves of a class, the class that owns the means of production. Therefore it is up to us to seize the means of production and produce the wealth for ourselves."

RESOLUTION.

The following resolution has been adopted by the Toronto Socialist Party (Local No. 1.)

Whereas labor organizations have proved, and are still proving, of immense value to the working class; (1) by effecting wage increases; (2) by shortening hours; (3) by improving workshop conditions; (4) by educating their members and directing public attention to grave social evils; and (5) by developing class consciousness that sooner or later manifests itself at the polls, therefore:

Resolved that the Toronto Socialist Party (Local No. 1) place itself on record as recognizing the need of economic organization, and, further, that it recommend party members to join labor unions and take an active part in their work.

Copies of this resolution to be sent the Trades and Labor Council, Cotton's Weekly and the Toronto Daily papers.

THE FUNNY SIDE OF ECONOMIC DETERMINISM

Green—I understand his wife has money.

Point—He understands it, also—Brooklyn Life.

The clerk—I should like a rise in wages, sir; I'm about to be married.

The Boss—Rubbish, rubbish, young man! I'm against all unions, on principle.

"Do you mean to say that you refused the millionaire who proposed to you?"

"No, I didn't. I got ten days' option on him."—Cleveland Leader.

"What do you do for a living, Mose?"

"I'm de manager of a laundry."

"What's the name of this laundry?"

"Eliza Ann."—Louisville Courier Journal.

"I want to ask you for a bit of advice," said the insinuating man.

"What is it?"

"I want you to put yourself in my place, and me in yours, and tell me how you would go about it if you wanted to borrow \$10 from me."

"Do you want cheaper postage?"

"I don't know," replied the man who considers only his own interests.

"I don't write many letters myself, and I don't see why I should be eager to make it easier for the men who send me bills."

Child Detective Carpenter of Montreal declared that there are two kinds of anarchists.

There are the straight anarchists who want to blow up kings and such truck. The other kind is composed of burglars who masquerade as anarchists. Carpenter is reckoned some pumpkins in Montreal. But he knows mighty little of anarchy. There are two kinds of anarchists. Those who believe in propaganda by the deed. These are those who blow up kings. The other kind is composed of philosophers who spend their time dreaming of the abolition of tyranny. Carpenter is supposed to know all about criminals. He is supposed to be a very superior man. Yet he knows not the distinction between the criminal type and the non criminal type. O capitalism, what foolish servants serve you.

One little Socialist leaflet will do more to break down prejudice against the Socialist movement than all the argument in the world. The way to win people is to get them reading our literature.

It is the experience of many locals that just as many people will turn out to a hall lecture when an admission price is charged as when one is not charged, and that the receipts are always better.

In most public libraries there are a few Socialist books worth recommending people to read. These books should be listed, printed on a neat circular and distributed among those interested.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN UNDER SOCIALISM.

THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Under Socialism the status of women will be completely changed.

Food, clothing and shelter, the necessities of life, will be furnished to those who need them. There will be no more starvation. It will be the function of the industrial organization to see that no one lacks for bread, for clothing, for a place of abode.

This will give every child born into the world a chance for normal development. The child of the widow will have as great an opportunity of unfolding the best within him as the child of a railroad chief.

The woman will have the necessities of life provided for her. Maternity will be the care of the state. The mothers will have the best that science and attention and medical care can give. For the industrial organization will see to it that the future citizens shall not be stunted and starved and twisted before ever they come to be born.

Under Socialism THE WOMAN WILL NO LONGER LOOK TO THE MAN FOR HER FOOD, CLOTHING AND SHELTER. Do you grasp what a revolution that will work in society? Do you comprehend what a change there will be in the relation between the sexes?

Under Socialism there will be no more prostitution. Impossible you say. This is not impossible. This will be a fact.

Prostitution is the sale of a woman's sex for the sake of money. Money is only good to a woman in so far as she can buy food, clothing and shelter with it. When organized society furnishes each woman food, clothing and shelter, she will not need money to buy these things. Not needing money she will not need to sell her sex for that which will be useless to her. Consequently no woman will sell her sex. She may give herself for love but that is not prostitution.

Legalized prostitution will also cease. There is as much prostitution inside of marriage as outside of it. The woman who marries a husband in order to get a home and who does not love that husband, has sold herself into a lifelong bond of prostitution. I care not if the priests and popes and politicians and laws have declared such prostitution to be holy matrimony and blessed of God. Such a marriage is nothing but prostitution. The woman who is compelled to submit to the embraces of a man she does not love for the sake of a home is a prostitute. The priest who blesses such a marriage and calls it holy unto the Lord is a liar. And every minister who marries more than three couples has blessed such a prostitute union and called it holy unto the Lord and is a liar. These legalized forms of prostitution will be done away with under Socialism. For no woman will have to marry the man she does not love for the sake of a home. For homes will be free.

Under Socialism man's domination over women will cease. For woman will no longer have to look to the individual man for the bread of life. This being the case the woman can pick the man she loves to be her mate. THE MOTHER CAN CHOOSE WHO WILL BE THE FATHER OF HER CHILDREN. This will produce a far superior race of beings. For the mother instinct is stronger than the father instinct. We have perverted nature in submitting the mothers to the lusts of the brute beasts who monopolize the power and means of life under our brutish system of competition and turmoil.

Because Socialism will bring about the freedom of women many ministers and politicians and capitalist yappers declaim against Socialism and declare that it will break up the home. Whenever I hear a minister or a politician or a capitalist uttering these words I look at him and wonder if he is not holding his wife against her will and is fearful lest she would leave him if she could only escape his clutches. Or I wonder if he has not some mistress or two or three of them whom he is holding merely through economic bondage and that these women would escape him if only the way lay open.

It is true that Socialism will break up some homes. But these are homes that should never have been created. And when Socialism comes it will prevent such homes ever afflicting humanity in the future.

SUB PRICE OF COTTON'S.

Canada and England.
Six Months, 26 copies \$.25
Six Months, clubs of 5 1.00
One Year, 52 copies50
One Year, clubs of 5 2.00
Three Months, club of 550
Three Months, club of 10 1.00

Subs to the United States are \$1.00 per year. This is on account of the postage, which is one cent per copy.

The best way to make Socialists is to get people to subscribe to Social-ist papers.

The Cobalt miners have paid twenty-five million dollars in dividends. Say, you Cobalt wage plugs, how do you like producing twenty-five million dollars for your bosses to play with?

It is now possible to carry on several telephonic communications over the same wire at once, and that only one wire is necessary instead of two. The discovery of doing things without requiring so much work is causing the army of the unemployed to grow and bringing Socialism that much nearer.

During the past year Great Britain has invested \$2,500,000,000 in foreign securities. But the British working plugs have to suffer want and go on the parish or march in hunger riots. The wealth produced by the British workers is not consumed by them. It goes abroad to be used to enslave other workers.

The immigration into Canada last year is estimated at three hundred thousand persons and this year it is expected to go half a million. The jobs of other countries are shipped to Canada. They come and crowd our cities, beat down the wages of the workers, get into the slums, raise race questions, and the plute politicians call this prosperity.

The British government has arranged for Portugal to pay Manuel an annuity pending the plans of settlement of the republic. Manuel was a king who got the sack. An ordinary wage plug who gets the sack has to go without any pay. But a king, who is a parasite, gets his whether he works or not. The parasites have arranged these things nicely for themselves, have they not?

Joseph Pike, laborer, Toronto, aged 65 years, took carbolic acid and died. He was out of a job and broke. He was a wage slave who had been cast on the scrap heap. His lot may be the lot of many other wage slaves who now are working like blazes producing surplus wealth for the masters. Vote, you suckers, for capitalism and your own slavery. Don't wake to Socialism but go on till you kill yourselves for very weariness with poverty and misery.

A bill will probably pass the U. S. Congress the coming session, doing away with the coinage of gold. It is the intention to have gold certificates issued against the bullion held at Washington. These gold certificates are less sensible than will be labor checks under a Socialist regime. The gold certificate is a symbol for gold which is a symbol for labor value. The labor check will recognize directly what the gold certificate recognizes indirectly.

The Province of Quebec is establishing employment bureaus where the jobless can go and find out what jobs are being given out. The capitalists want these employment bureaus. They act as a registry of wage slaves who want to sell themselves for the bread of life. Some workers are fooled into the belief that the Quebec government is tenderly caring for the workers. It is, in the same way that a farmer tends his cattle carefully. There is profit in the workers for the masters. Hence the Quebec government, the instrument of the capitalist class, must see to it that the workers are given little sops to keep them contented and working hard for their masters, just as the farmers give their cattle a handful of salt.

In Montreal the plumbers are striking. They were getting thirty-five cents an hour. They struck for forty. Some are getting it. Others who are still on strike are working as day laborers with pick and shovel. They get twenty-five cents an hour. This is the logical outcome of craft divisions. The plumbers with their demand for forty cents an hour look down upon unskilled workers at twenty-five cents. But the plumbers will not hesitate to invade the ranks of the day laborers and beat some other poor devil of a wage slave out of a job. The plumbers will fight for increased pay. But they will not fight for the overthrow of the wage system from which they cannot escape as long as capitalism lasts.

Many miners from England are being attracted to the Crows Nest Pass, B. C., by tales of big money to be earned in the mines. They arrive and find that many of the old hands are out of work and the civic authorities have to care for the new comers. This is one of the tricks of the master class. Get the wage slaves to spend their hard earned savings to come to a new slave region where no slave tasks are offered. If the slaves already at work strike, why the new comers can act as scabs. In the meantime they can be kept on soup at the city's expense. You working plugs are easy marks when you think McBride or Laurier or any of the other capitalist politicians are a bang for you after they have wheeled your votes from you.

SHORTER HOURS For ALL

By W. R. Shier.

Should we live to work or work to live?

A visitor from Mars would say that the people of this earth lived solely to work.

From sunrise to sunset it is work, work, to be repeated over the morrow and all through life until at last the grim reaper lays the exhausted toiler quietly in the grave.

For most of us, as the poet Hoover says, "Tis go to work to earn the cash to buy the food to gain the strength to go to work."

That just about sums up the niggardly life most wage earners, farmers, shopkeepers and petty manufacturers are subject to under Capitalism.

And the amazing part of it is that they permit themselves to be thus driven by the furious mania of work, not to satisfy extravagant wants of their own, but to heap mountains of wealth into the laps of multi-millionaires.

Incredible though it may seem, it is none the less true that the average worker produces the equivalent of his daily wages in less than three hours. The other six, seven or eight hours he is producing profits for his boss, rent for the landlords, interest for the money lenders and taxes for a government that spends most of its revenues upon engines of war.

It may interest the reader to know that Dr. Herzog, the famous Austrian economist, estimates that 5,000,000 people with the machinery of today, employed at socially useful labor, could supply a population of 20,000,000 with all the necessities and small luxuries of life by working 1½ hours per day.

A REASONABLE WORKING DAY.

Prof. Irving Fisher of Yale University declares that "the average working man works two or three hours too much every day."

The Professor is right. No person should be required to get to work earlier than 8 o'clock in the morning or leave later than 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

THE EIGHT HOUR DAY WOULD GIVE THE WORKERS MORE LEISURE IN WHICH TO REST TO STUDY, TO AMUSE THEMSELVES, TO TEND THEIR GARDENS, TO IMPROVE THEIR HOMES, TO PLAY WITH THEIR WIVES AND CHILDREN, TO FREQUENT THE PARKS AND RECREATION CENTERS, TO VISIT THEIR FRIENDS, TO ATTEND MEETINGS, TO BECOME SOCIABLE, INTELLIGENT, WELL-INFORMED CITIZENS.

The eight hour day would also improve the health of the workers and prolong their lives. It would increase their efficiency, reduce the number of railway collisions and other accidents, diminish the use of stimulants and perhaps spread employment among a greater number of people.

"Eight hours for work, eight hours for rest, eight hours for play. That is the cherished hope," says Robert Hunter, "of every man under the machine, of every child and woman toiler, of every wage-earner in the wide world."

THE MEANS OF REALIZATION.

How is that hope to be realized? Thus far it has been realized in several important trades through the efforts of organized labor.

This method still holds good. The unions are still winning concessions from the bosses. The stronger they are, the more successful they will be. You should join the union of your craft.

But there is a better method than strikes, better because it is less costly and more far reaching.

HAS IT EVER OCCURRED TO YOU THAT THE EIGHT HOUR DAY COULD BE ESTABLISHED IN A GREAT NUMBER OF INDUSTRIES BY LAW? AND FURTHERMORE, THAT ALL THE WORKERS IN ALL TRADES WOULD THEREBY BE BENEFITED, THE SKILLED AND THE UNSKILLED, THE ORGANIZED AND THE UNORGANIZED?

There is nothing impractical in such a law. It could easily be enforced by the government. Then why has it not been placed upon the statute books?

Ab, that is a question no capitalist newspaper will answer truthfully. The federal, state and municipal governments, my friend, are controlled directly, and indirectly by big business men—by wealthy bankers, railroad magnates, corporation managers, manufacturers and the like.

These gentlemen are shrewd. They are careful to place only their friends in office. They hire politicians the same as they hire attorneys. They dominate the Conservative and Liberal parties by campaign contributions. They manipulate governments as easily as they manipulate the stock exchange. That is why labor

legislation always goes down to defeat.

The employers of labor fight the eight hour movement because they fear that a reduction of hours will diminish their profits by making it necessary for them to employ more "hands," purchase new machinery and enlarge their plants.

As long, therefore, as the government is a rich man's government, eight hour bills will never get beyond the stage of agitation and discussion.

WORKING CLASS POLITICS.

But there is no occasion for despair. The workers have the franchise. They outnumber the capitalists nine to one. They can overwhelm them at the polls by sheer force of numbers. They can establish a labor administration in this country any time they want to.

ONCE THE WORKERS QUIT VOTING THEIR BOSSES INTO POWER ON ELECTION DAY, ONCE THEY RALLY TO THE SUPPORT OF COMPETENT WORKING CLASS CANDIDATES THAT ARE CONTROLLED BY A GENUINE WORKING CLASS PARTY, THEY CAN SPEEDILY GAIN FOR THEMSELVES, NOT ONLY A SHORTER WORKDAY, BUT ALSO EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACTS, OLD AGE PENSIONS, ADVANCED FACTORY LEGISLATION, STATE EMPLOYMENT OF THE UNEMPLOYED AND MANY OTHER THINGS DESIRABLE.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY is an exclusively working class party. It stands exclusively for working class interests. It is fighting hard to effect changes that will benefit immensely all who toil.

The Socialists have been advocating the eight hour day for the last sixty years. They have always stood in the vanguard of the eight hour movement. They have stood behind the trade unions in their fight for a shorter working day again and again. They have introduced eight hour measures in all legislative bodies they have had representation upon.

But the eight hour day is not the apex of their ambitions. It is but a mile post in their victorious advance into the new civilization that is dawning on the world.

The time is not far distant when everybody will be guaranteed useful, congenial and remunerative employment, when all the wants of all the people will be satisfied by a few hours labor each day, when the wealth produced by labor shall belong solely to those who work, when men and women will have opportunities for culture and travel that are now enjoyed only by a privileged few.

This is more than an idle dream. It is a definite program. To find out more about it, and to learn what part you can play in its realization, read "The Common Sense of Socialism" by John Spargo. It is as interesting as a novel and many times more instructive. Paper 25, cents. Obtainable from Cotton's Book Department.

This article is being printed in leaflet form. No. 14 of the Eureka Leaflets. One thousand, 80 cents. Five hundred for 50 cents.

The class lines are being drawn in Montreal. The Master Plumbers' Association has a strike on. The builders had a strike. So the Plumbers and the Builders Exchange and the Plasterers Association and those who employ painters and electricians are uniting into one Employers' Federation to fight the demands of the workers. This is good. The masters are coming out into the open. They are being forced to throw aside their hypocrisy about their interests being the workers' interests. They are drawing the class lines. The workers will be forced to draw the class lines also, and the class war will be sharply defined. The capitalists are forcing the workers to become class conscious.

The plute papers are declaring that Canada imported two and a half million dollars' worth of automobiles in the past year and that this is a new barometer of prosperity. So the Pharaohs of Egypt might have thought it a new sign of their prosperity as they watched their pyramids and palaces rise while the slaves died under the lash. You blame fool workers produce the wealth. You get the sack. Your masters enjoy their automobiles. Grin, men, grin. Hurrah for the prosperity that gives cotton dresses to your wives and automobiles and diamonds to your masters.

The Montreal Board of Trade will protest against Alphonse Verville's eight hour day bill as it will prevent the majority of manufacturers from competing for government contracts. The eight hour bill should be strongly supported. Write your M. P. telling him you want this bill to pass.

The Canadian Steel Foundries, Limited, has been incorporated with a capital of \$5,000,000. Here is a little trust that is organized to be swallowed up later by a bigger trust.

The U. S. government is prosecuting trusts. It is going after the electrical trust. There is not one trust the U. S. government has smashed. For the trustification of industry is the logical outcome of capitalism. They cannot be smashed. They can only be socialized.

Great news is heralded through the plute press. The rates in the U. S. for upper Pulman births have been ordered to be reduced. The "public" will save \$1,500,000 per annum by this reduction. Say, you wage mule. How often do you ride in a Pulman sleeper? Will this order reduce your cost of living?

A couple of desperadoes went mad in the east end of London and fired into the crowds. Thereupon a company of troops were ordered up, a thousand policemen were gathered, the building was burned down and now England is the laughing stock of Europe. Two men put the capital in an uproar. No wonder Berlin and Paris smile.

The Saskatchewan government is about to introduce a workman's compensation act whereby injured workmen can get compensation for their injuries without going to the courts. Compensation acts are becoming quite popular with our governments. By giving the workers a little at a time they are kept contented with their slavery and the masters still get their profits.

Samuel Barker, M. P., is president of the United Empire Bank. He is one of the members who will vote for or against Monk's co-operative credit bill. If he votes in the interests of those who labor he will vote for co-operation. If he votes for the banks against co-operation credit societies he will be doing the banks a favor and protecting his own investments. It is strange how workingmen will vote for their exploiters.

Archbishop Bruchesi of Montreal has advocated a tax upon city property for charitable purposes. There are forty million dollars worth of untaxed church property which, if taxed at two and a half per cent would bring in a million dollars. The city officials suggest carrying out Bruchesi's idea by taxing church property, and Bruchesi suddenly becomes mum on the question. Economic determinism shapes even the utterances of archbishops.

New York and London financiers are said to be about to "reorganize" the finances of the Montreal Railway Company. These reorganization schemes mean that the capitalization will be increased and more dividends will have to be squeezed out to be paid on the increased stock. If the people of Montreal object or try to reduce the charges the city will be raised of confiscation and London and Washington will get busy to make Montreal pay the parasites their unearned revenues. For the governments at the various countries exist to protect the incomes of the international parasites.

The British Liberals are going to try and abolish the veto of the House of Lords, give separate legislatures to England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, redistrict Britain for electoral purposes, do away with plural votes, have all elections on one day, pay the members of parliament, reduce the expenses of election and have the state pay them as in Canada. They also intend to introduce state insurance against sickness, invalidity and unemployment. They also intend to disestablish the Church of England in Wales. With these reforms, particularly the electoral reforms, Great Britain will move forward in the path of democracy. With a free election and a chance for the people to choose their members irrespective of their financial ability to pay heavy election costs, the Socialist vote of England should leap to two and a half millions.

The Yarmouth, N. S., fishermen fear the steam trawlers. There are a couple at work now off the coast of Nova Scotia. These trawlers each spread a net behind, fastened to two wire cables. They steam ahead at ten miles an hour and when the net becomes full of fish it is hauled aboard by a windlass. This system beats hard fishing all hollow. The steam machine is expropriating the job of the hand fishermen. It is doing the work of many men. It is lightening labor. But as the profits go to the capitalist owners and the little fishermen are forced to starve, the little fishermen do not like it. But Yarmouth will have little to do with Socialism. The Yarmouth folk have many bitter lessons to learn before they will learn wisdom.

ANALYTICAL SOCIALISM.

BI-METALISM

Formerly we used to hear more of bimetalism than we do now. When Bryan was running for President of the U. S. on a platform of the free coinage of silver at a ratio of sixteen to one, the newspapers were filled with the discussion. The eastern capitalists of the U. S. put up an election fund of sixteen million dollars to maintain gold payments. Those with mortgages on their farms were for Bryan. For bimetalism would hurt the eastern mortgage holders of the west. The economic interests of the east and west governed their political conduct.

Bimetalism means that two metals shall be made equally the basis of currency by fiat of law. The two metals are gold and silver.

As was explained in the article in last week's issue. The value of gold is determined by the amount of congealed labor power therein embodied. Thus when we say that a pair of shoes is worth five dollars, we mean that the amount of socially necessary labor time it takes to produce five dollars worth of gold is equal to the socially necessary labor time it takes to produce a pair of shoes.

At the time of Bryan's campaign for free silver at sixteen to one, one ounce of gold was equal to thirty-two ounces of silver. Bryan wanted it to be declared by law that sixteen ounces of silver should be considered of the same value as one ounce of gold.

Having a law passed declaring that a lamb has five legs would not give the lamb five legs. Having a law passed declaring that sixteen ounces of silver were worth one ounce of gold would not make it so. The sixteen ounces of silver would have but half the value of the one ounce of gold. As a result all the people indebted would be able, instead of paying in gold, to pay in a quantity of silver that would be worth only one half what the gold was worth. In other words, all the persons who were in debt could discharge their debts by paying one-half of their value.

This was what the west wanted to do. This was what the little merchants who were heavily in debt wanted to do. The farmers with mortgages on their farms could pay in silver of one-half value of the gold. The debt owners, on the other hand, were dead set against such a scheme. They declared that Bryan's measure was confiscation. They were right.

So those whose property were pledged fought for free coinage of silver and bimetalism. Those to whom the property was pledged fought for the gold standard and poured out money to elect their president. Both sides were governed by their economic interests purely and simply.

During this time the wage slaves were propertyless. They had but the sale of their labor power to look to for the means of obtaining their living. They had neither farms pledged to mortgage holders nor mortgages in their possession. Consequently bimetalism did not interest them one way or another. The fight was between the small property holders who were being squeezed out and who thought they saw a way of escape from the process of capitalist accumulation by forcing a nation wide compromise on their capitalist creditors of fifty cents on the gold dollar.

That fight has passed. Bimetalism is dead as an issue. Our thoughts are changing. We are no longer confused with bimetalism. We know wherein value consists. We are drawing the lines of the battle. We say that rent, interest and profit are based on the robbery of the workers. We are organizing the proletariat to take over the means of production. We know that gold and silver are valuable only in so far as they represent congealed labor power. Therefore we have no desire to conceal our knowledge and be sidetracked by a combat over whether we shall have labor power represented by silver or by gold or by both combined by legislative fiat.

We are aiming for a state of society in which silver and gold shall be driven from the function of money and where the purchasing power of a man shall depend upon his possession of labor checks given in return for hours of social labor duly performed. Under such a condition of affairs there will be no parasite loafers able to get a good living because of their possession of gold or of bank notes based on gold.

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