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SOME FACTS FOR COTTON'S WEEKLY

Under the above heading, the Truro, N. S., Citizen of February 28th publishes the following article:

"The slaves of Stanfield's underwear factory in Nova Scotia have created so large a quantity of goods in the past few months that the mills have closed down for a while. The slaves might have a holiday, until the surplus product is disposed of. Do the slaves get their pay while the goods they produced are being sold? Not that you could notice. They will have to rustle or starve until the nice kind masters are ready to allow them to work and produce more surplus wealth for the masters."

The above is from Cotton's Weekly, extreme Socialist, published at Cowansville, one of those kind of papers that seem to think the kingdom of Christ will be set up on earth by act of parliament. We are not going to quarrel with Cotton's. We give it credit for being sincere from its standpoint. We cannot always see eye to eye with it in all things. Perhaps that's to our loss, but it yet remains to be proved whether it is or not. In respect to the above quotation we merely wish to state a few facts.

In 1897, at the foot of Logan street, in this town, there stood two small wooden buildings, in color the same as the little red schoolhouse. In them the late Charles E. Stanfield carried on in a small way a small woollen business, employing seventeen hands. It was the foundation of Stanfield's unshrinkable underwear, and in addition he manufactured cloth and legging by the yard. Among the seventeen employees were two of his sons, John and Frank, who worked side by side with other employees, beginning at the bottom, the rough work, and gradually crawling up till they became practical workmen in the craft.

In the year mentioned, Mr. Stanfield, owing to failing health, evidenced a disposition to retire. His two sons, John and Frank, made him an offer for the plant on three years' time, an offer which he accepted. They immediately set about to push the business, to modernize and enlarge the plant.

By 1900, just three years, they had paid for the business, doubled their output, increased the number of their employees very largely, had so increased that larger premises, and a few years later the demand for the goods plant was necessary to supply the demand. It was then it merged from the Truro Knitting Mills into Stanfield's Limited, with the largest plant of its kind in Canada, in one way, and another employing about 500 hands. The plant and buildings are first rate in every particular, large, airy, cool in summer, warm in winter, sanitary arrangements first class. The wages paid are among the highest in Canada. This is the first time since John and Frank Stanfield took over the plant, that the plant has been closed down for a month. Since John and Frank Stanfield took over the plant, there is over-production because of falling off in business west of Toronto, where 60 per cent. of the firm's production is marketed. We presume no sane person in modern times would think any sane person would accuse them of being either slave owners or slave drivers.

The plant was not a gift to them. They bought and paid for the nucleus, and made the rest. There were 17 hands employed when they took hold of it. There are 500 now, or when the mill is in full operation, an increase of 483 in seventeen years. Last year the output value was \$1,250,000. The wage bill was a good deal of a million dollars, to say nothing of material, fuel and light, and other perquisites. The bulk of the material is wool, a great deal of which is bought in the surrounding districts. A great deal of the stock of the concern is held by widows, orphans, and other people in moderate circumstances, who receive good dividends. A portion of the earnings is put away each year to tide over a hard place, to make a greater fight to get business.

Now the question is, has John and Frank Stanfield benefited any person by taking over the small business of seventeen years ago, and developing it into a business of present proportions? Would Truro, would the working classes be any better off today if they had not done what they have done? If the systems of the division of wealth of production is not just fair to the working classes, did John and Frank Stanfield create them? Were they not in vogue before they were born? They certainly were. Then are John and Frank Stanfield slave owners and slave drivers?

The facts are before our readers. They can judge for themselves. We do not think Cotton's has gained any strength for its cause in these parts by publishing the Stanfield boys, nor by abusing others similarly situated here and elsewhere. Such writings are doing the cause of desired reform more harm than good.

FURTHER PLAIN FACTS

The above article gives the viewpoint of the non-Socialist. It is moderate in tone. It seeks knowledge. The writer cannot understand what we are driving at.

John and Frank Stanfield, fourteen years ago, took over the business of their father, which employed seventeen hands, and agreed to pay for it in three years. They did this, expanded the business so now it employs 500 hands. They purchase raw material in the neighborhood, give work, bring prosperity to Truro, and cannot be blamed because a failing demand in the west, where the underwear is marketed, prevents money flowing in. This is the gist of the facts stated. The writer wants to know if Frank and John Stanfield are slave owners and slave drivers. Are they responsible for the system which was in vogue long before they started in business? The writer alleges that widows and orphans have their money invested in the undertaking.

Let us make statements of facts on these points. John and Frank Stanfield are labor skinnners. They have got their wealth through the system which allows one class to employ labor for a living wage and take the surplus values wrung from the hides of the working class. John and Frank were worth nothing in 1897. They got next the game of skinning Truro labor. And in three years time had paid for their plant. The profits came from the working class. They have extended the business and now employ 500 hands. Whereas in 1897 they were skinning seventeen workers, now they are skinning five hundred workers. They have extended the plant, it is said.

No. They did not extend the plant. Workmen put building material together, worked hard and long, not the labor skinnners own the results of the toil of the workers in the building trade.

Widows and orphans and others in moderate means who invest in the Stanfield concern are labor skinnners and exploiters. They are robbers. They ally themselves with Frank and John Stanfield in the labor skinning business. It does not excuse John and Frank to say, "See, they are not alone in the skinning business. There are little skinnners, joined with them."

The prosperity brought to Truro is a slave prosperity. The workers are given but a living wage. The rest is absorbed by those who live by rent, interest and profit. The prosperity Stanfield's Limited brings to Truro is the same prosperity which resulted to a community in old Roman days when a slave owner came and settled in a community with five hundred slaves. There would be activity. There would be bustle, and slaves would go to work and return to their slave quarters at night, and there would be dances, feasting and much expenditure and delight in the quarters occupied by the slave owners. The prosperity would be purely for the master class. Thus it is with Truro.

John and Frank Stanfield are in part responsible for the failure of the demand in the west. In proportion as they belong to the master class and share in its revenues, in proportion as they pour goods onto the market and give not to the wage slaves enough pay to clear the market, they are responsible. It will be noted in the paragraph that Cotton's did not mention Frank and John at all. We mentioned the masters generally. The masters as a whole are responsible for hard times and failing demand. The workers produce tremendous amounts of wealth and can buy a beggarly quantity of their own production. Hence the goods pile up on the market, and the poor slaves are thrown out of work. John and Frank are responsible with their fellow labor skinnners.

John and Frank are not responsible for the originating of the system of robbery, but are responsible for its continuance in so far as they do not use their energy and means to overthrow the system of robbery which brings unearned wealth from a slave class to them. They are responsible for the active energy they spend in maintaining and supporting the rotten system. John Stanfield sits in the house of Commons. He never votes for the working class. His vote is always given in support of the labor skinning measures brought before the House of Commons.

A further statement of fact may be of interest. We have no expectation of John and Frank Stanfield changing their tactics and supporting Socialism than we had of a couple of Turkish pashas, squatting on the Macedonian Christians, getting off the backs of the Christians until they were chased off. So John and Frank will continue to squat on the backs of the workers until the workers rise. John to useful work along with every other parasite capitalist in Canada.

THE REMEDY SIMPLE

On March the 3rd, the Liberals and the Conservative members in the House of Commons, discussed the strike of the miners on Vancouver Island.

The debate can be summed up very shortly. The Liberal members said "Yah, yah, yah," to the Conservative members.

And the Conservative members said "Yah, yah, yah," to the Liberal members.

The Liberal members pointed out how the poor miners were being abused by the mine owners and how the Conservative government stood by and did nothing, and implied that the Tory government was in league with the capitalist mineowners.

The Tory members did not deny the charge. They pointed out how the miners abused the poor miners in the Springfield and Cape Breton strikes, and how the Liberal government when in office stood by and did nothing, and implied that the Liberal government was in league with the capitalist mineowners.

Both sides told the truth and throughout the country is the vest-pocket property of the capitalist class. The workers can expect nothing from the Liberal party.

The Conservative party at Ottawa and throughout the country is the vest-pocket property of the capitalist class. The workers can expect nothing from the Conservative party.

Both parties play the old, old, game of abusing each other. Both parties want office and have to climb to office through the votes of the working class.

Each party while out of office, is the great friend of the working class.

Each party, when in office, jumps with all its repressive might upon the working class, the moment the working class show the least symptoms of raising their heads from the hell of wage slavery.

The remedy is simple. Let the working class get into their own party, the Social-Democratic party, capture the political power, and kick the master class off the backs of the working class.

Speaking at Hamilton, Ont., Sir Wilfrid Laurier pointed out that Canada raised 200,000,000 bushels of wheat, exported 150,000,000 bushels, and bread in England was cheaper than in Canada. He exclaimed that this showed there was something rotten in the state of Canada. Hear, hear, the Liberal and Tory parties are rotten and smell to heaven. The Tories say that we should have protection so that the price of goods may go up and the workers be paid high wages—just enough to pull down a living wage. Laurier says there should be free trade so the cost of living may be low so the workers may be paid low wages—just enough to pull down a living wage. And the capitalist skinnners should get the rest. Laurier is so thick with the labor skinnners that he thinks the slaves should be content to produce enormous wealth annually, and give most of it to the working class.

Asbestos Corporation had profits of \$270,000. The plutes count their incomes like that. The workers count their incomes in cents. And yet the workers are the ones to do all the work.

The working class must rely upon itself for its own advance.

COMMUNISM

"Some Comrades here say that Socialism is Communism. Others say it is not. Would you explain the matter in your next paper."

—A. J. Allison, Young, Sask.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, there were many experiments. Many persons thought they could work some scheme by which people could be got to be just to each other. Colonies were founded. These schemes were called by their originators Socialist schemes. They were put forth by persons who were later called Utopians.

The word Socialism having been taken by these reform schemes, Marx adopted the word Communism and called the enunciation of his theories "The Communist Manifesto," so as not to be confused with the then Socialists. This was in 1848. Since then the Utopian Socialists have become known as communists or Utopians, while the communism of Marx has become known as Socialism. Thus during the past seventy years the two words have completely changed their meaning. The Socialism of seventy years ago is now known as communism, and the communism of seventy years ago is now known as Socialism.

At present, Socialism, correctly speaking, means a science of society and social evolution. Popular speaking, Socialism means the objects of the Socialist parties of the world. These are the public ownership and democratic management of the means of production and distribution, with the abolition of rent, interest and profit. Socialism will give the workers the full social value of the wealth they create. Socialism means collective ownership so the workers may produce without being drained by the capitalist owners. We want collective ownership of the means of wealth production, so there may be private ownership and enjoyment by the producers of the wealth.

Communism, on the other hand, means, not the collective ownership of the MEANS of wealth production, but the common ownership of the WEALTH.

Under Socialism, a worker will produce collectively, and will own individually, food, clothing, piano, automobile, whatever his fancy may dictate, to the extent of the Social value he has created.

Under communism, the wealth would be owned in common and shared in common. Socialism means collective ownership of the means whereby wealth is produced. Communism means the collective ownership of the wealth produced.

Socialism will provide incentive to greater production, as the producer will enjoy the results of his toil. Communism means, from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs.

Man may eventually evolve into a communist state of society. But what the class conscious worker is now after is Socialism.

How Britain eats Her women

Kate Richards O'Hare, writing in the National Rip-Saw, thus describes the way the working women of Britain are treated:

I arrived at Wigan at night. Before six the next morning I heard a sort of harmony that through my dreams seemed to be a strange, distant music. That evening, as darkness fell, I heard it again and asked my hostess to explain. With that minor note of tragedy that echoes through the voice of every working woman in England, she replied: "Why, comrade, it's only the steel shod clogs of the pit-brow lassies echoing over the cobblestones as they return home from their day's work of picking stones out of the coal up at the mines."

The next day I watched these pit-brow lassies, young, immature girls, at the critical period of life, working in an open shed where the rain and snow beat in, with no heat, no dressing rooms, no toilet conveniences, no help from machinery, heaving the heavy tubs of coal by sheer brute strength into troughs, and then picking, by hand the stones and slate from the coal.

Near Cradley Heath, in the brick-fields, I saw an eighteen-year-old girl with a sort of rude pack saddle, much more primitive and brutal than we use on the burros in the west, carrying green bricks. Two men lifted the grade of bricks, weighing 200 pounds, to her back, she carried it about one hundred, and fifty yards and two men set it down at the door of the kiln. These rude pack saddles rub blisters larger than my two hands on the tender skin; sometimes the blood runs down and drips upon the ground as the girl toils beneath her brutal load.

At Cradley Heath women stand all day over the forge and anvil forging chains, and the babies sleep in a box beneath the bench while other children play about in the workshops or cling to the mother's sweat-soaked skirts.

In Bermondsey girls stagger under brutal heavy trays loaded with scalding jam and carry them up three or four flights of stairs and down again when they are ready for shipment to the shipping docks.

All over England 27,000 barmaids act as bartenders. They serve drunken brutes their drinks and listen always to the vile, brutal degrading conversations of the barroom frequenters.

All over Britain one sees the working women chained like beasts of burden to brutal labor that would be much better done by machines of iron and steel, until body, brain and soul are crushed and warped, and in the end many die in the gutter or lie drooling, doddering lumps of worn-out humanity in the helpless ward of a workhouse.

Borden wants Canada to spend \$30,000,000 for battleships to give to the British government to defend the tight little islands. A country that treats its women in such a barbarous manner is not worth defending.

The New Brunswick farmers' and dairymen's 38th annual convention held recently at Fredericton, passed a resolution calling upon the provincial government to make government loans to farmers at three or four per cent. Heretofore the banks have hogged public credit. They have roused the farmers to a fareyouwell. The farmers are waking up and demanding cheaper money. They should get it. The sooner the parasite banks are put out of business the quicker will capitalist production develop into putridity and go by the board.

A comrade in Nova Scotia is being turned out of a job he has held for thirteen years. All that time he has worked and produced wealth for his master. Now he is sacked. This system is sure one hell of a system for the useful workers.

The Nova Scotia Legislature is in session. It is suffering from dry rot. The brains exhibited by the legislators in their discussions would do credit to a ten year old boy. For the love of Mike, Nova Scotia reds, send a Socialist to Halifax and stir up the boneheads.

During February last the failures in the Dominion numbered 227 with liabilities of \$3,526,000. A year ago February the failures numbered 138 with \$1,694,000 liabilities. The little fellows are getting squeezed out. Big business is gathering them into its capacious maw.

Profits of the Riordan Pulp and Paper Company for the past year were \$309,697. This is one of the smaller agencies of exploitation. Still, the owners take in unearned profit to the amount equal to the annual wages of 500 Canadian wage slaves. Nice system—for the masters.

Premier McBride swats the working class of Vancouver Island with police batties and militia, and then hands \$10,000,000 more to Mackenzie and Mann who are financially interested in the mines. The working class of British Columbia voted for this treatment by voting for the henchmen of the capitalists.

Cape Breton Electric Railway, N.S., made \$12,171 net profits during December, 1913. The wage plus who gets \$50 per month thinks he is well off. When he gets next to the tremendous amounts taken out of his hide in profits, he gets discontented. May the discontent increase.

The Corporation of Glasgow, Scotland, are sending a delegation to study the workings of the single tax in Vancouver. Will it also investigate the unemployed of that city? Will it study the police brutality when the unemployed demonstrated on the Powell grounds a couple of winters ago?

The Truro Citizen attacks Cotton's for not bowing down to the Stanfield boys for their patriotism in employing five hundred wage slaves in Truro, N.S. The annual statement shows that Stanfield's Limited made net profits last year of \$116,000 AFTER PAYING BOND INTEREST. After paying the bond sharks, Stanfield's took \$230 out of the hide of every slave employed. Stanfield's Limited is very patriotic to the pocketbooks of the parasite class.

The bank of British North America profits for the past year have been \$700,000. Be content, you toiler, with your dollar and a half or two dollars a day. Know you not that the parasite receivers of the wealth you create are quite content to take hundreds of thousands of dollars out of your hide. Don't vote for Socialism. That would change the system and give you what you created. Your masters are against you having what you produce. To please them, vote for Laurier or Borden.

In the City of Ottawa the Salvation Army otherwise known as the Starvation Army, is granted the right to use the streets to shout glory hallelujah in, to beat drums, to take an hour of toil, to shout the dope about pie in the sky to starving slaves on earth. But the members of the Socialist local are not allowed to hold street meetings to tell the slaves about getting pie on earth. The master class rob the slaves and the police are instructed to arrest those workers who dare tell in public about the robbery.

A Royal Commission has been investigating the question of old age pensions for Canada for many years. White, Minister of Finance, says that public opinion is in favor of a resolution favoring the giving of a free site. Bill and Dan want the money for their railway. The Steel and Coal Company that exploits foreigners in Cape Breton wants the money as a bonus. The capitalist class do not want to bow through with old age pensions, wherefore White says we cannot have them. The workers who voted for Laurier or Borden voted for this slap at the aged.

Sam Hughes has notified Nova Scotia cities that he wants to establish four armories in that province and has been asking for free sites. The town of Westville met and passed a resolution favoring the giving of a free site. At the same time a Comrade wrote Cotton's wanting a How to organize evelone so as to form a Socialist local. Developing capitalism produces the demand on the part of the slave drivers for militia and soldiers to shoot down the slaves and on the part of the driven slaves a demand for organization literature for the overthrow of capitalism.

According to Henry George, the apostle of big business, and single tax, Socialism is "a weak project for putting men in leading strings to a brainless abstraction called the state." If this were so Socialists would rejoice when the militia is called out by the state to force the workers back to work in Vancouver Island, when the militia get to work to drive slaves to toil in Michigan, Colorado, West Virginia, South Africa or Russia. Socialists do not want a bureaucratic state. They want INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY. But as this would have interfered with George's special pets, the industrial capitalists, George maligned the Socialist aims.

During the strike in Cape Breton, N.S., the papers howled about "foreign" unions being allowed in Canada. The militia was called out, and the workers were driven back to slavery of a revolting kind. Now the Dominion Steel Corporation and the Dominion Coal Company, Ltd. of Glace Bay and the Dominion Iron and Steel Company of Sydney, have placed an order with the Transatlantic agency for 1,500 foreigners from Eastern Europe who will not be able to speak English and will be under the thumb of the employing companies. The patriotic employer is a labor skinner who is willing to sacrifice a Canadian for a Russian who will work cheaper, and who howls when the slaves are turned for the workers of the world to unite in one body.

TWO PARTIES

There are two parties in Canada, both revolutionary, both standing uncompromisingly for the overthrow of capitalism.

The one party is the Social-Democratic party of Canada, and the other is the Socialist party of Canada.

Cotton's Weekly is the official organ of the Social-Democratic party of Canada. The Western Clarion is the official organ of the Socialist party.

In Alberta the Socialist party has eight organizers in the field. In New Brunswick they have four locals.

The pressure of unemployment, hard times, police brutality, and the miserable conditions forced upon the workers by their capitalist masters during the past year have made Socialist propaganda easy. Both parties have taken full advantage of the situation to spread a knowledge of Socialist principles.

By aiding either political party to win numbers and power, you will be doing excellent work for your fellowmen.

No doubt the time will not be long before the two parties will fuse. In meantime, they are undermining the power of the master class. That power rests upon the ignorance of the wage worker as to his slave position in modern society.

COST OF ELECTIONS

"Fifty thousand dollars for each constituency is the minimum expended to obtain votes during an election. I am not in the councils of either party, but I venture to guess that in some Nova Scotia counties it ran nearer two hundred thousand dollars—this in the 1911 contest over reciprocity."

Such was the statement made by Dr. Cutten, president of Acadia University in the First Baptist Church, Amherst, N.S.

There are two hundred and twenty-one constituencies in Canada. At an average cost of \$50,000 each, the total is well over \$10,000,000.

The capitalist class can well afford to spend \$10,000,000 to capture the government at Ottawa. For there the laws are made which control the militia, the armed forces, the franchise, the system which takes from the working class all but a living wage.

The amount taken in unearned revenues from the working class of Canada each year is a half billion dollars. In four years, this amounts to two billion dollars.

To get the political power to transfer to their pockets two billions of dollars, the masters spend \$10,000,000. This is but one-half of one per cent.

Intelligent workers declare it would pay the working class to send their own class conscious Comrades to Parliament to make the laws so the workers could get the full social value of the wealth they created.

The capitalists call such workers discontented agitators, and eged on by the men who rob the workers, foolish workers think the Socialists fools.

The capitalists know the Socialists are not fools. They know the socialists are the wisest of the wise.

Working men who oppose Socialism are keeping themselves and their class out of two billions of dollars between election times.

CONDITIONS IN CAPE BRETON

When the delegation of the Trades and Labor Council of Canada visited Premier Borden among other things the delegates asked for an investigation of the way the Steel and Coal Company of Cape Breton uses the employees. Mr. Watters, spokesman of the delegation, declared:

"The conditions of employment in the steel industries, particularly in Sydney, Cape Breton, are of such a revolting nature that the mind recoils from contemplating the degrading and the victims of such conditions."

The long hours of toil, together with the miserably small remuneration vouchsafed, robs these workers and their dependants of all that makes life worth living. The long hours of toil means the degradation and destruction of the workers' health and destroys one's capacity for recreation, healthy and harmless enjoyment, quenches the thirst for knowledge and drowns the desire to reach a higher plane of being. It does, however, create and intensify the desire for stimulants, an antidote to numbing and exhaustive toil, and leads to deeper degradation. The remuneration is insufficient to insure a fair measure of the necessities of life to an ordinary family. These workers are denied anything approaching the comforts that should surround every home. The squalor and wretchedness in which they and their families exist make for a low type of humanity, physically, mentally and morally. The necessity of protecting and improving our Canadian nationality requires the protection and improvement of every section of the people within the boundaries of Canada. One of the menaces to a high type of Canadian citizenship is the manhood and womanhood destroying influences to which our people, slaves of the steel companies, are subjected."

"The employment of special police around the mines and mills by the company has resulted in such a system of espionage that any effort on the part of the employees to improve their material well being through co-operative action is promptly checked."

This is the company that has received millions of dollars in bonuses from the Dominion government.

It imports workers from other countries, ignorant of English, keeps them in the worst kind of slavery, with police batties constantly spring on them.

Borden and Laurier are both for the company against the employees. Every vote given for either Liberal or Tory party is a vote for the perpetuation of these hellish conditions.

You, the working class, can end these conditions once and for all by voting for yourselves to own collectively the mines, mills, and means of wealth production generally.

Vote the Socialist ticket. Join the party.

Penmans, Ltd., had \$325,000 net profits. But the creatures who actually were so low in the social scale as to create the wealth of Penmans got the usual bare living wage.

The patriotism of the Canadian capitalist has as much ethical value as the smell put out by a roused skunk.

