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# Cotton's Weekly

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This is No. 92

COWANSVILLE, P. Q., CANADA, JUNE 16, 1910

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## SOCIALISM ADVANCING

This week there are three reports of Socialist Conventions. One held in Cape Breton, N. S., one in Macan, N. S., and one in Toronto, Ont. In the two Conventions held in Nova Scotia it was decided to run Socialist Candidates in the coming provincial elections. In the Convention held in Toronto it was decided to remove the Provincial Executive of the Socialist Party to Berlin, and to put a permanent organizer in the field.

Socialism is a world wide force. Wherever capitalism develops there develops the Socialist spirit of industrial democracy.

Nova Scotia for a long time remained what is called a backward province. When wooden ships were built Nova Scotia capitalists prospered. But when steel ships replaced wooden ones Nova Scotia lost her ship building industry and languished so far as capitalist development was concerned. Nova Scotia produced some of the keenest politicians and brightest students Canada has seen. But Nova Scotia discovered, as did also Japan, that brains and learning are not considered civilization in these days of slave labor. Unless it can kill off fifty or sixty thousand men in a war, or bind thousands of men to slavery, a province or a nation is not considered nowadays to be civilized.

But finally Whitney of Boston thought he could make the Nova Scotians wage slaves at little cost to himself. So he organized the steel industry of Cape Breton got the Dominion government to give him millions of dollars, and started in to civilize the Nova Scotians by making them live in rented shacks and by working them twelve hours a day seven days a week and twenty-four hours at a stretch every other week. Montreal labor thieves also got busy and organized the Dominion Coal Company. The result has been what would naturally be expected. A fine spirit of revolt on the part of the slaves and a Socialist Candidate in the field.

In Cumberland County, N. S., there is the Cumberland Railway and Coal Company. This is a small concern. No doubt Manager Cowans has visions of himself as a mighty ruler of the wage slaves. But the theatre of his exploits is too narrow and Cowans has had the happy faculty of stirring up numerous strikes among the slaves. As a final upshot comes the Socialist revolt and two Candidates enter the field for the local house.

Ontario has long been exploited, but it has been only within the last few years that foreign capital has invaded the province with the intention of making the slavery in Ontario more burdensome. With the increased burdens of capital has come the increased revolt. As usual with all young Socialist movements there have been numerous Socialist organizations. These are gradually consolidating into the Socialist Party of Canada. The Provincial Executive is being transferred to Berlin where there is a united Socialist movement and from whence the throbbings of revolt will vibrate throughout the Province.

Socialism is making giant strides in Canada. The reports of these three Conventions show how the spirit of Social revolt is spreading in Canada.

There is a proposal for a church union. Methodists, Presbyterians, Congregationalists are talking of uniting. Some of the Methodist Ministers are objecting. They are afraid of their superannuation fund being swallowed up. So they object. No matter what line of activity is proposed economic determinism crops out. The Methodist ministers object to the union because of their old age pensions. If the state provided old age pensions then this cause of friction would cease. In the same way there would be many other causes of friction removed. Socialism will bring to Ministers of the Gospel relief from Mammon which no so many of them make friends with.

The yellow peril to the German Kaiser means that John Chinamen is getting capitalized. But the Kaiser should remember his own worries and think that the capitalization of John Chinamen will be followed by his Socialization.

Have you ever noticed how Socialism is being discussed everywhere? Socialism is a live question and cannot be avoided.

"A Trust is Socialism for the few and hell for the many." Victor Berger.

Why should not capitalists be patriotic? Their patriotism puts millions of dollars into their pockets.

There are many persons to whom Socialism appears in the light of a philanthropic movement of goodness. A little touch of the class struggle will cure such ideas.

The St. Louis Republic remarks "Let us investigate our next Cabinet beforehand. The Public journal has evidently some inkling that capitalist rule is permanently corrupt."

The encyclical recently issued by the Pope declares that at the time of the council of Trent the principles of Catholicism had been undermined by Martin Luther. This is creating a great discussion among Protestant organs. Let them talk. Socialism has a big enough task on hand in loosening the grip of the labor skinner from the pocket books of the workers, without mingling in the metaphysical squabbles of three hundred years ago.

## THE LITTLE REFORMER

The little reformer is down on graft. He wants to stop the grafters. His mind is still bound in by plute philosophy. He still worships rent, interest and profit. He worships rent, interest and profit if it has been what he calls honestly obtained. But he does not want anyone to have rent, interest and profit by what he calls dishonest methods. That would be wrong. Just here is where the little reformer falls down. The line between right and wrong cannot be drawn. If a legislator takes a bribe for his vote that is wrong according to the reformer. But if the legislator is a member of railway syndicate and votes the company a big bonus, that is all right. They are doing it right along. And yet there is no difference between the two cases in reality. And moreover when crooks get busy it is hard work tracing them in finance. So the little reformer is in the unhappy position of trying to stop graft when he cannot just tell what graft is and when he cannot catch the grafters once in a hundred times getting away with the goods. The Revolutionary Socialist's position is far stronger. The Socialist declares that all rent, interest and profit is wrong. It does not matter how the rent, interest and profit originated. It must stop. The grafters can scheme to get away with the goods. The respectable members of society may strive to increase their incomes by legalized stock jobbing. It does not matter. As soon as the Socialists get the power rent and profit will be abolished. Are you a little reformer worrying yourself sick because you cannot catch the grafters at their little tricks? Quit it. Become a revolutionary and instead of wasting your energy chasing up individual grafters in their illegal operations, get after all the grafters both legal and illegal.

The rumor is being circulated that King Edward died a Catholic. According to the international declaration of the Socialist Parties religion is a private affair. So far as Socialists are concerned Edward could have died a Mohammedan. What interests the Socialists is the fact that Edward was the titular head of the British Empire and that the Empire is in the hands of the capitalist plunderers. Now that he is dead he does not matter. It is George who is the catspaw of the capitalist class.

Portugal shows signs of revolt. The assassination of Carlos was the counterblast to the tyranny and absolutism that was being prepared for the people. A great meeting was recently held in Lisbon to protest against the special judges which the government is turning loose on the people in the name of the law and order. Times change and Portugal cannot escape the spirit of the age.

The capitalist tries to persuade the workers that capitalism is a good thing. The laborers are persuaded that capitalism is a good thing for the capitalists, but not for the workers.

Socialism will reform the capitalist system out of existence by means of a revolution in the ownership of the machinery of production and distribution.

## EDUCATION

It has been recognized ever since civilization began that education is Power. The man who knows cannot be led aside from the path he is following by the sophistries of those who would profit by his being led into error.

There are many little reformers who would like to see the Socialists of Canada change their tactics with regard to the education of the wage plug. They would like to see them take up with government ownership, prison reform, temperance. Revolution is such a harsh sounding word. Let us have a step at a time. Let us be loving and kind. They would like to see the doctrine of the class struggle toned down.

But there is no royal road to Socialism. There is no easy path of love by which the capitalist class can be made to get off the backs of the workers. The experience of Owen and other Utopians shows this. Occasionally a capitalist, over whom the power of cosmic determinism exercises more sway than economic determinism, may bend his energies and unearned wealth to the abolition of capitalist exploitation. But such capitalists are rare.

It is only by the education of the workers that they become able to fight their own battles intelligently. Consequently the Socialist propaganda sticks to the fundamental doctrines of economic determinism, surplus value and class struggle.

The vast majority of men are moved by their economic interests. This is an unpalatable truth. Yet it is. The philanthropists try to wiggle out of the doctrine by pointing to their large gifts to hospitals. The middle class church goes try to wiggle out of the doctrine by pointing to the fifty cent pieces they give to convert the heathen Africans. But the doctrine of economic determinism holds good. The question is not, how the individuals spend their income but how they get it. Touch the source of a man's income and he at once gets fighting mad and civil war will result if the persons whose sources of income are threatened feel strong enough. A capitalist is not going to forego his dividends voluntarily. A landlord remitting the rent to his tenants in a lump is not to be thought of. Throughout industry and commerce the way a man gets his living governs the nature of his actions and mental outlook.

The theory of surplus value is that rent, interest and profit come out of the unpaid labor of the workers mental or physical. The workers labor and get paid only in part. Part of their labor goes to support the parasite capitalist class. Wages always tend to the barest means of subsistence. The average worker gets in wages just enough to keep himself alive and to reproduce the race of wage plugs. He produces far more than this, but whatever he produces above and beyond his living and reproduction, goes to the master class. The master class own the machinery of production and distribution. Through the control of the machines at which the workers must work the master class can take from the workers all the wealth they produce beyond and above the keep of the workers.

From the two above conditions necessarily results the class struggle. The economic interests of the capitalist class make them struggle to keep control of the machinery of production. The economic interests of the workers make them struggle to get control of the machinery of production and distribution. Every strike for the recognition of the union is a strike for greater control over the machinery of production on the part of the workers.

When once these three doctrines have been thoroughly apprehended by the workers their chief aim will be the capturing of the machinery of production and distribution. They will bend their efforts toward the election of Socialists who will strive to bring about the downfall of the capitalist class and to establish the workers in power over the mines, mills, etc.

The aim of Socialist organization and Socialist propaganda is not to win votes. The capitalist politicians can win votes and the Socialists could win votes by adopting the same tactics. The aim of Socialist agitation is to waken the workers and to win intelligent votes for Socialism. The aim of Socialist agitation is not to win votes but to make revolutionary voters. Education of the working classes to their true economic interests is the only way to make revolutionary voters.

Therefore the Socialist Party keeps its aim clear before it. It preaches the class struggle. And it is not alone in educating the workers. The capitalist class of Canada keeps hammering the doctrines of the class struggle into the workers with policemen's clubs, soldiers' bayonets and wage cuts.

## CAPITALIST PHILANTHROPY

Many capitalists are philanthropic. They love their fellowmen after a fashion. And their idea of assisting mankind is to make a lot of money and give it away again.

The capitalist philanthropists will work their slaves to the limit of their strength in order to build hospitals to take care of the fevered and sick. The capitalists will keep vast masses of men and women in poverty and ignorance in order to endow colleges where the youth of a leisured class may imbibe a lot of useless knowledge. The capitalist philanthropist is a peculiar creature. He destroys the beauty of thousands of lives in order to do good to humanity.

Carnegie is a typical specimen. His Homestead plant was a disgrace to civilization. Pittsburg, where Carnegie made his fortune in part, is a mass of fever festered slums. Carnegie and his tribe took so much of what the workers produced that there was little left for the workers. The necessities of a healthful life have been denied the workers who produced the wealth Carnegie stole from them. Carnegie now lives in a castle in Scotland and plays at being philanthropic. What if he does give millions for libraries? The misery he has caused can never be wiped out. Philanthropic Carnegie has been a curse to the world.

In the days of slavery there were philanthropists. In the days of Rome there were many slave owners who devoted to works of goodness and piety the wealth produced by their slaves under the lash of the slave driver. Today we would tell such philanthropists that the wealth they gave to found asylums and hospitals, for Rome had these institutions, was produced by slave labor accursed. But had such a statement been made to the philanthropists of Rome they would have replied that slaves were made to work and without slavery there would not be civilization. In the same manner today the Socialists declare that the wealth of Strathcona and Booth and Morgan and the rest of them is the product of slavery and injustice. The wealth produced by slave labor and cursed, is a good thing for society even if the wealth robbed from the wage slaves is used for taking care of the wrecks produced by the same system which produces the wealth.

We hear a lot about the philanthropy of our rich men. But we do not hear anything about their desire to get off the backs of the workers. We do not see them living cheaply. They take all they want for their own wants and extravagances. The sums they devote to philanthropy are but a part of their stolen wealth.

As long as wage slavery lasts the charity of the rich will be mockery and a delusion. Let there come industrial freedom, let there be a cessation of rent, interest and profit, and there will be no need for charity. For the wrecks which the philanthropists care for are produced by the too heavy burdens placed upon labor by the philanthropists in order that they might have the money to pick up the wrecks produced.

The philanthropy of the rich is a farce. The workers want the full product of their labor. They do not want to be robbed of what they produce and then get a little of the wealth stolen from them returned in the shape of a dole.

The grand jury in a presentment to Judge Winchester at the General Sessions up at Toronto recommends the use of the lash for assaults upon girls. The capitalist upholders can see nothing but severity as a preventative for crime. We are getting all sorts of suggestions these days. And the lash is coming back into favor with the so-called administrators of justice. The lash for the assaulter of girls on the street. But nothing is said against low wages for young girls in cities which are far worse. The lash for assaulting girls. But nothing is said of the degradation which women suffer because of capitalist exploitation of womanhood. The Toronto Grand Jury knows as much about economic evils and their remedies as a wet hen.

Let us work for the abolition of wage slavery.

The Gobble 'uns are the capitalists and they are gobbling all the unpaid labor they can.

Socialism aims at the social production and distribution with individual enjoyment.

A Toronto Grand Jury has recommended the lash for assaulters of girls. The assaulters are brutes perhaps. Therefore give them the lash. Not a word do the Grand Jury say of the causes which brutalize the men of our cities. Not a word about how economic conditions, slum life, the corruption due to false standards of life held aloft by the capitalist class, produce the characters which assault. The assaults are committed. Therefore the lash. But then what can we expect from Grand Jurymen? If they had any sense they would not be Grand Jurymen.

## THINK FOR YOURSELF

Perhaps you are just a common every day sort of a man. One of the crowd. You have many convictions but keep them to yourself. You go to church and hear the preacher man say many things. You feel what the preacher man says is not true in many ways. But you think you are a fool and the preacher man wise and so keep quiet. And you read the daily papers and feel that many things they say are not true. But you think you are more foolish than the newspaper men and think that somehow you may be wrong. And hear the politicians talk and you feel they are talking rot. But you are afraid of your own opinions and so keep quiet. And so you keep your real convictions in the background, perhaps don't let yourself think of your own convictions at all. And swallow what is told you. Did it ever strike you that perhaps you might be right, and the preacher man, paper, politician, financier might be wrong? Did it ever strike you that perhaps the whole of what is taught you is a big bluff? Think for yourself. Do not think what some one else tells you is right. Work it out for yourself. Ask yourself why rent, interest and profit should be paid to a lot of idlers. Ask yourself many questions. Get over the habit of being frightened at your own convictions and swallowing the convictions of your masters. Think for yourself and you will find yourself taking yourself by the hand and conducting you to Socialism.

Now comes the news of a revolt in Yucatan, Mexico. Diaz, the ruler of Mexico, is as black hearted a villain as ever ruled a nation and kept it in slavery. The exposures of the corruption and oppression now rampant in Mexico have been laid bare in the Socialist press of the United States time and time again. It is said that if the people could have but three days in which to gather, the Diaz tyranny would be smashed to pieces. Arms are being continually smuggled in through the South of Mexico, but they quickly rust and spoil in the hot, moist climate. In Yucatan, according to the first reports, the peons have risen and murdered a score of Diaz thugs, miscalled officials. Every sincere lover of freedom will wish that the revolutionists win even if every Canadian dollar that has been rushed to Mexico in the last few years to swell itself with the blood and tears of the Mexican laborers, be lost to the plunder lustful of Montreal and elsewhere. Humanity would rejoice if the revolutionaries should cause the stockholders and bondholders of the Mexican Light, Heat and Power Company to lose their whole plant through the rising of the oppressed people.

The Penticon Press published an article on King Edward entitled Mock Mourning and Mock Loyalty. It was a mild little article on Edward whom John Burns once dubbed "Albert Edward, Prince of paupers." Nevertheless a Penticon mob wanted to duck the editor in a pond of water and Bowser, the British Columbia Attorney General, has asked W. J. Clement, the editor, to hand in his resignation as Justice of the Peace. Bowser and the Penticon mob evidently think that Edward's reputation was pretty sealy when a mild little editorial calls down such attempted punishment. But if the capitalist fetishes were not protected by force, capitalism would not last long and the henchmen of the capitalists realize this.

## PUBLIC OPINION

There is a strange thing which is often mentioned but rarely analyzed or defined. This strange thing is public opinion.

It is said that public opinion wants this and public opinion is against that; public opinion will not uphold this and public opinion will demand that. And frequently it is asserted that public opinion is against Socialism.

Men who know little about what they are talking back up their statements with public opinion. Statesmen back up the most infamous steals with the assertion that the people demand the steal. Public opinion is a great idol which many pretend to worship and yet which does not exist as a single entity.

Opinions are individual. The public is composed of a mass of individuals. The vast majority of opinions of individuals are governed by their economic interests. Consequently there is no such thing as united public opinion. There are individual opinions which in numerous cases because the individual interests of the holders thereof are identical. The manufacturers who are exploiting the Canadian market wants protection. Their economic interests make them want a monopoly of the home market. The farmers who ship grain and farm produce and buy from the city want cheap transportation. Their economic interests within the capitalist system: make them united on this question. The railroad barons want cheap labor and high transportation rates. The wage workers want high wages and cheap food. Enlightened wage workers want Socialism. Criminals want a corrupted police. Franchise grabbers want bribable public officials. There is no such thing as a united opinion. Public opinion is a disunited force. It is made up of warring interests and hostile minds.

Sometimes a crime is committed which is so against the interests of the majority of people that the community is said to be shocked. But even in this case there are many criminally inclined persons, men or women with atavistic proclivities, who do not feel shocked and whose opinion were they on a jury, would acquit the accused guilty person.

Public opinion in the ordinary use of the term is frequently something which the capitalist newspapers declare to be the will of the people. It is a manufactured article which the interests back of the newspapers foist on the people against the protests of the individuals with opposing economic interests who have no means of spreading their views widely through the printed page.

So far as Socialism is concerned, Socialism will be the opinion of those whose economic interests lie in that direction. As capitalism develops there will be more persons who have been expropriated and are being exploited. There will continually be greater and greater masses of individuals who will want Socialism. And when the majority of the people have economic interests which will be further advanced, through Socialism then Socialism will triumph.

Public opinion is disunited. The opinions of different groups of individuals is simply the reflex of their economic interests. Socialism has its bitter enemies and its warm friends and upholders. Its friends are the workers and its enemies are the parasites who live off the unpaid labor of the workers.

Dr. Patchenko, a Russian physician is under arrest charged with murdering his rich patients by inoculating them with cholera bacilli. He is said to have received immense sums from the heirs of those murdered. This is heralded across a continent and an ocean as important news. Yet the slums of Canadian cities inoculate the children of workers with all kinds of disease. The children die, done to death by the landlords and the labor skinner. Yet the deaths are barely recorded. When Socialism comes then no doctor will murder any patient for the sake of gain because there will be no idle rich whose death could benefit anyone. And children will not die in the slums because slums will have been abolished along with the profit seeking landlord.

Socialism will not destroy individuality. Socialism will give a chance to individuality to develop in many quarters where now the grind of the ten hours a day work gives no chance for the individual to be other than a machine to produce material goods.

SOCIALISM A LIVE QUESTION IN N. B.

In the Newcastle (N.B.) Union Advocate of the 24th ult., there appeared the following at the head of the editorial columns which is reproduced in full for our readers, as a fair sample of capitalistic editorials when Socialism is the subject.

SOCIALISTS.

We have read with some interest the articles in "Cotton's Weekly." We have the friendliness to believe that this man is sincere, but apparently he has not met the loafer. "A sailor sitting in a very melancholy mood, was asked by his captain: 'What's the matter, Jack?' 'Oh! the world is badly divided.' 'How?' 'Well I think all the money ought to be put in a bag, shook up and divided equally.' 'But you would go ashore, and loaf till your's was spent.' 'Well,' said Jack, 'I'll bag it up and shake it up again.' It looks seriously as though we would have a good many 'Jacks' under the system advocated by 'Cotton's Weekly.'

Below is a reply by one of the Maritime Organizers of the S. P. of C., our old friend, Comrade H. H. Stewart, whose article appears in the Union Advocate of the 7th instant; thereby reaching many readers not at present on the subscription list of any Socialist paper.

COMRADE STEWART'S REPLY.

The Editor Union Advocate: Dear Sir,—In your issue of the 24th instant the editorial on Socialism revises the long-ago-refuted idea that Socialism is a purely communistic theory, and not even one of voluntary communism like that of the early Christian church but universal and compulsory, so, that the loafer would, without having to work for himself, receive a share of the property of his industrious neighbors. Such an idea of Socialism is very far from being correct. Socialism, as advocated by the Socialist Party of Canada and all the Socialist political parties affiliated with the International Socialist Congress, which meets in Convention every third year, does NOT favor the taking away from any person one cent's worth of what is rightfully his. Socialist parties the world over DO insist that, after due provision has been made for popular education and the support of the helpless young and aged and the physically and mentally incapacitated, each worker shall receive the full value of his labor, that everyone who can work must work or starve, that is, as the Bible says, "He that will not work neither shall he eat." The charge that Socialism means a compulsory and equal distribution of property regardless of the rights acquired by the honest toil of industrious citizens, giving the loafer an equal share with the worker, is as untrue as it is absurd. He who claims that Socialism is a mere "dividing up" scheme must be totally unacquainted with Socialist philosophy, Socialist platforms, and the fact that Socialist voters in the most highly civilized and enlightened states of central and north-western Europe—that part of the continent exclusive of Spain, Portugal, Russia, Hungary and the Balkan countries—number 8,000,000, the general rule being the more educated the nation the higher the percentage of its electors who are Socialists. It must also have escaped his attention that, last month the voters of the Continent of Australia elected the Labor Party (which is a Socialist organization) to power, giving it an overwhelming majority of representatives in both houses of parliament. The people of Australia—not unintelligent by any means—evidently think that Socialists are something better than loafers. The workers of Cumberland County, N. S., who can scarcely be classed as loafers, have nominated two Socialists for the legislature. And the workers of British Columbia and Alberta have elected four Socialist representatives to their legislatures. There is too much "dividing up" going on at the present time. The public lands of Canada are being "divided up" between railway companies and land speculators instead of being kept for actual settlers alone. The gold-bearing lands of Yukon were "divided up" between miners and mining companies who have to pay a ridiculously small royalty, instead of being worked by the Government in order that the whole of the output, less the cost of mining and smelting, might have gone into the national treasury to build the Trans-Continental railway or be applied to the reduction of taxation. The coal areas of Nova Scotia have been "divided up" among a few companies, who upon payment of a small sum per ton raised, pocket a vast profit which should go into the provincial treasury. So, also, with the iron ore of New Brunswick. It has been "divided up" among a few speculators, one company getting a lease of the most valuable mines for eighty years at a royalty of only five cents a ton. The profits of this mine alone will probably be sufficient, if rightly applied, to pay off all New Brunswick's liabilities. The lumber on New Brunswick's crown lands, which Socialists would have cut, driven, manufactured and sold by the Government, has been "divided up" among corporations, largely foreign who on payment of a certain stumpage are under no obligations as to whom they shall employ, what wages they shall pay, or what they shall do with their product. They are, in many instances, shipping the pulpwood of New Brunswick to a foreign country to be manufactured by foreigners, the profit going to build up a foreign state and so on.

Under the present system, taxes are pretty evenly "divided up" among the small farmers, the laborers and the owners of one house and

a small business each in towns, while persons and firms higher up are largely exempt, but, on the other hand, care is taken to insure the "dividing up" of all the offices of honor, power and emolument among the men of property.

Most of the land of the British Isles was "divided up" centuries ago, by Norman war-lords, to whose descendants and successors the people have ever since had to pay rent. And the same landlord system is rapidly spreading in America.

Because the machinery of the world is "divided up" among a few the many must work for a mere pittance while the profits of industry are "divided up" among the stockholders, many of whom do nothing to earn their living.

SOCIALISM AIMS TO STOP SUCH "DIVIDING UP." It would stop the dividing up of the public funds among the grafters and political heebers that infest every hall of legislation; it would keep the public lands for actual settlers and would operate the railways, telegraphs, telephones, and other public utilities solely in the public interest. It would take over and run for the public benefit all industries that are monopolized—everything necessary to the well being of all the citizens. It would stop the dividing up of the products of labor among those who do not work and give to the actual worker all that is justly due him.

Socialism means RESTORATION to the public of all that of which the people, through force or fraud, have been robbed. Those who are unjustly in possession of that which they have not earned charge the Socialists with a desire to confiscate. But such a charge is not true. In restoring to public ownership any land or franchise that should never have been alienated therefrom, the dispossessed occupant should certainly, and doubtless will, receive from a Socialist government the full value of what he actually put into the property expropriated. And under Socialism each man and woman will at least acquire freedom and AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY in life.

H. H. STEWART, Newcastle, N. B., May 31st, 1910.

Cotton's New Home

The building in which to house Cotton's Weekly is going up apace. The building, when finished, will be thirty-six feet wide, sixty feet long and two storeys high. At first the lower floor will be used for Cotton's Weekly, but eventually the whole building will be used for Socialism. It is only a question of time when the sub hustlers will compel us to use the whole of the building for the publication of Socialist literature.

We are installing about a thousand dollar's worth of new machinery. We are putting in a six horse power gasoline engine, a job press, a paper cutter and other machinery.

When we get into the new home we will have more room and better facilities for looking after the business end. Our present limited quarters renders it very difficult to maintain a satisfactory business system. In fact for the past year the editorial work has been carried on in an old passage way closed in at the ends and the business end has been carried on in one corner of the composing room. There will be two offices in the new building, one for editorial work and one for looking after the business end of the paper.

We will be in the new building sooner than we expected. The builder has rushed it forward. The first carload of timber and lumber arrived Friday morning June the third, and on Friday morning, June the tenth, the frame was erected, boarded in and roofed and the tinners were at work putting on the galvanized roofing.

The floors will be of hard wood. The second storey will probably be turned into a hall and if not rented will be used as a Socialist lecture hall for the conversion of the local heathen from their ideas of capitalist darkness. When the sub hustlers get busy and send in sufficient business the whole building will be used for the purposes of the paper.

In the meantime the sub list goes up one hundred. The ten thousand mark has not been reached and many wage plugs are wandering in the benighted realms of capitalist misconceptions who, once nabbed for Cotton's would become splendid kickers against exploitation.

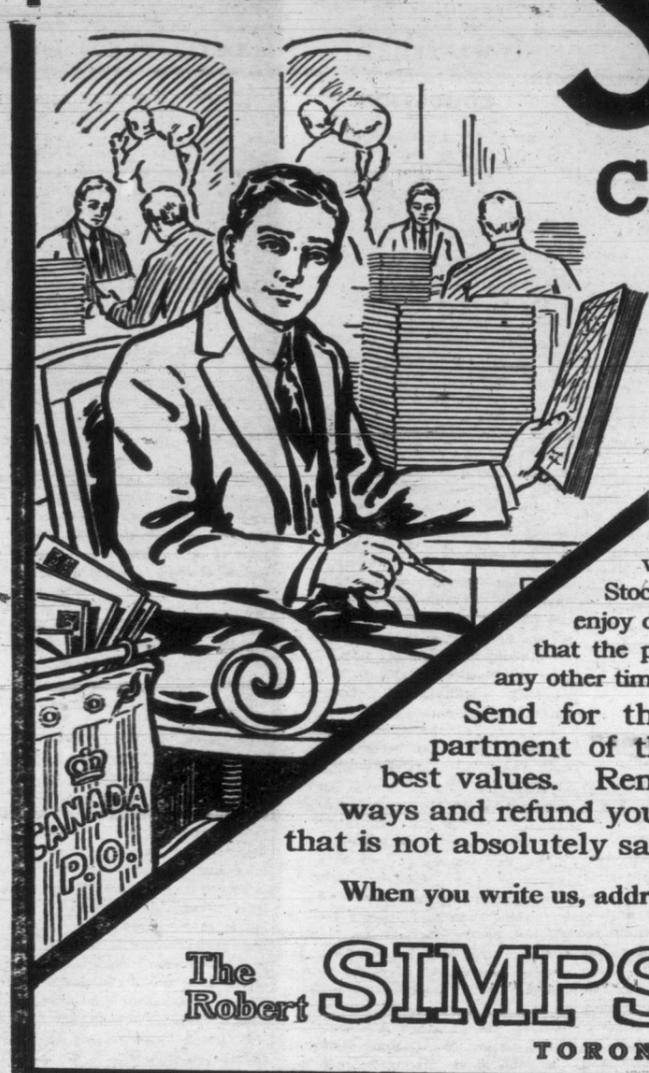
WILL THAT TEN THOUSAND BE REACHED BEFORE COTTON'S GETS INTO ITS NEW HOME?

Circulation Statement table with columns for Province, Circulation, and Total. Includes entries for Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Prov. of Quebec, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Elsewhere, Yukon Territory, Prince Ed. Island, Newfoundland, and a Total of 173,341, 8458.

Total issue last week was 9,200

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Toilers and Idlers

Our Social Story Copyrighted, 1907 by John B. McMahon. (Continued.) CHAPTER XX.

"We like to dance," retorted one of the few who paid any attention to the foreman. John Day stood alone beside the half empty ladle, sweating, hands and face red-blistered. He said it was right to finish the job before quitting. But his assistant, Tom Locker, was away, dancing a break-down with the apprentices.

"Don't spoil the cast, men," said Walt Hewitt, changing his tone to entreaty. "Finish the pour, can't you?" Zienski laughed ferociously and folded his arms. "She's full of slag now, anyhow," exulted someone. "Somebody give me a hand," said John Day quietly.

No one moved save Rensen. Hardly knowing what he did, but anxious to help and thinking what a pity it would be to leave this work unfinished, he sprang forward. The heat scorched his face, the white glare blighted him. He struggled at the cross handles, and smelled the burning air on his hands and naked arms. The effort was beyond his strength, he was baffled by the light and heat; yet he made another attempt. Day pulled him back, saying the power had been switched from the crane.

Laughing and shouting with sudden loudness as the cupola blast was shut down and all machinery ceased its din, the men put on their coats and walked out of the foundry.

CHAPTER XXI.

Up from the dust, darkness and crowds, the footpath of Williamsburg bridge led to a region of quiet, light and pure ocean air blowing across the red and gray roofs. A view past the cable nets of the lower bridge, to the mast-lined river and the harbor, to Staten Island. A western glimpse of cliffs, beyond the ragged backbone of office buildings loftily centering Manhattan. Steeples of synagogues and churches above the nearby tenement roofs, with their zinc pediments, water tanks, sign boards, clothes lines a-flutter. Faintly visible in the ruck of sky protections a square yellowish tower on the north; the twin spires of a cathedral, white or sooty as struck by the sun. The island beneath jutted into the river, rippling lead with hands of silver. Rensen breathed the pure air of this region and beheld its noble pictures—the added glories of sunset—with a devout pleasure. He made a com-

position, excluding the swarming mannikins in the dusky canal streets. Acceptable were the northward gas tanks, vast reddish cylinders with truss ornament; slender set pencils of factory chimneys; the navy yard warships at the dock, white hull and yellow tops. Steamy shrieks arose from a flock of tugs, ferryboats and railroad floats. The gulls circled within a ferry slip, oval framed. A thousand home-goers leaned over the guards of the ferryboats to watch a turbine yacht, brass glistening, black and gold, tear the water at thirty miles an hour, bound for a palace home down the Sound.

As a picture it was majestically beautiful, enlarging the soul. But the spectator, despite his efforts to exclude mannikins and preserve the composition, beheld a tragedy and a farce, played by millions without ceasing; a system as monstrous and complex as this rock-seated city; a prehistoric institution of mind more solid than granite, surface-changeful than water. Who dared aught against this granite-and-water reality?

The dusk deepened, crasing colors, but giving shadowy ironic grace to inflexible forms. Sighing, he came down. There was a lesser immediate problem. Along the sidewalks on each side of the foundry a number of men idle in a peculiar manner. They walked up and down, smoking an occasional pipe; sometimes a pair met in a shut doorway, or a newcomer from across the street took the place of one who would walk away. A casual passer-by would have noticed nothing out of the accidental in the behavior of these men; they might have been quiet mechanics enjoying the evening air.

They were, however, strike pickets, who had been on duty three nights and days, who eyed every stranger with suspicion, and took heed of every wagon or well-filled street car that came by.

Rensen surveyed the scene with a dejected helplessness. He was struck by the inconsequence of events, the trifling causes of large difficulties. Mr. Townsend had retired after a tedious process of accounting and inventorying, which had not soothed the suspicions of the men. It had been impossible to find John Day in the last twenty-four hours. Worst of all, the breaking of a few windows by street arabs had led to a sensational publicity, with defiant utterances on the part of labor leaders, and an offer from the captain of the police precincts to protect the Works. This offer Rensen had declined; but according to the late editions it had been accepted and further demands for protection made upon the police commissioner.

A tall hasty young man with pince-nez glasses and a sketch book under arm, striding around the corner, almost collided with Rensen. He apologized volubly, then seized his hand, and burst out laughing.

"Well, well, old man," said Ackley Smith. "I thought it might be safer down to you to apologize first. What's new? What do you think of my new make-up? . . . Come now, don't insult me. This is an English yachting cap. What's happened? Is there any danger?"

"None that I know of." "Pshaw, I read the papers this afternoon, said to myself, by jove, what a chance to study types. Hope they'll raise the very devil—of course not to your disadvantage. I say, are those fellows detectives?" "They are pickets for the union." "Well, well, slouchy looking lot. Then your guards must be around handy. . . . No? You're a brave chap. Look here, I'll have to change that design."

"Change that design?" "Yes, instead of a Molders' clubhouse I guess you'll want a Strikers' penitentiary. Ha, ha!" "I don't see the point, my dear Ackley."

"What, didn't they destroy your property?" "No—I am a striker myself," said Rensen in somewhat of nettled vigor. "You're a striker yourself—" Ackley glared and chuckled. "I am trying to win out against false ideas, circumstances and self-ignorance. I hope to be always on strike."

"Ah. Symbolic. Meanwhile you'll call the police to protect the windows."

Rensen perhaps replied too sharply or made unwise comment on decorative delay; at all events he was met by a deftly spiteful attack in another quarter. "You've done nothing for the girl except send her to me," said Ackley peevishly, "and now you want to spoil her. She's at a standstill, full of impossible ideas. Now what's the use of improving people and then spoiling 'em?"

"Perhaps you don't recall a certain talk we had." "Well, what was it? Something rank, eh? By jove, Rensen, that's not my way to chalk up every friendly pleasantry—and it wasn't yours, either." "You made a very clear statement—that night of the studio tea." "But I wasn't screwed? . . . Hang it, what did I say? . . . So much fuss over a turn of phrase, overlooking one's real derelictions." "Those however, are scarcely my concern."

"My dear fellow, what's the use of mixing the styles so soon? It isn't reason or art. These pre-Raphaelite morals are pretty enough, but nobody'll give credit for sincerity in this exact age. Better be yourself."

"That is," said Rensen, "the easiest, most rapacious self. And surrender is sincerity." "No, but I believe in accepting the verdict of the jury. These heroic attempts don't appeal to me. I place myself where I belong." "Also your neighbors where they belong." (To be continued.)

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# THE FIRING LINE

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A yearly from Comrade I. A. Austin, Nelson, B. C.

Comrade W. R. Scott, Winnipeg, brings in five red yearlies.

Comrade F. Blake, Edmonton, wants five sub cards for bait.

Comrade Thos. Gamble, Amherst, N. S. forward five halfers.

Comrade Olaf Pehrson, Bawlf, Alta., will corral five halfers.

A halfer nabbed by Comrade W. P. Scrully, Phoenix, B. C.

Comrade John McKiernan, Cobalt, Ont., drops in four halfers.

Two yearlies from Comrade Phillips Thompson, Toronto.

Four halfers from Comrade Fred T. Carroll, Gowanda, Ont.

Cotton's new Book Catalog is ready for delivery. Send in for one.

Comrade David W. Cullen, Dawson City, takes two bonesworth of sub cards.

Comrade Hanning, Warnica, Painswick, Ont., is responsible for two yearlies.

Comrade T. Steele, Coleman, Alta., lines up four yearlies to the dope counter.

Comrade E. Simpson, Edmonton, Alta., will see to the welfare of five halfers.

Comrade M. Nix, Renfrew, Ont., captures a halfer and starts in to capture more.

Comrade Geo. W. Jollymore, Amherst, N. S., takes a bundle of ten for three months.

Comrade Millar Grant, Stellarton, N. S., captures two halfers. And thus the N. S. list grows.

Comrade E. Quirnbach, Berlin, Ont., leads two yearlies and a halfer to the dope counter.

Comrade N. J. Sonder, Lang, Sask., will bring five halfers to the warmth of the wig wam fire.

Comrade E. O. Hakedahl, Plamondville, Alta., agrees to plant six half yearly subs in fertile soil.

Comrade Chas. Kernick, Sydney Mines, N. S., takes a bundle of twenty-five for three months.

Comrade Mrs. M. A. Owen, Fernie, B. C. increases the B. C. sub list with two yearlies and four halfers.

This paragraph is a jogger about those Sub Cards you have on hand still unused. Get them into service.

Comrade W. J. Lodingham, Victoria, B. C., brings in a yearly, as does Comrade A. Verceolotti, Porcupine, Ont.

Use the noon hour to advantage. Talk to your fellow workers, and land their names for Cotton's sub list.

Comrade Miss M. Somers, Vancouver, B. C., adds a yearly and a dollar and a half to the agitation battery.

Comrade Wm. Robinson, Poplar, Ont., opens the minds of three yearlies to a knowledge of the better things to be.

Comrade C. L. Johnson, Hillcrest Mines, Alta., wants a bundle of ten for twelve months to be used as ammunition for subs.

Comrade H. C. Hatch, Kelowna, B. C., forwards the price of a bundle of five for six months to be forwarded to Winnipeg Local.

Some of the new picture postal cards are sent with every sub card order. Connect with these postals. They are handy.

Comrade James Stapley, Lindsay, Ont., is working a new field for Socialism. As a result five halfers drop in from Ericon.

"Please girls do not neglect my order for sub cards and my yearly subscription." Comrade Miss Kate English, Swallowhurst, Alta.

"I have rustled you four yearlies which you will find enclosed. I hope you will teach them the true path in which to walk." Comrade Wm. Coulter, Central Park, B. C.

"The English Branch of Local number one have resolved to help along the cause and Cotton's by taking a bundle of twenty copies for three months." Comrade Mrs. E. Bellemare, Secretary.

"Enclosed find one dollar for the Glace Bay boys. I have a warm side for them being blacklisted out of N. S., one year being March. Am an old member of Glace Bay local." Comrade John H. Robinson, Hillcrest Mines, Alta.

"At the latter end of March I received a letter from the 'One Hoss,' asking me to assist Cotton's Weekly. In consequence of that letter I rustled two dollars. Here is another dollar with an order for sub cards. Yours in the serap." Comrade W. L. Berry, Edison, Alta.

Comrade A. G. McCallum is waiting anxiously for fifteen sub cards and continues his bundle of fifty. Reports that the hundred copies going to Ottawa Local will soon have to be increased as they sold eighty cents worth of Cotton's on the street corners last week.

"Sir Wilfrid Laurier is coming west this summer. Hit him hard. I belong to the Grain Growers Association, but I think the farmers need to fall in line with the Socialists as the full power of the working class needs to get after the grafters." Comrade Jas. Nesbitt, Wauchope, Sask.

A wage slave of the Dominion Coal Company, Cape Breton, scurries round and rustles up three yearlies and two halfers and takes a bundle of ten for three months. Socialism is not popular with the bosses of the Coal Company so the Comrade wage plug keeps his name dark.

# BRANTFORD LOCAL.

Open-air propaganda meeting Saturday evening was addressed by W. Green of Local 24, Toronto. As this was Green's first visit to this burg, local comrades had an opportunity to size "The immaculate one" up from a standpoint of propaganda efficiency.

Green's strong point proved to be his ability to outline the struggle of the classes, and also the why and wherefore of capitalist exploitation in working class language.

Our comrade closed his address with a plain statement of facts regarding the relationship his audience had to the working class party and its propaganda. The point was not missed, for when local comrades took up the collection, we found that expenses had been covered.

This for the benefit of neighboring locals who are not yet possessed of speakers. Put it up to the workers, tell them it's their fight as well as yours, and they will respond.

As none of the members of the local here are millionaires, this feature of the workers paying for their own education is a most welcome sign of the times. The next move will be to increase the sub list of Socialist papers here. We are preparing the way for this by free distribution of literature at all our meetings.

This is having an immediate effect in bringing Cotton's readers into personal touch with members of Brantford Local and will reflect on the organization.

—A. W. Baker, Sec.

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Now is the time to get your order in for a three months bundle. Every issue during July, August and September will be a SPECIAL Issue. Every copy distributed by the Bundle Boosters will tell. Bound to get in time with the Boosters listed below.

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# SOCIALISTS REFUSE TO SCAB.

The Cumberland Railway and Coal Company is having hard luck in obtaining strikebreakers for its mines at Springhill, Nova Scotia. Recently a bunch of German and Belgian miners, "ignorant fellows" as our average Canuck wage slave would call them, arrived from Europe and were put to work.

A few days after their arrival they learned that they were scabbing. They immediately quit and the residents were amazed on Sunday morning, May 22 to see fifty men march out of the company's bull pen carrying the Red Flag and singing the Marseillaise—the song of the Social Revolution. They were all Socialists and when they found themselves scabbing they quit.

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Write book, bundle, card or sub orders on separate sheet of paper from letters on other matters, in order to ensure prompt attention.

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Anyone ordering these cards may sell them at 25 cents each, thus making a commission of 75 cents on the dollar, or he may place them to his satisfaction in other ways, finding compensation in the fact that he is forwarding the cause of education and enlightenment in the forward movement of the race.

These cards may be paid for when ordered, or may be ordered and remittance made after they are sold. A coupon is printed below for the convenience of those who desire to increase the circulation of Cotton's Weekly.

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# SOCIALISTS ORGANIZE FOR VICTORY

## Three Conventions Show the Growing Power of Socialism

### ONTARIO CONVENTION

The Ontario Socialists assembled in Convention on May 24th, 1910, meeting at Toronto in the Labor Temple.

The Convention was called to order at 10.30 a. m. Comrade G. Prager of Berlin elected chairman and Com. L. S. Grue of Brockville, secretary pro tem. A Credential Committee was appointed. The Credential Committee, Comrades H. Martin, Berlin, Brignell of Woodstock and Armstrong of Hamilton in bringing in their report, stated that the Convention had in attendance 29 delegates, having 42 votes and representing a membership of 727. All Ontario locals with the exception of Toronto No. 24, Brantford and Elk Lake were represented. After his report was adopted, the Convention elected Comrade Pears of Galt as chairman and Comrade L. S. Grue of Brockville as secretary of the convention.

On motion of Comrade H. Martin, of Berlin, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on resolutions to deal with the resolutions before it.

The following resolution was moved by Comrade Grue of Brockville, seconded by Comrade J. Peel of Toronto.

Resolved, that this convention, on behalf of the party throughout this province reaffirm its adherence to the party pledge and platform, which clearly states the program of collectivism, the tactics of the class war, the need of political action and the policy of no compromise, no political trading, and be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded for publication in the Western Clarion.

It was then moved by Comrade G. Prager of Berlin, seconded by Comrade Welsh, Cobalt.

Whereas the time at the disposal of this convention is very brief, in order to facilitate the transaction of its business, be it resolved, (1) that no delegate be allowed to speak on the same motion more than once except by special permit of convention, (2) that a time limit of ten minutes be imposed on all speeches, (3) that no comrade, not a delegate be given the floor except this courtesy be extended to him by vote of the convention. Carried.

It was moved by Comrade Armstrong, Secretary, and by Comrade Cameron, both of Hamilton:

Whereas a more extensive and a more consistent propaganda can be carried on by Socialists working together in the same organization and whereas, separate Socialist bodies only confuse the public mind and divide the socialist movement against itself and

Whereas, a feeling of strength and solidarity is derived from union, therefore be it resolved, that the Socialists of Ontario as represented by this convention declare its intention of doing all in its power to preserve party unity, but be it further resolved, that it also declared its intention, if these proceedings were not recognized by the S. P. of C., as a whole, it will nevertheless maintain its organization as a provincial party. Carried.

The following resolution was then brought in by Comrade Martin, Berlin.

Whereas, this convention of the locals of Ontario of the S. P. of C., was called at the joint initiative of locals Galt, Guelph and Berlin—the proceedings being entirely democratic, a referendum having been submitted regarding same, and

Whereas, this convention is thoroughly representative of the party membership, all locals having delegates in attendance, excepting local 24, Toronto, Brantford and Elk Lake.

Whereas, section IV, article 5 of the constitution provides that the Provincial Convention shall select the seat of its provincial headquarters and investigate and decide all difficulties within the party in its own jurisdiction and

Whereas, absolutely no confidence is to be placed in the Dominion Executive Committee, owing to its recent arbitrary and unconstitutional administration of party affairs, be it therefore resolved, that we have, the following questions submitted to a referendum vote of the entire Dominion membership:

"Shall the constitutional right of the Ontario locals in Conventions assembled to locate the seat of its headquarters and to solve its own difficulties be recognized," and be it resolved, that we request (1) that locals be allowed ten weeks time to report their reply, and (2) that the secretaries of all locals be instructed to send the number of votes both pro and con to the secretary of the Ontario Executive Committee as well as to the secretary of the Dominion Executive Committee, and (3) that results be tabulated in the Western Clarion, also that a form showing the results be sent to the secretary of every local in the Dominion. This resolution was taken up clause by clause and carried in all its details.

Resolutions were then proposed in regard to the advisability of certain amendments to the Party Constitution.

Moved by Com. J. Peel, seconded by Comrade Yaffer, both of Toronto, that this Convention of the Ontario locals of the S. P. of C. recommend the following amendments to the constitution.

I. The alteration of Section II, article 6, making it obligatory upon the Dominion Executive Committee to submit any referendum when such is demanded by five or more locals and

II. The alteration of clause C, section 3, making it obligatory upon the Provincial Executive Committee to submit any referendum, when such is demanded by three or more locals, and

III. The elimination of section 20

of the by laws and substitution as follows: Two or more copies of all manifestos issued by local movements shall be filed with the Provincial and the Dominion Executive Committees.

It was then moved by Comrade Lindala, seconded by Comrade Zalkin, both of Toronto, that this Convention ask the Dominion Executive Committee to submit to the members of the party of the Dominion, a referendum, asking whether or not it would be deemed desirable to affiliate with the International Socialist Bureau. Carried.

Moved by Comrade Lindala, seconded by Comrade W. Faber, both of Toronto, that this convention recommend that a Dominion Convention be held as soon as possible and that all members of the party be assessed \$1.00 to defray expenses. Carried.

Moved by Comrade Lindala, seconded by Comrade W. R. Shier, both of Toronto, that this convention devise ways and means to keep an efficient organizer permanently in the field. Carried.

Comrade R. M. Beal of Lindsay, offers to start the organization fund with \$50.00. (Applause.)

Moved and seconded that this convention act as a committee on the whole to deal with the expense of the convention. Carried.

Moved by Comrade G. Prager, Berlin, seconded by Com. Stewart, Ottawa, that the money owned by the Province and held in trust, be used to defray expenses of this convention. Carried.

Comrade Beal asked the privilege to be allowed to pay difference between amount on hand and bills presented. The convention accepted this kind offer.

A resolution introduced by Comrades Cameron and Armstrong, both of Hamilton, asking the Convention to endorse Industrial Unionism, provoked considerable discussion, but was voted down by a vote of 35 to 4.

Comrade Farley, of Guelph, then moved, Comrade Beal of Lindsay, seconding the motion, that the seat of provincial headquarters be at Berlin. Carried, one dissenting vote.

Convention then adjourned at 6.30 p. m.

Submitted for the press committee by Gustave Prager, Berlin, Ont.

### CAPE BRETON CONVENTION

The Socialists of Cape Breton held their second convention on the 24th of May in Glace Bay. Many Socialists attended from Sydney, Sydney Mines, Dominion No. 6 and Glace Bay. J. B. McLaughlin was appointed Chairman.

In opening the meeting the Chairman spoke of the world wide progress of Socialism. He referred to the Berlin demonstration, the Milwaukee victory and the treatment which the striking miners and their families were subjected to in Glace Bay from the coal operators and their legalized thugs.

A Credential Committee, a Propaganda Committee and a Campaign Committee were then chosen. The following resolution of the Campaign Committee was unanimously adopted.

"We the Cape Breton members of the Socialist Party of Canada, in Convention assembled, reaffirm our allegiance to and support of the program of the revolutionary working class and

"Whereas, the Socialist Party has no common ground with any of the other political parties, but upon the contrary is fighting for the abolition of the system which is being maintained by the other political parties.

"Therefore, be it resolved that we the members of the Socialist Party of Canada in Cape Breton declare our attitude towards the old political parties to be one of uncompromising hostility and knowing that it would be fatal to our organization to enter into any compact or alliance with either of them, we ask all Comrades to denounce as a contemptible lie any report of alliance or compact with such parties, and

"Be it further resolved that this Convention organize a summer campaign in and around Glace Bay, Sydney, Sydney Mines, and other places, and obtain speakers from our own ranks willing to speak and act as organizers, and

"Be it further resolved that the delegates to this Convention upon their return to their respective locals urge upon their members the necessity of individual organization to thereby bring about the speedy annihilation of the present fossilized political parties together with their attendant policies."

The action of the previous Convention deciding to contest the Constituency of Cape Breton in the next Provincial elections was ratified and approved and, on a ballot being taken, Alexander McKinnon was chosen to be the candidate of the Socialist Party. Several of the delegates present referred to Comrade McKinnon's work for Socialism during the past ten years. He had been the backbone of the movement in Cape Breton.

In the evening an enthusiastic propaganda was held. The spirit of emancipation is over Cape Breton and the Socialists are working with a will for the coming of the freedom of the workers.

### Cumberland Co., N. S. Convention

On Tuesday, May 24th, the Cumberland County Labor Party met in convention at Maccan, N. S. Dan McDonald of Amherst presided. Roscoe Fillmore of Albert, N. B., Dominion Organizer for the Socialist Party of Canada was present as a visitor.

The year previous a resolution had been introduced at the annual convention endorsing the platform and principles of the Socialist Party. A

referendum of the membership resulted in a two to one vote in favor of the resolution. But a later convention held for the purpose of nominating a candidate for a bye-election decided to defer action for one year.

This matter came up for discussion on the 22nd. Seaman Terris of Springhill, one of the nominees of the I. L. P. declared emphatically for Socialism. One of his most telling points was "This I. L. P. bears the same relation to the Socialist Party as does the old sectional P. W. A. to the international U. M. W. It is obsolete." Messrs. Ward, Lavigne, Schuman, Watkins, Matheson, McDonald, Logan, Elderman, McGinny, McLeod and a number of others then took part in the discussion. Upon being put to a vote the I. L. P. of Cumberland County was dissolved and the funds and property turned over to the Socialist Party.

The few who had not already done so now joined the S. P. of C. and the Socialists who were on hand were called together by Organizer Fillmore and a Socialist convention then held. Fillmore was elected chairman and Watkins secretary. After considerable discussion it was decided that two candidates should be put in the field for the coming provincial campaign. Comrade Watkins was elected Secretary Treasurer of the campaign committee and instructed to issue an appeal for funds. The other members of the committee of five are to be chosen by the various locals within the riding.

Comrade Seaman Terris of Springhill, and Adolph Landry of Amherst, were chosen as candidates. Comrade Terris accepted the nomination. Comrade Landry was not present but will accept. The convention was adjourned until July, the date to be fixed later. The Socialists of Cumberland County are determined to make things move some during the coming campaign and Manager Cowans of Springhill is helping them not a little.

R. FILLMORE.

### World-Wide Socialism

Dave Baker, Socialist, has been elected city clerk of Herrin, Ill.

The Convention of the Socialist Party for the state of Washington will be held at Tacoma, July 2nd.

Mexican slavery is a live question in the U. S. The agitation has been carried on by the Socialists and Diaz is near the end of the rope.

The legislative body of the Norwegian parliament has decided by a vote of 71 to 10 to give women the right to vote in municipal affairs.

Karl M. Liebnicht, one of the foremost Socialists of Germany will make a speaking tour of the United States beginning in July.

The scene shifts at the Metropolitan Opera, Paris, struck during the performance of "Falstaff" and would not go on till they got an advance of pay. They got it on the spot.

In the district of Magdeburg, Germany, the Socialists gained 102 new seats in municipal elections just held, making a total of 284 public officials in 131 places.

James O'Neil of Terre Haute, Indiana, has been chosen as candidate for Congressman from the Fifth Indiana Congress district by the Socialists of that district.

The Wisconsin capitalists are endeavoring to hamper the work of the Wisconsin state university because of the Socialist nature of the teaching in that institution.

The fight against the public schools in France by the Catholic church has become more bitter than in most other countries. Parents who send their children to the public schools are refused the sacraments.

One of the new Socialist members of the French parliament is a colored gentleman by the name of Lequitiuis, who has just been elected in Gaudeloupe, a French colony. He is described as an exceptionally able and intelligent man.

S. S. Ballard has been elected Socialist mayor of Jerome, Ariz. Jerome is a stronghold of the Western Federation of Miners. The wage workers are coming to see that to free themselves they must elect members of their class to office.

Samuel Gompers, trade unionist, and Robert Hunter, Socialist, are debating the question of Socialism in the Socialist and trade union papers. Gompers in the Federationist is upholding reform as against revolutionary Socialism. This debate shows how much Socialism has come to the front even within the past year.

The Roman branch of the Social-Democratic Party of Italy, has passed a resolution against the vote of confidence in the Ministry given by the representatives of the Socialist Party in Parliament, and against the attitude of the "Avanti." They demand that a special Conference of the party be immediately summoned.

Over six hundred miners at Ironwood, Mich., crowded to hear Haywood speak of the class struggle in the West. Haywood spoke the evening of Decoration day. He was escorted to the hall by a band of twenty-four pieces. When the mine bosses heard that Haywood was going to speak they countermanded the order given to shut down the mines for Decoration night. The Decoration Day paraders were few compared with the Socialist paraders.

Keon, who is in jail at Grafton, Ill., for refusing to pay his personal tax, is getting fat and healthy. Keon is a white lead mixer at the dynamite factory and his enforced rest is allowing him to get the white lead out of his system. The state committee of the Socialist Party is taking proceedings to get Keon out of jail on the ground of the unconstitutionality of the tax.

The Commission appointed to inquire into the strike of reservists at Marseilles, France, has unanimously pronounced in favor of the strikers,

# Sub Blank in This Issue

Circumstances have forced Cotton's to start work on its building and rush construction before the much pleaded for 10,000 has been obtained.

Cotton's would have this circulation in quick order if each comrade who gets one of the Yellow Sub Blanks sent out with this issue would hustle out and get a good list. Do it comrades. Give your paper a good send off as an encouragement in the heavy obligations it has assumed in your behalf. And do it Right Off. Strike while the iron is hot.

saying that the Government had put a wrong interpretation on the decrees and laws regulating the merchant service, and approving of the action of the reservists in setting the movement on foot. As a result of this decision an agreement has been arrived at, and the strikers decided to resume work, which they did on the following day.

The lower house of the Prussian diet has referred to the budget committee the bill increasing the kaiser's civil list 2,000,000 marks. The Social Democrats alone opposed the proposal. Their speaker, Herr Hoffmann, was frequently called to order by the chair. He drew the rebuke of "high treason" from the president by the suggestion that the kaiser should be elected by the people. Among other things, Herr Hoffmann complained that "the crown had too many children."

Germany last year kept pace with the other countries of the world in the way of strikes. Statistics published in the Imperial Labor Gazette show that there were 1,347 strikes in Germany in 1908 alone against 399 in England, France and Austria had, respectively, 1,073 and 721. Germany, too, had far more strikes than any other country in Europe in 1909, no doubt because Germany is further advanced capitalistically than any other European country. Of 1,419 German strikes for higher wages, 255 were successful, 488 partly so and 676 failed. The German trades unions disbursed on account of strikes in 1907 the sum of \$3,500,000.

With Robert Hunter as their candidate for governor and the New Haven railroad octopus an immediate issue in the campaign, Connecticut Socialists have begun a fight which they declare will make their party a factor in New England politics. In addition to the usual street corner meetings from now on the best orators in the Socialist party will be brought into the state and halls will be hired in which they can tell their views to those who do not like to congregate on the thoroughfares. Among the speakers will be Eugene V. Debs, Mayor Seidel of Milwaukee, John Spargo, of New York; Victor Berger of Wisconsin; James F. Carey of Massachusetts, and others. The campaign is to be begun in the immediate future and carried through the summer. Tons of literature will be distributed and every effort made to pile up a record vote.

The Wisconsin state executive committee of the Socialist Party has discussed plans for the work in the state and formulated a campaign to be waged under the direction of Senator W. R. Gaylord, the new state organizer. C. H. Minkley, a fine speaker in English and German, has been engaged for the work in the state, as has W. A. Jacobs. The two will begin speaking this week, while Ralph Korngold, who has worked in Milwaukee for the party, will also be sent into the state. A McCaleb of La Crosse, who has developed considerable strength for the Socialists in that city, will be put in charge of the work in the western part of the state as organizer, with headquarters at La Crosse. All of these men will work under the direction of Senator Gaylord.

Talchacar, special representative of the Indian Workingman's Association of Bombay, India, arrived in Chicago last week from San Francisco. He is touring the various countries of the world for the purpose of studying labor conditions and their bearing on the Indian situation. He visited and interviewed the various Socialist and labor leaders of the west for the purpose of securing data that will be useful for the effective organization of the working class of India. On the Pacific coast he visited Vancouver, Seattle, Portland, Ogden and San Francisco. There are 10,000 Indian laborers on the Pacific coast, the majority of whom are centered in Vancouver. Mr. Talchacar has also been authorized to act as their special representative. The English government has watched Mr. Talchacar closely in his investigations and has attempted to put obstacles in his way.

### All Aboard for Quebec

Get on behind the Agitation Battery in the new Quebec campaign. The Battery boys are keen on this job and are anxiously awaiting the "All Aboard" signal. Here's a goodly list of contributors, and an invitation to be in the next list:

Geo. Bulman, Central Park, \$1.00

SOCIALISM AND EDUCATION

Though the platform of the Socialist Party of Canada contains no "immediate demands," nevertheless when any of its members are elected to legislative bodies, they put up a vigorous fight for those measures which are considered of value to the working class.

THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION.

"If our educational system is to be a potent factor in bringing about social betterment through peaceful rather than violent means, it must emphasize those ideals which lead to useful industry rather than idle parasitism, which point to service to humanity rather than wealth accumulation.

"Education must be made to conform with the demands of modern society. But there is more than one demand; there are, in fact, two distinctly antagonistic demands. There is first the business demand which requires that the pupil be equipped in school as a perfect machine to fill a certain place in the manufacture and sale of goods, and that all other forms of education that might tend to make him less obedient to the requirements of trade be dispensed with.

"If the first demand triumphs, it is inevitable that social stagnation will result, that society will become permanently stratified—one class owning and managing the earth, the other class doing the work, with the sole ambition of working and being fed.

"If the second demand triumphs, a thinking working class will see to it that social evolution is not impeded, that the interests of the laborers are conserved and that industry becomes more and more democratized to the end that mankind may be happier and healthier and more cultured.

"There is room for improvement in both the elementary and secondary schools of Toronto, and while we are making commendable efforts to add an efficient course in industrial education of a practical character, there remains much to be done along the lines of acquainting the pupils with the facts of industry, such as the evolutionary changes in the production and distribution of the necessities of life, how and by whom wealth is created and distributed, and in what way legislation would tend to produce the best results for those who do the world's work by rendering necessary useful service."

A CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAM

Most of Comrade Simpson's address is devoted to outlining a number of improvements that he is determined to push forward this year. One of his most important recommendations is that tuition in the high schools should be made just as free as tuition in the technical schools. This would accord the opportunity of enjoying a more advanced education to large numbers of working class children whose parents cannot afford to pay for this boon.

Comrade Simpson never lets a chance slip by to denounce militarism. His record on the board is full of spirited fights against the bloody patriotism of the capitalist class being inculcated into our children. After declaiming in this address against the extension of military training in the Toronto schools, he says:

"It should be the object of the board to inculcate the ideal of International Solidarity and Universal Peace based upon a right understanding of the mutual interest of the people of all nations rather than to develop national vanity or imperialistic exclusiveness that tends to widen the breach between nations whose mission should be to establish the most cordial relationships among each other. To this end I would recommend that Empire Day be changed to International Day and the attention of the pupils in our schools be drawn to the meritorious achievements of all nations with special emphasis upon those movements that

THE HEALTH OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Comrade Simpson is an ardent advocate of supervised playgrounds. There are a number already in Toronto, but he would increase their number from year to year and provide them with better equipment. He wants congenial and healthy recreation placed within the reach of every boy and girl in this city.

Another measure that Comrade Simpson is backing up with all his energy and knowledge at his disposal is medical inspection of school children. He would make it thorough and the treatment entirely free. He believes that the medical care of children should no more be left to the parents than the teaching of writing and arithmetic. No father or mother is so unnatural as to willfully allow their child's health to be ruined, but large numbers do so nevertheless through ignorance or procrastination or lack of money.

The Socialist trustee also opposes home-work being imposed on pupils, especially in the junior grades. And as part of his anti-militarist campaign he recommends that the children be instructed in life-saving rather than in life-destroying by teaching them how to handle fire-hose and the various apparatus for extinguishing fire.

There is not a teacher in Toronto who is not a warm admirer of Comrade Simpson. This is due partly to his consulting their wishes and always giving them a courteous and sympathetic hearing, but chiefly to the fact that he always stands for increasing their salaries and giving them a comfortable allowance when super-annuated.

W. R. S.

Paid in Advance

Every copy of Cotton's Weekly is paid for before it leaves this office. If you get Cotton's through the mail with a red printed and numbered address label on the wrapper, your subscription has been paid by some friend who wishes you to look into the truths of Socialism. You need not hesitate to take Cotton's from the post office as no bill will be rendered, and the paper will be promptly discontinued when the subscription expires.

The railroads of the U. S. announced they were going to increase their freight rates. Railroad stocks jumped on the stock exchange. The big capitalists sold. Then Taft stepped in and said the railways could not raise their rates and the courts issued an injunction. Stocks fell and the capitalist bought in the stocks. Now it is announced that the rate question has been amicably adjusted between Taft and the railroads. And a few millions of dollars have been transferred from the possession of the little exploiters of labor to the big exploiters owing to the stock manipulation. Of course the little fellows will howl and will want the Wall Street game played after a more honest manner. But it matters not how the game is played. The little fellows are going to be crushed out. The sooner the painful process is over the quicker they will wake up to the fact that Socialism is a mighty good thing.

CRISP SAYINGS

Capitalism is dollars and cents for the parasites. Socialism is common sense for the workers.

The political triumph of labor is in sight. A few more years of agitation, education and organization, and its program of working class reforms will be carried on.

Conditions are rife for a great working class movement in America. Industrial development has outdistanced the intellectual awakening of the masses.

The Socialist movement stands for the right to work. It also stands for the right to be lazy. It stands for giving the worker the fruit of his labor and for preventing the idler from appropriating it.

Socialism is a world wide movement of the working class that is bound to triumph in the near future. In some of the European countries the Socialists may attain complete power any year now.

Every bunch of sub cards sent out, carries some of our new picture post cards. Five half-yearly cards, \$1.00. Five yearly \$2.00.

Our New Book Catalog is out. Send for a copy, and get in touch with the finest books published on Socialism.

If you are getting this paper regularly, it's paid for. Read it in comfort. You'll get no bill.

THE PLUTE PRESS CRAWLS

The Capitalist Papers Have Been Tamed to Eat Out of the Hand of Lemieux

Recently Geo. H. Townsend of Dundas, Ont., wanted to see whether the postal rates charged Cotton's Weekly were charged the other papers of Canada. This bundle rate for transient bundles is sixteen times the ordinary rate of newspaper postage. Comrade Townsend sent for special bundles of the Toronto Globe, the Toronto Mail and Empire, the Brantford Courier, and the Burlington Gazette. They each came through without postage stamps affixed. Four capitalist papers all caught doing what Cotton's cannot. Comrade Townsend at once got busy and communicated with Lemieux. The bluff was called. But Lemieux did not want to let the Socialists of Canada get cheap bundles of special editions of Cotton's Weekly. Consequently he communicated with the four capitalist papers caught. And they all with one consent began to make excuses. The Toronto Globe pleads "I don't remember." The Mail and Empire declares, "We don't know how it happened." The Brantford Courier says, "I don't know." The Burlington Gazette blames it on the printer's devil who always is blamed for everything. And they all crawl and declare they were in the wrong.

The wage plugs of Canada cannot get cheap bundles of special issues of Cotton's Weekly. Lemieux will not stand for it. The wage slaves would get too educated and the capitalist plunderers could not get away with all the swag they do. Moreover Lemieux would lose his job as Postmaster General which brings in nine thousand five hundred dollars a year and pickings. And he would not be able to appoint his relatives by the name of Lemieux to be Sheriff of Montreal which brings in four thousand dollars a year for doing nothing, nor judge of the Superior Court, nor other nice fat offices where pickings are fine.

And the capitalist papers do not care whether the wage plugs get cheap Socialist literature or not. They are tamed and eat out of the hands of Lemieux and the capitalist plunderers. The letter written by R. M. Coulter, published below, might take in the ignorant. It sounds so nice and honest and soapy. But there are three things which show the letter to be fishy.

First. The rate is exorbitant and hits only the Socialist and radical press. The ordinary capitalist papers are sold through newsdealers and newsdealers get the low rates. The rate in itself is unjust.

Second. The four papers were all caught avoiding the high rate and when exposed could not remember how they came to neglect paying the high rate. This shows that the papers have been making it their practice to shove out all their copies under the low rate.

Third. The big newspapers MAKE UP THEIR OWN MAIL BAGS. The mail bags are carried to the offices and the newspapers are weighed and put into the mail bags in the mailing room of the publishers. It is easy to slip in bundles at the lower rate. Being caught once the papers pay and the same practise will continue of slipping in extra bundles ordered and paying up only when caught.

But special orders have been issued to the Post Mistress at Cowansville. You wage plugs must be made to pay dear for desiring to get your fellow slaves wakened to a knowledge of their condition.

The following is the letter written by Coulter to Comrade Townsend: Geo. H. Townsend, Dundas, Ont.

Sir:—Referring to your communication of the 4th. May last, and to other correspondence upon the subject of the receipt to you, without proper prepayment, of packages of newspapers containing copies of the "Toronto Globe" the "Mail and Empire" the "Brantford Courier" and the "Burlington Gazette." I beg to inform you that enquiry has been made in each case and postage due on each bundle has been collected.

A FISHY EXPLANATION.

The explanation furnished by the publisher of the "Toronto Globe," respecting the omission to properly prepay the bundle sent to you reads: "We have no record of parcel of Globes being mailed from this office on the 18th or 19th of March last addressed to G. A. Townsend, Box 149, Dundas. It is possible, though, that owing to the rush in making up our mail sacks this parcel escaped the notice of the mail clerk and was thrown into the sack labelled 'Toronto and Hamilton' without postage having been affixed. If the matter

had been called to our attention immediately we could have given a more satisfactory explanation, but at this late date it is impossible. However, instructions in this respect have been renewed that there may be no recurrence of this error in the future. Herewith we enclose the 26c. required in postage stamps."

PURE BLUFF.

The explanation given by the publishers of the "Mail and Empire" reads as follows:—"Re three packages of 'Mail and Empire' said to have been sent from this office addressed to G. A. Townsend, box 149, Dundas, Ont., I find instead of their being addressed by hand, they have been addressed on a type-writer, and therefore I am unable to get any information from the wrapper. All our stenographers have been asked about the packages and none of them have any recollection of having written the address. We have also searched our files for correspondence with Mr. Townsend, and can find no letter addressed to him. We regret that anything of this nature should have turned up, and do not understand how they could have been sent from this office, if it is true they were sent from here. We beg to enclose 11c. in stamps, re postage on packages addressed to G. A. Townsend, Box 149, Dundas, Ont."

DOESN'T KNOW.

The Publisher of the "Brantford Courier" wrote as follows:—"In reference to package of papers sent to Mr. Geo. H. Townsend, Dundas, Ont. This name does not appear on our list and we do not know how this package was sent to him."

THE POOR DEVIL IS BLAMED.

The Publisher of the "Burlington Gazette" says:—"I was ill at the time these papers were sent out, and the 'devil' sent them out with the regular delivery without my knowledge. I regret the mistake, as there was no intention in this office to disobey the postal regulations regarding newspapers."

The investigation has shown that while both publishers and Postmasters are fully aware that copies of newspapers sent to non-subscribers are liable to postage at the rate of 1c. per 4 ozs. or fraction of 4 ozs. to each separate address, and recognize their responsibilities with respect thereto, it has happened by accident or neglect that the packages of papers in question passed through the mails insufficiently prepaid.

The packages of papers, bearing stamps, subsequently collected in payment of postage have been returned to-day to the publisher of "Cotton's Weekly" through whom they were received.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant, R. M. COULTER, Deputy Postmaster General.

THE PEOPLE'S POEMS

THE RED FLAG.

By William Francis Barnard. Banner of crimson waving there, Thou alone shalt have homage from me; Sole among flags thou gleamest fair, Symbol of love and of liberty. The nations have made them standards of state To flaunt to the winds since time began; Emblems of rivalry, pride and hate; But thou art the flag of the world, of MAN.

Red as the blood of freedom's dead, Thy hues might well have flowed from their veins. Red as the one blood of man is red, Holy thou art in thy sanguine stains. Holy as truth and holy as right: Sacred as wisdom and sacred as love; Worthy the passage that lifted to light Thy glorious shape where it ripples above.

Unto the spirit of friendliness Thou wast fashioned, to comfort man's hungry thought; To shine for the deeds that alone can bless, And the life of brotherhood nobly wrought. Unto the spirit that rends the gyves And shatters the bonds that makes men slaves; The spirit that suffers and sinks and strives, Till it strengthens hope, till it lifts and saves.

Thou art no new thing; thou hast waved from of old, Thou hast seen the day be born from the night; And hast streamed for truth where the truth was hold

As time stained on to the future's light. Beyond all the seas, on many a shore, Thou hast buttressed the heart and stiffened the hand To struggle for fellowship o'er and o'er. From the youth to the age of the eldest land.

Thou hast called to battle. Yea, thou hast led Where men have followed, forgetting fears; And hast soled the dying and graced the dead. Stained with blood and with dust and tears, Blood, a full tribute paid for peace; Tears shed free o'er humanity's wrongs. While faith in thy cause, that could never cease, Met tyranny's swords; and fell, singing thy songs.

As thou art loved, thou art loathed, full well; Loathed and cursed by the lords of power. Ever they name thee the flag of hell, And rage in the fear of thy triumph hour.

But their grasp grows weak on the wills of men; Their armies falter; their guns are rust; While from prison, and labor and poverty's den Thy hosts speak NO to their crumbling lust.

See! Now there greet thee ten million eyes, And lips uncounted smile to they red. Yes, those who bow to the crimson dyes, Are myriads more than all of thy dead.

Lo! The young clap hands at thy bright unrest; And the child in arms it leaps in its glee, Nay, babes unborn, 'neath the mother's breast, Are given and pledged to thy cause and thee.

Banner of freedom, and freedom's peace, Float in thy beauty, in sign of the day When ravage of power and conquest shall cease, And moldering tyranny pass away. Who would not all for thy promise give? As I gaze on thy folds one wish have I— To love thee and honor thee while I live, And fold thee around me when I must die.

QUESTIONS ? ? ? ANSWERED

How would it be possible for the government to run all the industries? Would it not be too big an undertaking to be made successful?

Please note that a Socialist government would be a far different thing from any that the world has ever seen. Instead of being something separate and apart from the people, it would be the people themselves acting-together. The people operate all these vast properties now, and what would prevent them doing what they are doing now when they become the owners of the industries instead of mere wage workers in them? This is an age of big things that promises bigger things for the future. The capitalists have organized industry so that each mine and factory runs like an automatic machine and without any danger from its bigness. The United States postal department is said to carry on the greatest business on earth, and that without a private owner. Though hampered by graft and bled by private interests, just as any political institution must be under a capitalist government, yet it performs a wonderful service, pays its labor comparatively well and carries mail at a lower rate than any corporation has offered to do. The bigness of an undertaking instead of being a disadvantage is really an advantage, since it admits of more perfect organization and a more thorough division of labor and the expert training of individuals for special work.

Does Socialism or the Socialist movement oppose religion?

There is one kind of religion, if it can be called religion, which Socialism opposes; and that is the political kind of religion which apologizes for the evils of the capitalist system and goes out of its way to antagonize the Socialist movement. Socialism is purely economic, concerning itself wholly with the bread and butter question. Its adherents are of every religious and philosophical belief, and there is nothing in the teachings of Socialism that would exclude a Methodist, a Mormon, or a Mahomedan, an atheist, an agnostic, or any kind or quality of an infidel. In that respect it is the same as republicanism of democracy. It recognizes the fact that in this country church and state are separate, and its program is directed toward the transformation of the state without any interference whatever with the religious views of anyone. The enemies of the movement seek to arouse prejudice against it by repeating absurdities concerning how Socialism would destroy morals and religion, but they are never prepared to say how when particulars are called for. Were any church or religious organization to go into politics and come in collision with Socialism on the political field it would then become necessary for Socialists to fight that church's politics but not its religion.

P. E. I. AND NEWFOUNDLAND.

Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland are territories very little touched by Socialist literature as yet, but they are fertile fields. Copies of Cotton's should be travelling in that direction. Subs or lists of names for samples earnestly solicited.

Why not tax predatory wealth into submission? Why not so change the laws of taxation as to throw the burden of public affairs upon the wealthy and thus relieve the laboring man?

There are two kinds of tax. One which the capitalist pays to the government because he owns property, and one which the worker pays to the capitalist for the same reason. The worker owns little property and therefore pays little tax to government, but for the same reason he pays a large tax to the capitalist in

AN APPEAL TO YOU

There is folded in your copy this week a Special Yellow Sub Blank. You haven't had one of this color before, and you are receiving it now because there is lively need of your using it. We have been forced to get a home for your paper before anticipated, and before the 10,000 mark in circulation has been reached. We are incurring heavy obligations. Will you use this Sub Blank to land a list as an encouragement to Cotton's. Forget that others are receiving a blank. Concentrate on the idea that it depends solely upon YOU. Boost as you have never boosted before, and in the coming two or three months you will drink deep draughts of satisfaction.

the form of surplus labor for which he does not get the value in wages. The whole Socialist movement is to the end of escaping this latter tax, and workmen have no interest in questions of property tax which involve the capitalist with his own government. The workers being as a class practically propertyless, have no interest in laws which affect charges on property; but they have a vital interest in all laws which affect human life, which is the material out of which their labor power is made.

Would there be money in the proposed Socialist republic?

Not being a prophet the writer does not care to say what the majority may choose to do with reference to such things as that. Socialism is neither a human invention nor a ready-made scheme of government handed down from the skies, and its application will depend wholly upon the will of the people when they decide in sufficient numbers to put it in operation. It may be that the present monetary system could be so modified as to meet the requirements of the new system, and it might be that a system of due bills for labor performed would be used. Those are details which could not be provided for at this time since the people of the Socialist Republic must be self-governing and would not be bound by provisions handed down to them by us. The only things concerning the Co-operative Commonwealth which we can predict with any certainty are those which necessarily follow from the fundamental principles of the movement which are generally accepted by the present generation of Socialists and probably will be by succeeding generations.

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LISTS OF GOOD NAMES

wanted by Cotton's. City or municipal lists with certified post office addresses. This is Urgent. Something big coming. Every list acknowledged by Postal Card.

10,000 subs wins a home for Cotton's.

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