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The Tory M.P.'s at Ottawa are Howling, Not Because the Workers are Robbed, but Because Frank Oliver is Getting Too Much of the Swag

FOREWORD

To many the Socialists are an enigma. They cannot get our viewpoint. They think we are aiming at the brotherhood of man and consider that our conduct in belaboring the capitalist system and calling the capitalist robbers is inconsistent with our ideals. We do not denounce grafting politicians because of their grafting against capitalist law. We do not consider that an honest capitalist politician is much better than a dishonest one. The Socialists, therefore, seem inconsistent, discontented anarchists who have no scheme of government and who seem only happy when growing against the successful capitalists of the day.

It has been well said that man's ideas are governed by his economic condition. To the thinking wage-slave who has felt the tyranny of the free system of wages, the Socialist position is seen to be clear and consistent almost at once. To the thinking capitalist who has lived his life among the parasite consumers of the unpaid labor of the workers, who sees the trickery, corruption, and brutality of his associates, the Socialist position is a hard one to grasp. He must study hard and long. He must reconstruct his view of human nature. He must realize that he has seen human nature as influenced only by the wild struggle for the heaped-up riches produced by a slave class. He must also realize that the Socialist looks upon human conduct, graft and graft charges with a different eye than that of the non-Socialist.

To show the Socialist position, to exhibit to the ignorant but knowledge-seeking non-Socialist the position we take with regard to graft charges, I wish to discuss the conduct of one Frank Oliver, member of parliament for Edmonton, Alberta, and presently Minister of the Interior in the Laurier cabinet. I wish to discuss the graft charges laid against him, the indignation expressed by that set of capitalist politicians known as the Conservative party, and the defence of Frank Oliver by that set of capitalist politicians known as the Liberal party. I wish to discuss these things and show wherein the Socialists would differ in the criticism of this case both from the Liberals and from the Conservatives.

With regard to my article of last week concerning the honorable Adolphe LaFontaine and his points, I showed that, based on last year's cost, the talk of the members cost the country \$7,596. I thought some capitalist politician might arise and say that last year the session of parliament lasted but 175 days, while this year on May 5th, the date the article was written, parliament had already lasted 189 days and the members were still talking strong and lustily. No capitalist politician came forward, and the reason is that the members are planning to have two sessions this year and to garner in unto themselves \$5,000 for two sessions of parliament in one year instead of but \$2,500. So you see this year the cost per day of parliament is likely to go far higher than it did last year. There are 220 members of parliament and \$2,500 extra for each of them together with their travelling expenses will come high.

Incidentally with regard to the case of Frank Oliver the discussion held on May 3rd, 1911 was participated in by thirteen members. The discussion occupies 48 pages of Hansard out of 82 pages of the discussions for the day. So this little discussion cost the country \$4,416. Each speech of the thirteen members cost the country \$342. As the cost of the whole day, based on the low cost of last year, was \$7,596 and as the hours put in by the members on that day were but six and three quarters a little figuring will show that each hour of talk cost at least \$1,125.33. Each minute cost \$18.75. These figures may delight those persons who love to dwell among curious statistics and to whom it is a pleasure to discover the cost of talk.

THE GRAFT CHARGES

On April 27th a Toronto paper declared that on May 8th, 1907, the Hon. Frank Oliver had an order in council passed giving the Canadian Northern railway the power to select in Saskatchewan the whole of the land granted by the government to the Manitoba and South Eastern,

which is the Canadian Northern in Manitoba, in 1890, 600,000 acres. In 1907, there were no lands left in Manitoba, it was alleged, and the company was given the right to select its lands in Saskatchewan.

Then the newspaper added the following: "In the same year, \$50,000 was deposited from the Manhattan Bank of New York to the Imperial Bank at Edmonton in the name of Mr. Oliver. The exact date was October 3, 1907. About one year later, just before the general election of 1908, the sum of \$19,000 was deposited from the Manhattan Bank in the name of Mr. Oliver at the Imperial Bank at Edmonton. It is known that he checked out this money for campaign purposes."

Dan McGillicuddy, a western Liberal, had written to Laurier about Mr. Oliver and in his letter declared among other things, "Recently evidence has come to me that one of your colleagues is a grafter and a boodler. I shall be in Ottawa for a few days, and am willing to submit the evidence to you as Tarte was willing to submit his evidence in the Langevin-McGreevy scandal to Sir John Macdonald."

Frank Oliver was in the lime light. The Conservatives are anxious to get to the public corn crib. They think the easiest way to do this is to show the capitalists of Canada that the Liberals are dishonest servants of the capitalists.

The Conservatives began talking about the Oliver case. The Tory papers began featuring the case. Laurier consulted with Frank Oliver and Frank Oliver denied that the money was given him as a bribe in payment of allowing the Canadian Northern to select 600,000 acres of land from the rich Saskatchewan lands instead of from the swamp lands of Manitoba.

Thereupon Laurier moved in the House that a committee of five members be appointed to investigate whether there was any truth in the suspicion or insinuation that the Minister of the Interior had received over sixty-nine thousand dollars in consideration of his having an order in council passed allowing the C. N. R. to select the six hundred thousand acres in Saskatchewan.

This did not suit the Conservatives. So Borden moved an amendment that a committee of five be appointed to investigate the charges as set forth to the prime minister. Such a resolution would allow the Tory members on the committee to go fishing and the Liberals did not want that and after a lengthy discussion Borden's amendment was voted down. Then Haughton-Lennox moved in amendment that the committee investigate whether the sixty-nine thousand dollars "were received or obtained by" said the Hon. Mr. Oliver in such manner, under such circumstances or from such sources as would render the said minister's acceptance thereof prejudicial to the public interest.

This amendment was voted down, all the Liberals voting against it and all the Conservatives for it. Then Laurier's main motion was carried and no doubt the committee is patently investigating whether the Hon. Frank Oliver put through such a raw deal as to accept a direct bribe for juggling with millions of acres of the public domain in the interests of a private corporation.

Incidentally it may be remarked that the Liberals have become very friendly with the Mackenzie-Mann group of railways of which the C. N. R. is one. It is guaranteeing the bonds of the railway across Ontario to the tune of \$35,000 per mile. It is going to take away the mail subsidy from the C. P. and give it to the C. N. steamships which have yet to be put on the North Atlantic route. There is also a strong movement among the Liberals to give the Intercolonial to the C. N. R. as its eastern end.

WHEREIN THEY DIFFER

I shall not weary my readers with large quotations from the speeches of the voluble honorable members. I shall not drag into light the notorious inanities, the technical quibblings about twaddledum and tweddledoo with which the pages of Hansard are laden. I shall leave them enshrined in the oblivion of that governmental publication. I shall simply show wherein the two parties did not differ, and wherein they differed, and the Socialist position.

The whole thirteen speakers were agreed on one thing. They were

agreed that if the Honorable Frank Oliver could be proven guilty of grafting or bribery that he should be made to take the consequences, not of his wrong doing, but of the discovery thereof.

The Liberal and Conservative speakers differed in this. The Liberal speakers, and the Liberal members by their votes, considered that, as Mr. Oliver had denied that the sixty-nine thousand dollars was paid him, as a bribe for granting a change of location for the selection of six hundred thousand acres of land by a railway company, this insinuation was a safe one to be investigated and a committee, therefore, should be appointed to do the investigating and bring in a report in accordance with their findings upon this one matter.

The Conservative speakers, and the Conservative members by their votes, held that as Frank Oliver was a poor man when he started into politics and whereas he had deposits made to his credit of sixty-nine thousand dollars, and as a western Liberal had declared he had proof that Oliver was a grafter, it would be good for the political hopes of the Conservative members that Frank Oliver be brought before a committee and made to prove that he came by the sixty-nine thousand dollars in some way recognized by the capitalist law. The Liberals evidently considered this last proposition had for their political aspirations of another four years as the government servants of the capitalists, and unanimously voted it down.

The Frank Oliver case is too good a case to be let drop. No doubt we will hear much about this gentleman from the Tory political spouters as they spread themselves across the continent and explain in indignant tones to the exploited workers what a suspicious man this Oliver is who has sixty-nine thousand dollars deposited to his credit and will not tell where he got it.

The Liberals will no doubt use up much valuable time in painting the Honorable Frank Oliver in glowing colors, in showing how the wicked Tories are nailing this pure gentleman upon the cross of public calumny all because he would not let the enquiring Tories discover just where his bank account made a raise of sixty-nine thousand dollars.

WHEREIN THEY AGREE

Sixty-nine thousand dollars is a big sum of money. It is more than the average wage earner of Canada sees in his life time. If we put the average income of the wage-slave of Canada at four hundred dollars, it would take a wage slave working steadily for a hundred and seventy-two and one-half years and never spending a cent to accumulate \$69,000.

The wage-slaves of Canada know they are robbed. They know that every cent a capitalist spends on himself from his unearned revenues is that much taken from labor. They are thinking deeply.

When the Conservatives demanded an investigation of Oliver's bank book, Oliver answered them in a way they could not get around. He said, "I do not think that it would tend to the dignity of Parliament, to the standing of public life or to the good of the country, that because a thing or a blackmailer should make a statement in regard to a man's private bank account, thereupon the authority of parliament should be invoked to expose that bank account to the public, no matter what the consequence might be to the man involved or no matter who might be affected by it."

The Conservatives tried to get round this by saying that Mr. Oliver had been accused of being a boodler and a grafter and that it would do no harm for him to explain just where he got the \$69,000. They could not deny that a man's private business was his own affair but they argued that with regard to public matters, a servant of the public who suddenly had his bank account swelled by a small fortune, should explain to the public and prove that that fortune was honestly gotten. Not one speaker put forth the plea that the private business of a capitalist exploiter was a subject for public investigation.

You can see how clearly the two old parties are squabbling over trifles. There is a method in their madness. There is a key to their squabblings. It is this.

Canadians are in the grip of the banks. The banks have had laws

passed whereby they can squeeze Canadians good and hard. The banks have had their graft legalized. Now according to both Grit and Tory, the banks should have their graft given them by laws passed by the M. P.'s. But the M. P.'s must pass these laws that bleed the people for the banks and must do it for a beggarly \$2,500 per year. They must not go and hold up the banks and say that the banks cannot have their graft legalized unless the banks give the M. P.'s something on the side.

The railways bleed the people. The net profits of the railways run over sixty million dollars a year. Now both Grit and Tory hold that the railways should have the chance to bleed the people of Canada to the tune of sixty millions a year. But the M. P.'s must give this annual graft to the railways and themselves get no more than their sessional indemnity of \$2,500. They must not go to the railway barons and say that the graft of the railways will be stopped unless the railways pay part of the legalized plunder to the M. P.'s. The M. P.'s must look upon themselves as wage slaves working for \$2,500 a year and must be obedient and profitable lawmakers for the trusts on that sum.

The C. N. R. wanted to select 600,000 acres of land in Saskatchewan instead of among the swamp lands of Manitoba. Now both Liberal and Grit hold that the C. N. R. capitalist parasites must be accommodated by Frank Oliver in his position as Minister of the Interior. Oliver must hand over this large bunch of real estate to the capitalist masters and he must do it and get nothing but his ministerial indemnity. Woe be to him if the other political henchmen of the master class can catch him getting a rakeoff of \$69,000 from the parasites, his actions are enriching to the extent of millions. Such a thing must not be tolerated.

THE SOCIALIST POSITION

As a matter of fact most of the M. P.'s learn the capitalist tricks and get in on the game on their own account. As Kipling would say, "That is another story."

It remains but to point out the Socialist position. The intelligent non-Socialists who have read this far will probably have reasoned out for themselves the position we take.

Our fundamental proposition is that social labor applied to the raw materials is the only source of wealth. Through forcing the workers to compete against each other for a job in the mills and on the railways owned by the capitalists, the workers get in wages only enough to feed and shelter themselves. But when they work they produce four times the amount of wealth that they can live on. So three-quarters of the wealth produced by labor goes to the capitalists. This comes to the capitalists as rent, interest, and profit.

The function of the capitalist politicians at Ottawa is to see that labor gets but a bare living wage. It is their job to see that subsidies are granted to steamships, to steel industries, that millions of dollars are given to railways, that hundreds of millions of acres of land are given them. The capitalist politicians see to it that the laws are so arranged that labor only gets the quarter of the value of what it produces, that the rest shall be duly delivered to the employing and owning parasites. Socialists say that capitalism should be abolished, that the workers should be given the full social value of the wealth they produce. It matters little to the workers whether Frank Oliver gets a rakeoff of \$69,000 for 600,000 acres of the public domain. What matters is that the means of production are being handed over to parasite capitalists in order that the workers thereon may be mugged of the greater part of the wealth they produce.

The mighty word battles that the members of Parliament have put up over Adolphe LaFontaine and his points and over Frank Oliver and his \$69,000 make the Socialists smile. We know that all this outcry is raised, not in the interests of the exploited, but in the interests of the exploiters. We know that the capitalists demand faithful servants and if Frank Oliver has held up the parasites who are being given the national domain for a rakeoff, that the capitalist masters will be angry with their unfaithful servant and will much prefer to be

served by faithful Robert Borden than with unfaithful Frank Oliver.

Workers and Farmers of Canada. You have nothing to hope for from the politicians now at Ottawa save robbery. Why not choose from among yourselves comrades who know the causes of your sufferings, to represent you at Ottawa and at the various provincial capitals?

The New York Call, the daily Socialist paper of that city, has pulled off one of the biggest newspaper scoops of years and has probably prevented the American invasion of Mexico. It got the inside information of what Taft and Knox were up to. Taft was moving the fleet to Florida and was concentrating thousands of soldiers at Galveston. Taft was laying the skids for a quick dash of the troops across the border under pretence of protecting Americans in Mexico. The Call published the plans, they were telegraphed to all the European capitals, the Mexican revolutionists moved south from the boundary. Americans were protected by the rebels in Mexico and Taft had to reluctantly announce to the world that he had no intention of moving the troops south. Thanks to the Call Morgan and his puppets are foiled for a while.

The Richelieu and Ontario, the Northern and the Inland Navigation companies have amalgamated into one company. This will cut down expenses and do away with competition. Many clerks can be sacked and head offices can be closed. The employees on the St. Lawrence river and on Lake Ontario will only have one company to hire their labor power. The competition for workers will go along with the competition for business. Rates can be raised to the public and wages to the workers can be reduced. This is the natural result of capitalism. Can't you see that private ownership is detrimental? Can't you see that we must have Socialism if we are not to have tyranny?

Socialism will never come, say some. They think they speak wisely but as soon as they open their mouths to give their reasons it can be easily seen that they speak foolishly. The principal reason given is that Socialism never has been and therefore never will be. But this is a weak argument. For railways, once had never been, and telegraphs, telephones, steamships, sewing machines, airplanes, printing presses and dynamite once had never been. And old age pensions, workmen's compensation acts, unemployed insurance and minimum wage bills are but very recent laws. The anti-Socialist who argues that Socialism will never come because it never has been is a very ignorant person.

Bernard Shaw declares that under Socialism there will be seasonal occupation in which people will not be able to be employed all the time. He declares that we will have to pay such workers both while they work and during the time when they have no work to do, and that we will have to pay them more when they are forced to be idle than when they are at work because it is more disagreeable to do nothing than to be useful.

You think Cotton's Weekly says many strong things. You wonder why the government does not touch it? It is because Cotton's looks to the great mass of Canadians for support. Many people feel that Cotton's is extreme in some points. But they know in their inmost hearts that it is right. Wherefore the government dare not touch it.

Mr. workingman voter, don't get mad at the capitalist for robbing you. Get mad at yourself for being such a chump as to vote for the politicians of your masters who make the laws that rob you.

"Thou shalt not steal." That maxim is loved by the capitalists as long as they allow their politicians to define what property can be stolen and what cannot.

The Canadian capitalists get their revenues from the forced labor of wage slaves.

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RUINOUS UNDERTAKINGS

Whenever anyone tries to improve the lot of the working class the cry is raised that the undertaking will be ruinous. The worker must be content with his share. He must not get any more for if he does the foreign competitors will take away the trade from the home capitalists. This is the cry raised in every country in the world by the master class.

In the British Parliament on April 26th, Will Crooks, the Labor Representative from Woolwich, exposed the terrible condition of the British workers.

Will Crooks introduced an innocent looking little motion that a law be passed that the minimum wage for any adult worker be \$7.50 per week. J. H. Tennant, Under Secretary for the Board of Trade, declared that this was impossible. He declared that sixty per cent of the adult workers of Great Britain received less than \$5.50 per week in wages and that the increased wage bill would amount to \$88,000,000 per year, that such an increased wage bill would cause the cost of production to go up and invite foreign competition. Tennant raised the old cry of ruinous extravagance. He drew the same old false arguments forth. He did not point out how great the unearned income of the parasites were. He did not intimate that the workers could get more did the parasites get less.

According to the statistics of 1908, the net revenues of the British railways amounted to \$210,000,000. Mines and quarries brought the parasites a net income of \$80,000,000. Gasworks gave \$35,000,000 unearned revenues. Ironworks gave \$20,000,000. The Coats pool and thread concern netted the owners over \$15,000,000. Then there were the vast charges of real estate rents, cotton spinning, shipping, ship building, and many other industries all being worked by labor and producing tens of millions of dollars for the parasite owners.

John H. Tennant in Parliament did not bring up any of these facts. Property rights must be protected. Vested interests must be conserved.

Tennant's reasoning was listened to with respect and appreciation by the bunch of labor skimmers assembled in the British House of Commons. Tennant's argument is that unearned revenues must be conserved, that if workers get more the added wage must be tacked on to the selling price in order to give the parasites their revenues and this would be ruinous. Therefore labor cannot have any higher wages.

Tennant and his class never intimate that perhaps labor might have more of the wealth they produce and that the parasites might have less. They act as though their revenues would flow to them forever, and even while they act thus the slaves are thinking deeply and are preparing to bring about a revolution that will abolish all rent, interest and profit and give to labor the full social value of the wealth it produces.

R. L. Borden is going to tour the west this summer. The Liberal government is a second rater. Its brains have degenerated and Borden is in hopes that he can persuade the people that he is the proper servant to have the people appoint over them to do the bidding of the capitalists. Would it not be a good idea for the Socialists at his meetings to ask just one question? Why not ask him if he is in favor of the abolition of wage slavery? That question ought to show just where R. L. Borden stands in relation to the class struggle.

Both Tory and Grit serve the capitalists. Nevertheless there is a fight between the members of the two parties. This fight is between rival sets of individuals as to which of them shall get next the political corn-crib and lick up the few grains of corn the capitalist masters feed to their political henchmen.

Each Socialist realizes that humanity is in bondage and that the race cannot advance until the chains of wage slavery are stricken from the limbs of millions.

Socialism may come through constitutional means. Let us hope it will come that way in Canada.

The capitalists claim for themselves the right to shirk.

DOMINANT AMERICANISM

The U. S. capitalists are reaching out to capture the North American continent. There are many significant facts which all show the growing influence of the international money power. There are three things linked together which are of the greatest significance. These three things are the Canadian reciprocity, the kidnapping of McNamara, and the invasion of Mexico by the American troops.

The Laurier cabinet and the Liberal members of Parliament are turning a handsome trick for the American financiers and commercial pirates. This is not saying anything for Borden or the Conservatives. The Conservative M. P.'s are willing and anxious that Canadian slaves should be robbed. But they want it done by the Montreal group of labor skimmers, while Laurier throws open the gates to the American trusts.

In the United States capitalism is trembling to its fall. The capitalist system has become top-heavy. The American slaves have become so productive that the waste of the capitalist system, the wild extravagance of the money lords, the automobiles, private yachts and immense palaces of the plutocracy no longer can use up the share of wealth that rolls in upon the over rich of that country. And now scientific management is coming into vogue which will double the productivity of the slaves.

Where shall the capitalists of the U. S. turn for relief? The cry of the unemployed is rising ever higher and higher. The farmers of the west are finding it unprofitable to farm. The tobacco growers, the broom growers, the cotton growers are organizing burning squads to burn the produce of their lands because of the impossibility of the exploited slaves of America to buy the materials produced from the ground. The Socialist sweep is becoming evident. Private advices from the state of Kansas declare that the Socialist vote of that state is four times what it was last fall.

Morgan and Guzenheim, the Speyers, Rockefeller and Weyenhausers find their dominance threatened. Capitalist accumulation turned back on itself is producing the revolt of the wage slaves.

For relief the American money lords turn to Canada and Mexico.

The reciprocity measure is but the opening wedge. Taft has pulled the wool over the eyes of Laurier, and the capitalist financiers, of whom Taft is but the puppet, found Fielding and Paterson but little children in the game of politics. Taft realizes that reciprocity is but the forerunner of political annexation. Economics rule politics. Politics are but the reflex of the economic needs of the master class. When the protective barrier has been thrown down the American goods will rush into Canada, we will be tied by chains of trade to the U. S., and our political separation will disappear. To Socialists who realize that the toilers of Canada are slaves and that the toilers of the United States are slaves and that the slaves have one common enemy to fight, the international capitalist class, it matters not whether the slave flag of the English parasites, or the slave flag of the American plunderers waves over us.

Morgan has become director of the Hudson Bay Company. The Hudson Bay Company has recently entered on a new and vigorous policy. It is establishing departmental stores across the continent. It shows that it has been reorganized.

The C. P. R. officials have recently issued a warning to the shareholders to hold on to their stock. Morgan and his associates have cast envious eyes upon this company. They want it and are out to get it.

Laurier, to help the American trusts conquer and beat down the Canadian trusts, is throwing down the protective wall. This will mean that the feverish rottenness of overripe American exploitation will grip Canada all the quicker.

Canada is falling ripe fruit into the hands of the U. S. rulers. Mexico is a different proposition.

There the slaves rebel. There the Mexicans whom so many Canadians look down upon, take arms and go forth to shoot down their oppressors. They show the spirit of freedom. Taft, therefore, at the bidding of Wall Street, moves twenty thousand troops to the Mexican border and plans are laid to raise a sudden enthusiasm, call out the national guard of America under the Dick Military Conscription law, and send two hundred thousand Americans to kill the patriots of Mexico. This will help take up the surplus labor of the country, turn the attention of many from their own domestic ills, and incidentally help Charlie Taft sell the products of his packing houses and million acre ranch in Texas at high prices to the American government.

Morgan and his associates who see the coming storm lowering are seeking to escape by raising a popular outcry against Mexicans.

Morgan is cunning. He knows he is

watched. His associates know the temper of the people. They know they do not want a foreign war. The workers are sullen. Hence the move against John J. McNamara, James McNamara and the other labor leaders. This is all a part of the scheme.

The plot against these men is a raw one. It is the same old fight that was fought over Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone. Corrupt governors, private detectives, kidnapping, violence, a rush across a continent to get the prisoners into the power of the most notorious, corrupt and labor-hating oligarchy that ever ruled an American city. Los Angeles jurymen listening to a Judas Escariot unfold a pack of lies. And a labor struggle precipitated to save the lives of men who are attacked simply because they have dared to stand by labor and because they were the officers of the Structural Ironworkers' Union, the only union that the Steel Trust could not smash.

American labor was awake. It was resistant against Mexican invasion. So their prominent leaders were rushed to jail and labor was forced to concentrate on this the fight for the liberty of McNamara. Under cover of this fight the army is to be rushed in to Mexico.

But Morgan is doomed. The Americans are awakening. They fought to free their land from the hated domination of England. They fought to free their land from the curse of chattel slavery. They have suffered long and patiently. But the capitalists have pressed too harshly.

The last great fight is looming up. The American courts are corrupt. Their politicians are venal and rotten. Their rulers are selfish, brutal, murderous. The McNamara trial and the Mexican invasion will in all probability light a spark of revolt that will blaze into a civil war and the American capitalists will have great cause to rejoice if their brutal necks do not dangle from the end of a rope in the first flush of a nation's aroused wrath.

THE WAGE SLAVES LAMENT.

Of all the jobs I ever struck
This working out is the worst luck,
It makes me hump and twist my back,

It gives my bones an awful rack,
I git up long before the sun,
I grab my dinner pail and run;
I have to hump myself and scot
And git there fore the whistle's toot.

I have to be right on the spot
No matter if it's cold or hot,
I have to git thar with a will
So money bags his purse can fill.

My boss he smokes his fine cigars
And rides in automobile cars,
He gits a dinner nice and sweet
While I can't git enough to eat.

My master he don't do a turn,
He takes four-fifths of what I earn,
The stingy, darned old scamp won't give
Me only just enough to live.

Just wait till Socialism comes,
I'll put old master on the hum,
I'll make him learn, the darned old shirk
How good it is to do hard work.

AS TO DIVIDING UP.

Does Socialism mean to divide up? The enemies of Socialism and those who do not understand what it means assert that it does. Socialists, or those who have read its platform and studied its principles, declare that it does not. Who is right? Who is best qualified to tell what Socialism means? Those who have investigated the subject, or those who have not? What would you think of a person who, having never investigated or studied mathematics, affirmed that the science of mathematics was the art of painting sunsets with the dew of the dawn? And yet, this statement is not more silly than the declaration that Socialism means to divide up. Instead of pronouncing judgment in advance of investigation, the man who wants to be fair and just will say nothing. At least he will consider what a Socialist says in regard to the Socialist movement.

Eye-Openers

Nothing is more interesting or instructive than men telling important incidents of their lives. Of how they were jarred loose of preconceived ideas. Can you tell in twenty lines or 150 words how you "Got your eyes open"? Try it and send the copy along to Cotton's. This is important.

Socialism will free the prisoners of an exploiting class.

Socialism will free the capitalist from his burden of care.

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Morgan is cunning. He knows he is

BUNCOME & SCRAPP'S

By R. W. NORRHEY

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR "COTTON'S WEEKLY"

CHAPTER XV.

Alan Maynard, Soapboxer.

(Continued.)

"Friends, it would seem that human nature has undergone very little change since the days of Abraham. The greed for power, for wealth and luxury is just as great now as then, and the desire to enslave others is just as keen. No doubt Abraham and Lot inherited their slaves, and no doubt their forefathers had more than their share of the cunning, treachery and brutality that are necessary essentials in the make-up of a slave catcher. We find, however, that the rich men of that day made no bones about receiving a luxurious living from the sweat of other men's faces. And it is this thing, this impudent robbery of the workers, that is causing the great unrest today. If God laid down that command when He turned Adam out to shift for himself it is not time that it was beginning to be fulfilled."

"Because most of the eminent men we read about in the Bible were slave owners and had the power of life and death over those of their fellow men they had enslaved many otherwise intelligent religionists. Have contended that slavery was an institution ordained by God, and it was for that reason some of the Southern churches sided with the slave owners during the troubles that led to the civil war in the United States. Now I'm not going to enter into the religious aspect of the case. I want to say and say it emphatically, because it has been amply proven by the clearer understanding we now have of the economic conditions prevailing in both North and South during the ante-bellum period—that whether it was ordained of God or not chattel slavery would have continued in the United States had it been found to be a cheaper, quicker and more progressive mode of production than wage slavery; wage slavery, which was at that time bringing the North into the lime-light as a producer and exporter of a class of goods that found a ready sale on this continent and in Europe. There you have it."

"Chattel slavery was wasteful; it cramped and restricted the nation's productive powers; industrial progress demanded a more up-to-date and economic method. Machinery was beginning to supplant the hand tool in the North and the era of immense production and vast profits was born, while the South was yet asleep. If the American manufacturers were to expand to that almost limitless extent indicated by the clever labor-saving inventions of that period chattel slavery must go. It was not the agitation carried on by John Brown, Garrison, Phillips and others; it was not the determination of Lincoln to suppress slavery; it was not the publication of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin'; it was none of these nor all of them combined, as we now know, that caused that led to the war of emancipation. But no doubt these were aids towards inflaming the public mind and inciting the people of the North, even to the uttermost backwoods frontier, to such an extent as to make the war popular."

"The true cause of the American civil war was an economic one. In the North the nation was entering on a period of industrial activity which promised unlimited prosperity. In the South all was quiet contentment, old-fashioned hand-tool methods of industry and business stagnation. The North wanted markets for its rapidly growing output of machinery and other products of its mines, mills and factories, and for years Big Business had cast long shadows on the fair but poorly developed and almost unproductive lands south of the Mason and Dixon line. But the South offered no market for such things. It was content to go on in the old-fashioned way, using the hoe instead of the cultivator, the scythe instead of the mowing machine. It was a land of chivalric notions and medieval ideas, and resented the introduction of the busy, bustling methods of the North. Although the people of that day were not cognizant of it the war was demanded by the industrial evolution of the nation; in other words, it was the economic determinism."

"Economic determinism, or the materialistic conception of things, discovered and amply proven and explained by the scientific and analytical minds of Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, sheds an entirely new light on our conception of history. Hitherto we had been taught that all progressive changes in the past, all new departures from the prevailing status quo, some great warrior, some great churchman or some great scientist. Nothing of the kind. The great man theory has been proven to be without the least foundation; it has been relegated to the waste basket because there was no truth in it. Every step of progress that has ever been made, in every evolution in business, in commerce, in warfare, in everything, has been caused by the economic factor in the case, otherwise economic determinism, and the chief underlying cause of all has been the cheapening of production, which is the real, active factor in the making of history. And because of this cheapening of production all the manufacturing nations have been able to turn out millions by the car-load. (Laughter.)"

"My friends, I don't think you have very much cause for laughter, because economic determinism has done nothing for you beyond creating 'spiced-up' jobs when you have to hustle to keep up with the machine. Of all the hundreds of millions of dollars that have been made by the cheapening of production during the past fifty years how many of them have come into your possession? The cheapening of production has meant

an enormous increase in profits, but your status has remained the same. You workers have persistently maintained the status quo ever since I can remember, and until you wake up and begin to think for yourselves your share of the enormous wealth accruing from cheaper production will remain at the same notch it had reached fifty years ago—a bare living and no more. As wage slaves you have nothing to do with these profits. You're not to reason why; you're not to do and die. You have to find a master before you can claim the right to live. A job is your be-all and end-all; without a job you must starve."

"There is only one reason that induces employers of labor to hire a worker. It is not for humanity's sake, nor for Christ's sake, nor for any high and noble purpose. It is solely for the purpose of getting a profit from the labor of each man employed. It was for that same purpose that the Southern planters brought black men and women from Africa and forced them and their descendants to labor in the cotton fields for their keep, so that the planters might live in idleness from the profits made by their slaves. It was not the fact that the slaves were bought and sold. The buying and selling were only incidental to getting from the slaves the profits of their labor, for if the masters could have had that profit without buying and selling they would not have bothered themselves with the trouble and expense of buying and selling. If you will think a little you will see that under the present system of wage slavery the masters do not need to bother themselves with the trouble of buying and selling. They get the profits they are after without the trouble or expense of feeding and clothing and caring for the health of their slaves. Wage slavery is far more profitable for the masters than chattel slavery ever was, and the masters are wise enough to know it. When the workers get wise, too, there'll be a change, and not before."

"A great soul, Eugene Debs, some three or four years ago wrote a stirring article to rouse the working class to make an effort to save the Federation of Miners who were being railroaded to the gallows by the mining plutocrats of Colorado. The heading of the article was 'Arouse ye Slaves! Did the slaves arouse? Some of them did, those who were class conscious, but there were millions of wage slaves in the United States who never lifted a hand to help their fellow workers. Why was that? Because they were afraid. Their job was more to them than the lives of their fellows, and they dare not openly show sympathy for the victims of organized wealth because such sympathy would mean hostility to the master class, and the master class own all the jobs because they own all the machinery which the workers must use to make a living, and here let me emphasize a fact, not a theory, but an actual fact that you seem to be too apathetic to understand the man that owns your job owns you and your family, and he holds the power of life or death for you in his hands. Can you refute that? No! Then by all the rules of logic you are slaves!"

"No doubt some of you are ready to jump up and say there are no slaves today, at least not in this or any other Christian country on earth. You are ready to declare that slavery was for ever extinguished on this continent when General Robert E. Lee delivered up his sword at Appomattox nearly half a century ago. Let us see. The dictionary defines slavery as the state or condition of a slave—bondage; complete subjection; exhausting and mean labor; drudgery. Now the last two definitions may truthfully apply to millions of married women who are wage slaves, because they don't get any wages at all, they are slaves without the wage (laughter) and yet they do exhausting and mean labor and all their lives are drudgery. Let us take the first three definitions—the state or condition of a slave; bondage; complete subjection. Slavery, then, consists in that condition in which one class of people work for the profit and benefit of another class, whether they are bought and sold or not. If chattel slaves had been given all the wealth they produced they would have been as well off as if they had been legally free, for no one would want to be bothered with them. It was the profits they earned that constituted the only incentive for chattel slavery; it is the profits the workers earn that constitutes the only incentive for the wage slave system in vogue today."

"Because the worker is free to leave a master for another he is said to be a free man; he can choose his own employment. Neither of these statements is true. He is not a free man, nor can he choose his own employment. It is a mere quibble to say that because a man can change his master he is a free man. The vital and fundamental fact remains that he has to find a master before he can get a job, and the fear of starvation compels him to seek for that job, thus reversing one of the features of chattel slavery, when the masters with jobs hunted for slaves, while now the slaves hunt for masters with jobs. This is much more to the masters' liking. What matters it whether it be the same master or a new one every day? The wage worker can't live without a master of some sort. If the master refuses, to allow the man to work he is free to hunt until he can find a master willing to let him work, or to become a hobo, a thief or to starve. That's about the full extent of his much-vaunted freedom. He cannot exist without a master because the masters own the job. Then it is clear that the master, individually and collectively, holds the power of life and death over the

worker, individually and collectively. Then wherein is the wage slave any better off than the chattel slave? Is he not in the state or condition of a slave? Is he not in bondage, complete subjection?"

(To be continued.)

GRAFT

Are you not tired of graft? Honest and true are you not sick of the whole caboodle of talking politicians at Ottawa who are lining their own pockets, giving millions to their friends and bleeding the farmers and workers until poverty stalks throughout Canada and misery exists by the side of flaunted wealth?

Do you want to know the remedy? Are you not anxious to find some way to stop this system of iniquity? The way is plain. All you have to do is to use your brains, study the Socialist philosophy and vote accordingly.

The fundamental position of Socialism is that labor creates all wealth, that social labor power applied to the raw materials of nature is the only source whereby the needs and luxuries of man can be produced.

Socialism holds that those who create this wealth should be allowed the enjoyment of this wealth. Socialists are fighting for the election of Members of Parliament who are pledged to bring justice to the toiling farmers and wage slaves of the Dominion.

Capitalism stands for just the opposite. Capitalism stands for the robbery of the wealth producers. Capitalism stands for rent, interest and profit. Capitalism stands for skinning the workers of all they produce save just enough to feed, clothe and shelter the laboring population. Capitalism stands for giving all the rest of the wealth produced by the laboring population to the parasite class and their hangers-on.

When you elect a capitalist politician to be your representative in Parliament you vote for your own robbery. The capitalist politician is sworn to protect the legalized graft of the banks, of the railroads, of the mine owners, of the mill owners, of the landlords, and of all the other legalized grafters who are living on the sweat and agony and toil of the laboring population.

The capitalist politician is essentially a grafter. Laurier, Borden, Aylesworth, Sharpe, Haggart, Templeman, Foster, and the whole present bunch of Members of Parliament are grafters at heart. They are there to pass grafting laws. They are at Ottawa to give unearned wealth to the labor thieves and to rob labor. This is graft, pure unadulterated graft. The mere fact that these politicians pass laws and appoint judges and police and soldiers to enforce this graft against the workers does not make the graft honest and straight. Every dollar the capitalist gets is gotten crookedly.

There are honest politicians so-called. There are dishonest politicians. The two are one in nature as long as they uphold capitalism. The difference is this:

The honest politician believes that he should be a faithful servant of the laboring population. He feels that he is getting twenty-five hundred dollars a year and that he should not get any more than his sessional indemnity. He feels that for this sum he should pass laws to plunder labor and to hand the plunder over to the Forgets, the Mackays, the Siffons, and every other parasite capitalist who lives on the sweat of the workers and without soiling their bodies by the sweat of useful labor. That is the honest capitalist politician.

The dishonest capitalist politician is a politician who realizes that the whole system under which we live is based on injustice and robbery. He sneers at the working mules who will not think. He pats them on the nose and feels he can curry their heels without danger, pile heavy burdens on their backs, and appoint heavy taskmasters to flog them to work to produce the wealth for the masters.

He feels all this. He knows that the capitalists are a bunch of organized plunderers and that their whole wealth, influence and power is a gigantic steal which goes through simply because of the ignorance, docility and foolishness of the workers of Canada.

Knowing these things he gets into the game on his own account. He is not content to serve the robbers and make laws for them for a paltry twenty-five hundred dollars a year. He works for the skinning of labor but he sees to it that he gets some of the skin.

The capitalist taskmasters do not like the dishonest politicians. They infinitely prefer the honest kind. But they have to work with dishonest material in the legislative assemblies of Canada or else the dishonest politicians will turn on their masters and rend them. It is a case of the servants of a gang of bandits demanding a share in the spoils and the bandits have to come through with the divvy.

It does not matter a tinker's dam to the workers whether the robber laws are passed by honest or dishonest politicians in the pay of the master class. The great thing that matters to the laboring many is that the plunder laws are in force.

The remedy for the wage slaves and the farmer slaves, therefore, is not to vote for honest politicians. Those politicians soon get dishonest when they get to power. They see the vast millions going to a lot of corrupt and brutal labor skimmers through the laws they pass and they mightily quick learn the trick of getting their rakeoffs.

The remedy for the corruption and harsh laws now existing is to vote for candidates who are pledged to abolish all robbery. Let candidates be elected who will fight for the overthrow of the robber class.

There is only one class of candidates who are pledged to this line of political activity. Those candidates are the Socialists.

The sooner you get into the Socialist organization, and work for the election of Socialist revolutionaries, the quicker will the era of graft and graft laws be done away with.

ORGANIZED EFFORT

See how the sub list falls off. You sub hustlers are a queer crowd. You will tug at the traces and pull toward the paper at a great old rate for a spell. Then you will go and lay down by the side of the road and the paper sticks.

Have you tried as yet to organize your efforts? Have you tried to keep track of what you do? Have you kept account of your activity and compared it month by month? If you will do this you will be surprised to find that you are frequently doing poor work when you think you are doing good work.

Organized and planned effort is what tells. Why not organize your activity and systematically go after subs?

Cotton's is planning great improvements. It is for the army of sub hustlers to get the printed pages of Cotton's into the hands of as many subscribers as possible.

Circulation Statement

Following is the statement of circulation for the issue of May 11.

	OFF	ON	TOTAL
Ontario	219	100	319
Alberta	81	37	120
British Columbia	96	40	128
Prov. of Quebec	42	40	118
Nova Scotia	49	56	94
Manitoba	3	28	754
Saskatchewan	120	58	797
New Brunswick	2	9	151
Elsewhere	10	2	135
Vancouver Territory	0	0	45
Newfoundland	0	2	18
Prince Ed. Island	0	0	10
Total	619	370	970

Loss for week 240

Total issue last week was 11,000

BUNDLE PRICES.

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

Place a copy of Cotton's in every place in your town where there is a chance of it being read. Barber shops, reading and waiting rooms, public libraries, etc.

There is many a young blood who thinks he has superior brains because his pa made money employing wage slaves to stick pigs or to do some such thing.

Watch the number before your name on the little red address label on your paper. Get your renewal in at least a week or ten days before expiry in order not to miss a copy.

Woman is learning to use the ballot now. When she learns she will vote Socialist. Let the agitation for suffrage go on.

Money patriots merely egg others on to their death. They never do the fighting, and would not be patriotic if it were not for the prospect of personal gain.

All subs for Cotton's expire at end of time paid for, and all subscriptions, new or renewals, are treated as new.

TORONTO, LOCAL No. 1, ENGLISH.—Business Meetings held on the first and third Thursday of each month at the Finnish Hall, 214 Adelaide St. W., at 8 p.m. Second floor. Economic class, second and fourth Wednesday of each month held at 171 Chestnut St., 3rd floor. Organizer, A. W. McCall, 283 Carlton St. Secretary, Mrs. E. Bellemare, 113 St. Mach St.

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THE FIRING LINE

Books for Hustlers

"POVERTY OF PHILOSOPHY," by Marx, one of Kerr's standard \$1.00 books to the hustler who sends in the largest amount of subs between Friday, May 19th and Friday, May 26th.

"WORLD'S REVOLUTIONS," or "Socialism for Students" to the hustler sending in the second largest amount of subs between the same dates.

"ANCIENT SOCIETY," by Morgan to the hustler who sends the largest amount of subs between Friday, May 19th and Friday, June 2nd. This is a standard \$1.50 book.

Watch out for the month of June. Bang-up chance for hustlers to stock up a library. Our week runs from Friday to Friday, and subs are computed on the half-yearly basis. Books are in addition to Facts or other premiums.

Four new halfers from Comrade A. Betzner, Toronto.

A yearly and two halfers from an Edmonton slave.

Have you read Buncombe & Scapp's this week? It's good.

Two halfers from Comrade John O'Hara, Prince Albert, Sask.

Five trials and a yearly from Comrade W. A. Rideout, Bawlt, Alta.

Comrade J. C. Cochran, Cobden, Ont., adds a new reader.

A yearly from Comrade W. H. Maher, Kraman, Sask.

Two yearlies and a halfer from Comrade A. J. Grant, Cayuga, Ont.

Four halfers from Comrade Rupert Lechman, Port Arthur, Ont.

Comrade J. W. Hammell, Vancouver, B. C., lands from the Pacific province with five yearlies.

Comrade J. E. Switzer, Port Arthur, Ont., connects Cotton's with five yearlies.

Comrade Mrs. E. Bellemare, Sec. English Local, Toronto, remits \$4.50 for subs and sub cards.

I've got two halfers in the ring for Socialism. Comrade J. W. Morish, Berlin, Ont.

Sound the loud timbrel over Canada's land. The slaves are kicking like Texas slaves.

Comrade E. M. Davenport, Sparta, Ont., makes four halfers discontented with capitalism.

Five more sub cards are hunting for thinking wage slaves per Comrade J. McNeish, Montreal.

Comrade Thos. Robinson, Coatsworth Station, Ont., makes the bulldog glad with a bone for five halfers.

Comrade T. T. Sydbro, Kingman, Alta., chucks Cotton's into the heads of eight slaves for a year.

Are you resolved to give Cotton's a circulation of twenty thousand in 1911? If you have not, why not?

"Enclosed find one dollar for subs. Best I can do now as I'm busy. Hope to send more next time." Comrade C. W. Thompson, Granum, Alta.

Comrade R. Brydson, Toronto, is after the capitalist system good and plenty. Three dollars worth of sub cards are now on their mission per his efforts.

"I like your talk of a hundred thousand subs better than the idea of quitting the paper," says Comrade C. Graham, Langley Prairie, B. C., with two yearlies and a trial.

Seven yearlies and fifteen halfers from Comrade Alain Burke, Montreal, who says he could not get more this week because he has been busy moving.

Two halfers from Comrade D. A. Buffet, North Bay, Ont., who says that the author of Buncombe & Scapp's must have seen much of the workingman's side of life to be able to picture it in the masterly way he has done.

"Enclosed find shin plaster for half yearly sub. Hard work getting the workers to take an interest in their own welfare; almost enough to disgust a man with a grain of sense." Comrade W. J. Hammond, Carleton Place, Ont.

The papers I have been giving to the newsboy have been going fairly well, so I am enclosing an order for a three month's bundle. The May Day issue was excellent. I am sorry to see the sub list going back. It's a shame." Comrade W. E. Hardenburg, Red Deer, Alta.

"Times are too hard to take shares just now," says Comrade Grant Thompson, Kinsella, Alta., with three halfers. Subscriptions are just as necessary as stock taking, if not more so. Those who take stock furnish the sinews of war. But those who bring in subscribers furnish not only cash to keep Cotton's going, but also brains and muscle and hearts to swell the army of the revolution.

"Please find enclosed the sum of twenty-five cents for my renewal. Some one, unknown to me, has been sending it to me for nearly six months and it has made a true Socialist of me. As I am a wage slave I am in sympathy with anything that will better the conditions of our fellow wage slaves. I hope to see the fight continue to a glorious end." Comrade Edgar Kerton, Strathroy, Ont.

Have you become a bundle booster? Have you not pitied the poor blokes on the benches beside you who think it is an honor to work like slaves? Have you not longed with a great pity to pry these wage slaves loose from their fool ideas? Why not take a bundle of five or ten copies of Cotton's a week for three months and be a benevolent missionary to the benighted and contented slaves?

"Your May Day issue was good, and the last number. Convention Number, was better still. I feel we are going along in good shape. Stick to your guns. Send me a dollar's worth of sub cards and tell the girl to put in some of your new souvenir post cards. I will try and dispose of a few sub cards every week." Comrade Gus Prager, Berlin, Ont.

"I took great pleasure in hunting you up a few subs for your paper and I got five to put up fifty cents each for it. I am sorry to say that we are having a commodity struggle with the coal barons just now and some of the old subscribers could not muster up four bits for the paper. But as soon as the strike is ended they will be glad to renew." Comrade Wm. Fraser, Coleman, Alta.

Cotton's finds it a good stunt to send the paper to every little weekly in Canada. These country editors talk to a few hundred people every week. Cotton's is educating them. They read Cotton's and get mad. They say it's a pack of lies. But in spite of themselves their brains feed on Cotton's and get colored with Socialism and they can't help giving to their readers the ideas they got from Cotton's. Don't you think it a good idea to contribute to the Agitation Battery to educate the editors of Canada? Next time you feel like taking a few drinks, don't but send the two or four bits to Cotton's. Your heads will be clearer and the heads of the Canadian editors will also be refreshed.

"Enclosed is one dollar for subs. Cotton's improves every week and you do well to leave heresy hunting and half-splitting wrangles to others. Your remarks on the New Party, the I. L. P., are good, but the time is past when reforms and fake labor parties can sidetrack the class struggle, and the I. L. P. will be just as revolutionary as its members. It can't do security short of the abolition of wage slavery, and it may be the party to lead the workers to victory. As you perhaps know, L. H. Lawthorpe has resigned from the S. P. of C. for the same reason that others have found it impossible to remain in that organization. Socialism is growing rapidly but as yet the elements are not organized and they must unite before long. The tide of revolt is sweeping onward at a tremendous pace in Canada. Thousands of men and women from Europe are being lured here by the professional liars of the transportation companies and land sharks. In British Columbia they are being dumped into a wilderness or into cities already containing thousands of unemployed. The awakening of these thousands to the fact that they have been duped and robbed will be a great thing. But it will make of them the right kind of rebels once the message of Socialism is presented and it is for us to present it. From now on we must work the most rapid growth of Socialism in Canada and the U. S. In Europe thrones are tottering and rulers quaking. Within a year a Socialist republic may be declared in France, Germany, Belgium, Finland, and the most advanced parts of Europe would follow. What would follow? A panic so great that paralysis of capitalist production would result and the giant Labor would awake and shake the pigmy parasites from his back and be free to produce for use. Today ignorance alone stands between humanity and Socialism. Today the rulers retain their position through their intellectual prostitutes, through their press, platform and pulpits, and people drink lies, thinking they drink truth. The man with the normal brain, the average man seeing the world as it is today must be a revolutionist. Then Comrades to work! Tell the truth. The truth will make you free." Comrade W. J. Curry, Vancouver, B. C.

Attracting Much Attention
The serial story now running in Cotton's is pleasing a goodly number of our readers. This confirms our judgement in regard to "Buncombe & Scapp's." Follow the story closely, as the coming chapters are fine, and the author has big surprises in store for you.

The following opinions are typical of many now reaching Cotton's:
"I like Buncombe & Scapp's. I think it is read with interest by a good many both young and old."

"I consider Buncombe & Scapp's a cracker-jack of a story."

"A Sherbrooke, P. Q., comrade 'I am much pleased with Buncombe & Scapp's, and I think it gives the true light on the ways things are done. Hope to see you grow to 20,000 in 1911.'"

What do you pay taxes for. Aside from the public schools and a few old bridges, what do you get for your tax money? Isn't it a case of collecting taxes to pay the public officials who eat them up? You pay taxes to pay your officials and elect officials to eat up the taxes. It is much easier and much better paid to sit in a comfortable chair, smoke cigars and draw a good salary than to do something useful for a living. I wonder why the farmers and wage earners as they work in broiling sun and winter's blast do not see how easily they have the wool pulled over their eyes by the fellows with the glad hand about election time. Any other time the officials do not know them. And why should they? What good would it do the voters if they did? Voters who are so easy don't need any attention.

Issuing Stock Certificates
The Stock Certificates are being issued as fast as possible to those subscribers who have paid up in full. The sooner subscribers for stock pay up their shares, the sooner they will have their title deeds as full-fledged stockholders in Cotton's Co-operative Publishing Company, Inc.

The Stock Subscription List remains open till the first of June, in response to urgent requests. Shares can be taken on payment of 25 per cent down, balance in three monthly payments.

New subscribers for stock are: J. Robb, Hardisty, Alta.; W. G. Ewing, Gorefield, Sask.

Watch for Next Issue

There are so many things to hit that I don't know just what I'll hit next week. There is a good big bill due Mayor Guerin of Montreal for refusing to allow the red flag on the streets. The M. P.'s ought to be billed every week. But I think that in next week's issue I will deal with political activity. We Socialists are philosophers and as Walter Thomas Mills says, we suffer from the fault of philosophers. We prefer to tell what we ought to do instead of explaining how to do what ought to be done. So next week I think I will deal with the question of how to make the M. P.'s sit up and take notice. If you will follow out the plan to be laid down in next week's issue, Socialism will be a real live issue in Canada from now on. Prepare yourselves for action.

The Montreal Street Railway Company is after a longer franchise. The Board of Control is willing to give it the extension if the Company will grant lower fares. The Company is willing and the new franchise will be given when the details have been arranged. The Montreal Street Railway Company is one of the richest companies in Canada. It is being merged in the Montreal Tramways Company and the whole island of Montreal will be under the monopoly of this company. It clears in profits a sum equal to the total wage bill of its employees. It will not allow the employees to form a union. It sacked twenty-five motormen and conductors for agitating for a union among the slaves. It works its employees long hours. It discharges its employees without warning. All this does not matter to the Controllers nor to Mayor Guerin who declares the red flag shall not be tolerated in Montreal. As long as the brokers and lawyers and capitalist exploiters can ride cheaper that is all that matters to the rulers of Montreal. These rulers were elected by the votes of the slaves of Montreal and these rulers see to it that the slaves shall be slaves. When the workers of Montreal begin to use their brains they will put into power at Ottawa, at Quebec and in Montreal, revolutionary workmen who will see to it that the capitalist class shall be abolished and that the workers shall control the machinery of production and distribution. Then the workers will have full control of the conditions under which they are to labor.

ASK A CLERGYMAN

If St. Basil said, "The rich man is a thief?"

If St. Chrysostom said, "The rich are robbers: better all things in common?"

If St. Clement said, "Iniquity alone has created private property?"

If St. Paul said, "If any will not work, neither let him eat?"

If St. Ambrose said, "It is the bread of the hungry thou keepest; it is the clothing of the naked thou lookest up; the money thou hast buried is the redemption of the poor?"

If St. Ambrose said, "Nature created community; private property is the offspring of usurpation?"

If Isaiah said, "Woe unto them that turn aside the needy from judgment, and take away the right from the poor people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless?"

If Job said, "Yet he (the rich robber) shall perish like his own dung; they who have seen him shall say, 'Where is he?' He shall fly away as a dream, and not be found; yea, he shall be chased away as a vision of the night?"

If Isaiah said, "Woe unto them that join house to house, and lay field to field, till there is no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth?"

If St. Jerome said, "Ourselves are always the product of, and committed to, the past; not by the actual possession, then by his ancestors?"

If he will preach from these texts for the next few Sundays? Social Democrat, Australia.

Cotton's will not issue any more sub cards on credit. It has proved too costly in book-keeping and postage. Cash must accompany all orders.

It is men who fear ideas who try to suppress them.

There can be no real democracy until the people rule industry.

Socialism is constructive. Capitalism is destructive.

The more the combines make the less the common people have.

All those workers who like to be robbed of three-fourths of what they produce, will you kindly vote against Socialists?

Many a preacher there is who believes in interest or usury and yet pretends to instruct the people as to how they should conduct themselves in this world.

Thomas Edison prophesies that within a few years Great Britain will tremble at the word of one man and that one man will be a workman. Edison sees dimly the triumph of the social revolution.

The Toronto Star of April 22nd prints an article from a correspondent, entitled, "If I were, health officer." If this correspondent were health officer he would compel every grocer to keep his eatables kept for sale from street dust. He would instruct the police to arrest any person found in a public place or on a street car from whose body came a filthy odor due to lack of bathing. He would compel houseowners to keep their houses sanitary. He would prevent the erection of houses without a side entrance, and on lots less than fifty feet by a hundred feet. He would compel all houses to have proper facilities for bathing. This shows how much the individual is being forced to become social and do away with his individuality that is injurious to the general health. Even capitalist papers realize that we are entering on a new stage of existence, and that that stage will be one in which the hunt for profits will be eliminated where it conflicts with the good of the general public. The capitalist papers, however, will not see that the rise of the working class to power will not only give sanitary dwellings, but will also abolish rent, interest and profit.

As a condition of the Toronto Carpet Mfg. Co. Limited, taking me into their employ, I agree to abide by the Company's rules, regulations, a copy of which has been received by me, and I hereby pledge myself not to belong to any union or organization, whose rules govern my conduct while in their employ. That is the document which the Toronto Carpet company wanted the employees to sign. The employees refused point blank to sign the agreement and the company locked the men out. The Carpet company owns the machinery and plant at which the men have to work to produce carpets. That ownership allows the company to say whether workers shall work in its mills and under what conditions. These men who were locked out feel indignant. But many of them laugh at Socialism which would hand over to the working class the machinery at which they must work to produce wealth. They vote for the capitalist politicians who make laws to enforce wage slavery. Just as soon as the slaves of Canada wake up to what revolutionary political activity can do for them and their class, strikes and lockouts will no longer be possible. For the workers will own the machines and will not be able to strike against themselves.

World Growing Better

The world is growing better. It has been growing better through many centuries. Wrong and destructive as capitalism is, it is better than that which preceded it. It was necessary that it come. It did a work, and without it the world would not have been ripe for Socialism. Socialists are not mere pessimists who mope over the idea that things are always growing worse, but they are optimists who see in history a constant climb and who, because of the climb in the past, believe in advancement in the future. Capitalism has done a work. But it has already accomplished its work. On it and over it, the world has arisen to a point where it can advance beyond it. And it must and will advance.

THOU SHALT NOT KILL

D. McK. Sutherland.

When one person kills another, with the deliberate motive of gain or revenge, the law calls the act murder and inflicts a penalty accordingly. If one individual causes the death of another through culpable carelessness, the law calls the crime manslaughter, and imposes a corresponding penalty.

When a corporation, a company or an individual, catering to a popular demand or in the performance of a public service, so conducts its affairs as to cause the PREVENTABLE death of one, a hundred or a thousand of its patrons or employees—wage slaves—we collect statistics of the dead and crippled, tabulate them beautifully, and speculate as to whether the ensuing year will show an increase or a decrease in the slaughter. So we consider our whole duty done if occasionally we arrest, prosecute and convict the employee who was unfortunately in charge of the death dealing device—providing the device has spared the life of said employee—then write up fine editorials, denouncing the carelessness of the wage slave, and expressing sorrow for the great expense the corporation has been put to.

"Thou shalt not kill" is the chief command of the capitalist but it is made to read "Thou shalt not kill the PROFIT SYSTEM." "Thou shalt zealously guard the interests of the great TRINE GOD: RENT, INTEREST AND PROFIT." This is the first and greatest capitalist commandment.

Ninety per cent of the great accidents and catastrophes which sicken with horror, and which then are forgotten by all save those whose dead lie in unnumbered resting places—ninety per cent of these are directly traceable to the CRIMINAL GREED and MURDEROUS AVARICE of profit seekers. The possession of the dollar is exalted above the sacredness of human life.

The slaughter of railway employees alone is something appalling, while the coal mines and all our great manufacturing plants supply their lists of killed and maimed horrible to contemplate.

Then we have drug concerns who do not hesitate to send out deadly poisons in the place of standard remedies. "Thou shalt not kill" the profit system, again is the great command obeyed. Despite all the LAW, wills or PRETENSES to do, the country is deluged with adulterated foods and thousands of persons are killed annually in consequence of their sale. Does it cost more to protect than to kill?

Yea verily much more. There are excellent devices for the protection of the machine hand, for the protection of the miners, railway protection devices etc., but the cost, in money would be much greater than the money cost of human lives sacrificed. Greed of gain must not be tempered with.

We are supposed to have pure food laws but our "noble" lawmakers will not enforce them. They bow down and worship the TRINE GOD: RENT, INTEREST AND PROFIT, otherwise called Mammon.

It is a fact transparent to all sensitive living people that under the present economic system justice is an impossibility. The God of Rent, Interest and Profit must first be abolished.

Our government, capitalists, courts of law, as well as ninety nine per cent of our priests and churches are smothered in golden swaddling clothes, that their very souls are gold cindered and shrivelled. No hope, no hope there. But my dear brother wage earner, there is a grand noble movement now numbering within its ranks over thirty thousand wage earners (slaves). The purpose of this great organization is the emancipation of the human race from all fear of want, organization—that will free all from the brutal, tyrannical, murderous capitalist system. That organization is the Socialist Federation, or the Co-operative Commonwealth. It is the only organized movement for the oppression of tyrants in every form, of vice, of industrial murder and starvation, of bribe givers and bribe takers, etc.

It means humane brotherhood and honest freedom.

It is the gospel of truth and Social salvation.

It will give a safe and sane environment to all coming generations. It will abolish poverty and excessive wealth.

It will give justice instead of aims. It will provide full opportunity for full development for all.

It will bring success to those seeking a better way and a better world. It will bring the reign of the Prince of Peace.

My dear Brother toiler, of whatever race, creed or country, I implore you, I appeal to your intelligence. Familiarize yourself with this great movement. Secure your knowledge from the most reliable sources. Ask

Cotton's to procure you the most reliable works on Socialism, that you may know exactly what it means, then study and thoroughly digest what you read and when you perceive the light on the Social mountain you will gladly do your part to usher in the brighter day, the better, the sane, the human way—a glad world, the brotherhood of man, where all, with all our hearts sing, Peace on earth, good will to men.

CUMBERLAND ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND

The Socialists of Cumberland county, N. S., in which is situated the town of Springhill, desire to run candidates in the coming elections. There is a strike on and campaign funds are needed. Comrade Jules Lavigne declares that there is not nearly enough money sent in by the Comrades. The provincial elections will be on shortly and time is limited.

Will the Comrades who have admired the fight put up by Jules Lavigne and the local Socialists of Springhill, help in a more tangible way by sending funds for the campaign to Comrade Jules Lavigne, Springhill?

THE SWING OF CAPITALISM

The following advertisement appeared in a New Brunswick paper.

WANTED—Musicians that own their instruments, give services for position, 2 tailors, 2 painters, 3 shoemakers, 4 moulders; other tradesmen write; must be good at both; one good bass drummer, Eugene C. Crotty, Sackville, N. B., Bandmaster Citizens' Band.

You see how capitalism is progressing? It is getting so you can no longer sell your labor power alone. You have also got to sell anything you have. No. Not sell it. You have got to throw it in free.

We think that labor power sells at its cost. That is right. But there is so much labor power offering that the workers cannot sell. So the masters look over the bunch and pick out what they want.

Here are two tailors, two painters, wanted. It does not matter if you are a good tailor. That is not enough. You have to be a good musician. You must own your own instruments. And you must give your services.

If you are a union man and stick to your union you may get union pay. But you will have to scab on the musicians to hold down this job.

When will you wage plugs get wise? Are you always going to sleep on? How many more burdens will your masters have to pile on your backs before you will get sense, and fight back?

Now you cannot get jobs unless you can play music for nothing, amuse the people. Pretty soon your masters will be wanting you to make faces and tote their young round after your day's work is over. Advertisements will be appearing. Wanted, a honest tailor, work ten hours a day and take care of his employers' children at night. Must be good at making faces that will amuse children.

In the old Roman days the flute girls were not successful unless they were willing to surrender their sex favors to their employers.

If you have anything, you slaves, put it out and exhibit it to your masters. If you want a job learn to scab on your fellow workers of another craft. Sell your labor power as a shoemaker and give your power to produce music for nothing. Be willing to become nurse girl, clown, anything to hold your job down.

Oh you slaves, you sleep, foolish slaves. You build the shops and mills and railroads and your masters own. Your labor to produce clothing and your employers own the goods you produce. You sell your labor power against one another and your masters buy you from day to day as slaves.

Will you forever be slaves? Why not be men? Why not unite among yourselves and throw off your masters? Take the mills away from them. Take their railways away from them. Your class built them. Your class runs them. Your class does the work. Why should you be plundered by a class whose only labor is to fight among themselves for a share of the plunder stolen from you and to devise ways and schemes of plunging you deeper into slavery?

New Souvenir Post Cards

We have just printed two nice post cards, one showing Jules Lavigne and the Socialist Young Guard on a parade at Springhill, N. S., the other putting before the public, the Canadian Temple of the Revolution, the home of Cotton's Weekly. They will be sent to every hustler who sends in a dollar or more at one time. Ask for Souvenir Post Cards, so the girls will not forget.

KEEP IN MIND

That your name and address should be signed to everything you write. All money orders should be made payable to Cotton's Weekly.

Write book, bundle, card or sub orders on separate sheet of paper from letters on other matters.

Always give expiration number when renewing sub.

Stock Subscription List will be Kept Open till Further Notice. 70 More Shares will Complete the Issue

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COWANSVILLE, P. Q.

I HEREBY SUBSCRIBE to.....Shares of Stock in
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Signed.....
Street or Box.....
City.....Province.....

Twenty-five per cent of the amount of Stock subscribed for must accompany Subscription Blank. Balance is payable in three equal payments of 25 per cent, at thirty, sixty, and ninety days.

PICTURES

By W. E. Hardenburg.

The Patriot

The sobs of the grizzled farmer were heart-rending. He sat alone in the little living room of the old farmhouse. In his gnarled, work-worn hands, he held a letter. It was stained with his tears.

"God help me to bear this sorrow," he groaned, glancing once more at the fatal letter.

It was merely a brief official statement of his son's death at Camp Chickamauga.

The old man's memory traveled back to that summer morning, when his young wife breathed her last to give birth to Jimmy; back through the swift-passing years in which Jimmy had grown from a puling infant to a stalwart youth of twenty; back to that fatal evening when Jimmy, throbbing with patriotism and the ardor of youth, had announced his intention of enlisting to fight the hated Spaniards, to avenge the "Maine," back to the dull days of Jimmy's stay at Camp Chickamauga, waiting for the forward order that never came.

And now Jimmy was dead. Dead of dysentery. Strong, handsome Jimmy. Dead!

Once more the old man began to weep bitterly. Weep on, old man, weep on. You have reasons for weeping, reasons that you do not realize.

For your son was murdered. Yes, murdered. And by his own countrymen!

How is that?

It was a triumvirate of crime.

The first and foremost figure in this sad tragedy was that group of selfish, vicious parasites, who, motivated by their own evil interests alone, inflamed the dull minds of the workers and brought about the war.

The second figure was that band of high class criminals, who, in their greed of gain, supplied the army—composed of working men—with their rotten food, their shoddy clothes, their adulterated drugs.

The third, and most pitiable figure, was you, yourself, old man, you and your fellow-workers, who, in your simplicity and ignorance, allowed yourselves to be made the willing tools of your mortal enemies—the master class.

Weep on, old man, weep on.

The Sacrifices

Smoke pours in volumes from the windows of the factory. Crowds of excited people gesticulate wildly from their place of safety in the street. Their eyes are riveted aloft. They are staring at the upper windows of the building; staring as in a trance.

What do they see?

Dozens of girl workers, crowded by the smoke and fire, to the windows. The crowding becomes more intense. The flames press closer. One girl, stifled by the smoke, falls. Down, down, she drops, until her flying body is smashed, like a piece of glass, on the pavement below.

Others follow with sickening rapidity. Soon the street is almost covered with these horrible, shapeless corpses, stained and spattered with blood and brains.

The cause?

The fire-escapes were defective.

Why?

Because the owners of the factory did not consider the welfare of the workers. All they considered was PROFITS.

The Prostitute

"Thirty days," snapped the magistrate. The girl was handsome, in a way. She had a well-developed figure, and the gaudy dress she wore displayed its every outline.

"Well, I guess, I've got mine at last," she said to herself, as she entered the cell, "but what the hell do I care?"

She seated herself. Presently, memory carried her back to the times of long ago. Before her vision, passed in rapid, cinematograph-like review, the days of her childhood at school, the subsequent peaceful years behind the counter in her father's little store, the dark, anxious period of competition with the big store on the corner, her father's bankruptcy, his suicide, his lonely funeral. Then followed the factory, with its sweating slavery, the long hours of toil and drudgery, the miserable pay, the shabby dresses, the stern landlady, the insufficient food, the factory owner's advances, her necessity, her fall and, finally—the street.

"I had to or else starve," she murmured.

Then, arousing herself impatiently, she jumped up and waltzing around the cell, began to sing:

"I DON'T CARE WHAT BECOMES OF ME."

The Mother

In a dreary, barren room on the topmost floor of the dingy tenement-house, sits a woman, sewing. It is

midnight, and the two frail and fragile children, who have helped her since coming home from school, are sleeping a restless slumber on the rickety bed nearby. But, still, the haggard mother plies her needle feverishly.

It is the old song of the shirt.

At last, the small, evil-smelling lamp flickers and grows dim. It is one o'clock, and, with a sigh, the mother lays aside her work and, sinking down beside the bed, offers up her nightly prayer.

She lies down on the edge of the bed and tries to sleep. It is in vain. Her eyes smart, her head aches throbbingly, her fingers are stiff and numb. She lies awake for hours.

Then in her slumber comes a dream. She sees a market. It is crowded with the good things of life—great heaps of rare, choice fruits, huge baskets of rich, red wine, an abundance of fine clothes—everything to satisfy human needs.

And in her dream a Man was there—a Man with loving voice and kindly smile. He was distributing these good things to a veritable army of thin, ragged figures with pallid faces and staring, patient eyes.

He was the Man who said: "Come unto me, all ye who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest."

Awake, woman! Your dream is over. It is time to work again.

For your masters have spent last night, in women and wine and cards, the profits you earned them yesterday.

And they need some more to spend tonight.

Get to work!

How will Socialists provide things for people unless they pay for them?

This is a question that many think is a sticker. All the necessities of life are produced by labor power applied to the raw materials. How can these things be given to individuals unless they pay for them? Have you ever stopped to think how much is provided already by the people for the people without the individuals paying for these things individually? We have free education. Now the children are to have free school books. Soldiers to not have to buy their uniforms. The government furnishes these uniforms. Many street railway companies furnish uniforms. Streets are made free to the individuals. The Western Union Telegraph Company, said to make its employees provide their own typewriters. Now the company is furnishing them. Individual supply for individual needs is being replaced by social supply for individual needs. The evolution of industry shows that Socialism is the next step in the progress upward of the human race.

The Boy Scout movement is a glorious sign of the coming of Socialism. It shows that the capitalists are thoroughly frightened. Formerly the masters were so powerful that they did not need to train boys to murder. They had plenty of grown men to do their dirty work. Now the men think and refuse to fight, to scab, to shoot down striking workers. The men realize that the capitalists are parasites. This frightens the master class. They know not what to do. So they go and take babes and train them in obedience, in reverence to scabbard and snobbery. They train them to murder. The capitalist class is on a pretty low pair of wheels when it has to call its corrupt ministers and newspaper owners and parasite servants to corrupt babes so that the capitalist system may live. The capitalist class knows that the death rattle is even now sounding in the throat of capitalism. The gurgling over the Boy Scout movement is one of these death rattles.

Pay-day! That is the day the boss, your master for the time being, comes around and gives you one-fourth of what he has sold your time for to the public. You work people are safe easy marks. You never get onto the game being worked on you.

Crying optimism when things are dead wrong is only seeking to hide a wound that may prove fatal. Make all things right and people can't help being cheerful.

Charity in the original meant love. If there were only that love which provides justice, that which in these days is known as charity would be wholly unnecessary.

When the menace of the millionaire is over there will no longer be the "menace of the mob."

Have any trouble landing subs? Try a bunch of Cotton's Booster Leaflets. They do the talking and contain full information. Two kinds, two hundred of each, for 10 cents.

If the workers got all they produced what would be left for the capitalists who do not work?

If you get this paper regularly, it is paid for. You needn't worry about a bill.

The morality of the capitalist is the immorality of the trade unionists.

The capitalists glorify the scabs who are traitors of the working class.

Socialism will give the right to work to the capitalist class and the right to have leisure hours to the laboring class.

The hearts of the people are yearning for Socialism.

Mayor Guerin of Montreal will find it a hot job sitting on the Torch of Liberty.

Capitalism stands for the property rights of the few. Socialism stands for humanity.

The glorious light of Socialism is brightening the long road to human freedom.

Scratch a revolutionary materialist Socialist and you will find an enthusiastic altruist.

The workers are outgrowing craft unionism. They are enthusiastically taking to revolutionary industrial unionism.

Why should Canadian slaves be fearful of their coming freedom when they see millions of their fellow slaves in other lands marching to their freedom?

The capitalists will continue in control just as long as the workers hand over the political power to the master class to use against the working class.

An election may be sprung this fall. The Liberal government is bribing the foolish people of many counties with public buildings built with the people's own labor.

The U. S. Congress is discussing whether the Morgan banks should be investigated. The Congressmen are letting off a lot of hot air while the Socialists are growing by leaps and bounds. No doubt Congress will be discussing this little item when the Socialists flood Congress with their members and separate Morgan from his little banks.

Many a farmer and worker takes a bribe from a capitalist politician and thinks he is making easy money. Such easy marks never stopped to think that if it pays the politician to buy the votes of the workers, it would pay the workers to put the politicians out of business and run their politics in their own interest.

We all speculate about the unseen world. But because some guy with his collar buttoned at the back and his vest fastened down the sides of his ribs comes and says he has special information about the unseen world, this is no reason why such a guy should have a say as to how you should vote in this world.

The Dominion government claims it has surplus of thirty million dollars and five million dollars has been added to the national debt during the last fiscal year. To the capitalist politician an increased debt on the people means a surplus—the parasites are that much richer off.

A thousand Grand Trunk employees are studying the new rules governing the running of trains which will shortly be put into effect. The Dominion government has imposed a uniform set of rules with respect to the running of trains all over Canada. All the railroads must comply with them. The wage-slaves run the trains. The people, through the government, establish the rules of running. The capitalists draw their earned dividends and interest for doing nothing.

The Berlin, Ont., Daily Telegraph, gleefully copies from the American capitalist sheets a long account of how Milwaukee is going to the demolition bowwows because of its Socialist government. This article was let loose by a disgruntled politician and has been completely refuted by facts and figures of independent investigators. The Daily Telegraph should remember that the Berlin workers are permeated with Socialism and that misrepresentation of facts about Milwaukee no longer deceives.

The "Georges" of Ontario have been begged to contribute money so that a present may be given to King George. Now if a tramp went begging alms he would be looked up as a dangerous man. But when money is being begged on behalf of a royal parasite, the fact is heralded forth in many papers. For capitalism makes a distinction between a royal parasite and a workingclass parasite. But the common people are not to be fooled. The amount realized from all the Georges of Ontario in this begging campaign amounted to only \$90.00. The frenetic appeals of a frightened capitalist class no longer awaken enthusiasm. They waken only pity.

Capitalism starves both soul and body.

A philosopher may be wise, but he has so little money.

Socialism is for humanity. Capitalism is for inhumanity.

It requires "bravery to break the chains of slavery."

Socialism will free the world from the worry about making a living.

They who want to advance are always held back and abused by people who profit by things as they are.

If the capitalist is entitled to part of your product because he owns the tools of production, is not the burglar entitled to part of what the capitalist has, because he owns the tools of exploitation?

How many of you workers allow lawyers to run your unions? How many of you farmers allow lawyers to run your agricultural and grain societies? If you do not allow them to run your unions or your societies, why in the blue blazes do you allow them to run your politics?

Many workers think they are fit to do the work but are not fit to have the fine things their labor power produces. That is why they choose to vote for their bosses so that their bosses can go make the laws which make the workers work and which let the bosses and their wives, daughters and mistresses enjoy the wealth produced by the workers.

The trial of McNamara has been out off till June. The Industrial Workers of the World, Bill Haywood, and many Socialists and trade unionists are agitating for a general strike throughout the United States the day the trial begins. Revolutionary unionism has arrived in America. This is blessed news for the worker.

The Lloyd George budget is breaking up the big estates in England. This does not mean that the benefits will go to the workers. It means that the capitalists want the land and do not want to pay the price the landowners want. So they pass a little law which makes the landowners either use the land productively as capitalists or sell it to capitalists who will.

The eight hour day bill of Alphonse Verville has been referred to a committee by the Senate. This means that the bill is practically buried. That is why the political henchmen of the labor thieves at Ottawa keep the Senate for, to bury all labor measures that the members of Parliament have to let through the House of Commons because of pressure from their electors. The Senate should be abolished.

I was wondering why the banks were forced to disclose their circulation of notes, their reserve funds, their deposits and their loans. The government compels the banks to issue a statement of their business once a month and the government publishes it in the Canadian Official Gazette. I knew that these statements were not issued to protect the people, although the members of Parliament pretend that that is the reason. I discovered the reason by a few words: a financial man let drop. There are twenty-eight banks in Canada all skinning the public. Each bank is trying at the same time to steal the business of the others. The banks could not trust each other so they got the government to compel each bank to disclose to the others what all the banks were doing. Each bank and each branch of a bank studies those government reports and knows just how far each of them is cheating on the people. The government reports assist the banks to maintain their graft and to fight any bank whose figures show that it is serving the people at less cost, than the others and thus getting the business away from the others. The monthly banking statement issued by the government is not issued to protect the people but to allow the other banks to turn and rend the bank that tries to break through the monopoly ring of the banks. A case in point is that of the Sovereign Bank which was practically wrecked by the other banks.

Lists Wanted

Cotton's needs lists for sample copies and it needs them now. Comrades who will send us in electoral or other lists, with post offices marked will be remembered with a good premium. Make out lists carefully, as we want results.

Should it be necessary to make complaint, return receipt card sent for remittance of \$1.00 and over.

WE PRINT letter heads, bill heads, note heads, hand bills, advertising cards, signs, tags, labels, imitation typewritten circulars, postal cards, pamphlets, and booklets. Calling cards and wedding invitations in choice script. We have a modern type equipment, use best stock, and produce high-class work at prices that will please. Express prepaid anywhere in Canada. Send for our New Sample. COTTON'S CO-OPERATIVE PUBLISHING CO., INC., MAIL ORDER PRINTERS, CONNELLVILLE, P. Q.

THE GREAT MAN THEORY

A Review and Some Comments

Gustave Prager, Berlin, Ont.

In our community, for everyone we count a member of our local, we know ten workingmen who are Socialists, or "leaning towards Socialist ideas," yet are not affiliated with the only party that represents their class interests. This no doubt is the case in many localities.

Now while no doubt remains, that many hold aloof from some peculiar fear, are prevented to join us because their job interests are at stake, very many are not in our fold, simply because we are not inviting them to come in.

Every local would grow faster, if the comrades went out to their fellow-workers, and in asking them to join our organization, would point out to them, not only how their coming with us added to the strength of the movement, but also impressed upon them the fact that every well conducted Socialist local is a workers' university.

Of this Berlin comrades have tangible proof. Our old members have a larger conception of life and an increased store of knowledge, since belonging to our local.

During the past few years we have followed a definite plan in mapping out topics for study and discussion.

At each meeting we take up some phase of the social problem.

Many of the comrades, who were diffident and slow of thought, have developed into fair speakers. All who regularly attend our meetings have gained a vast amount of information, on economics, sociology, history and on related topics along the lines of proletarian reasoning.

We do not cultivate the art of quibbling, but we have over and over again thrashed out the fine points of the Marxian teachings. Our members know the Marxian definitions. We consider propaganda methods and tactics. We have critically discussed the position of college, press and church in modern society. We had a series of talks and discussions on the study of history—ancient mediaeval and modern—viewed in the light of the materialist interpretation.

And what light can not be shed on current misconceptions, in the investigation of questions, like "Is man's life what he makes it?"

How fascinating can be made the intelligent consideration of "The problems of heredity and environment." "The principles of modern criminology," and other topics along the lines of class conscious inquiry.

There may be some hints in the foregoing remarks to some of the newly formed locals, as how to conduct meetings interestingly and profitably.

The last subject we here considered, and which proved the source of so much interesting inquiry, that we perused it at two sessions, was "THE GREAT MAN THEORY."

And we can now place a true estimate on "hero worship." As we are creatures of heredity and environment, we of an average normal human type, naturally abhor vice and crime and love all that is good in human nature. But we have come to a readjustment of values! We do not jump at the drunkard, the criminal, the degenerate, in whom we perceive victims of heredity or of class injustices. And we begin to see the smallness of men, termed great by historians, and pride ourselves on the men we esteem great, measuring their greatness by the work they have done in the interests of the toiling masses.

We recently read a very interesting article, written by that genial radical Dr. Woods Hutchinson.

He asks: "Does Blood tell?" and replies: "Certainly blood will tell; but what it will say no one can prophesy until it has spoken."

"You can tell a well born man, but you can't tell him much; nor can he tell you much worth listening to, eight times out of ten."

The writer shows us how far too much importance has been and is attached to the influences and results of heredity, and that the immediate environment most strongly moulds human development.

Too long has the world now been cursed by the illusion that great men are the fathers of great sons. This idea has always been fostered by the ruling classes; the sons of mighty chiefs succeeded their fathers; our monarchies and decadent aristocracies are founded upon this decaying principle.

Now as our writer puts it: "..... do we not all go clear back to Adam—and farther?" "We are all born true aristocrats, real men and true women; and that's a proud enough pedigree for any one!"

Can any clear thinker be unconquered of the facts, that "the so-called great families of history have been great only by dint of incessant bolstering up by great wealth, with the superior food and surroundings that this brings; by marrying into other great families and attracting to

themselves all the wealth and political power and other desirable prizes of the community—and by constantly being invigorated by fresh injections of 'common blood'?"

Are not our royal houses, our aristocracies and plutocracies, our "good" families everywhere an obstacle to human progress?

As Woods Hutchinson puts it: "On both sides of the Atlantic today the principle struggle of the real people is to get off their necks and off their backs those monsters of their own creation—the aristocracy of Europe and the plutocracy of America."

"Give the unspoiled, warm-hearted mass of humanity a fair living chance, good food, fresh air, sunshine, decent homes, no overwork, plenty of healthful amusements, and you will reap a far larger crop not merely of happiness, of justice and of well being, but also of geniuses, of great men and of all the leaders and illuminators that any nation can possibly utilize."

Recognizing then how aristocracy is founded upon robbed wealth, can we fail to perceive that "the difference between the four hundred and the mass is the result of their food and housing and surrounding? And for the feathering of one of these peacocks a hundred children of the poor go naked and half starved. The boasted polish of the gentleman is compounded of the blood and tears of the toilers."

Our author completely demolishes that ancient outworn fetish of "heredity" and assures us, "that one of the silliest and most wasteful things society ever did, was to attempt to breed its great men, instead of buying them in the open market in every generation."

The writer speaks of the fact that millions of children today lack the opportunities of normal development. That a small class possesses wealth all out of proportion to its needs.

"Possibly many of our greatest geniuses and most valuable intellects die in infancy of starvation, overcrowding and dirt, diseases, or become stunted and warped in childhood through premature stress and strain."

"It may take three generations to make a gentleman; but when you have made him he is generally a fool and always a parasite."

You may read in its entirety this valuable study of modern social conditions, in the "Saturday Evening Post," April 29th, 1911.

Like most current magazines, this American weekly, among a lot of "mush," quite frequently brings a story or an article worth while considering. And I need hardly state that these contributions are always the work of Socialists or at least of men with radical tendencies, men who are moved by the spirit of modern Social progress.

May we conclude with Dr. Woods Hutchinson's query: "How long will society countenance and support this monstrous and wasteful injustice and inequality?"

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