

# The Fenelon Falls Gazette.

VOL. XL

FENELON FALLS, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 1912.

No. 11

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R. M. Hamilton, Mgr. Fenelon Falls Branch

### Pity For The Rich.

I pity the poor cuss, because there is something personal in that pity. I know how it is to be poor, but sometimes my pity goes out to the man of millions. Personally, I do n't know what it would be like to be rich, but I can imagine a good many things. It means this, at least. On the rich is devolving the maintenance of employment for all the people. This is a big job, and it is growing bigger every day. The foolish rich, that is, the sons and daughters who never attempted to solve the problem of capitalism, cannot spend this money fast enough to dissipate it, and it becomes necessary to reinvest it. Under the agitation that exists there is practically nothing that is considered a safe investment. Fully half a dozen of the biggest office buildings in New York are vacant and not paying expenses. The Goulds have within the last two years lost financial prestige and a good deal of their fortune. There is no opening that is safe any more, yet the capitalist is compelled to seek a place for his money. It is the only thing he can do under this system. He is absolutely forced into the control of the courts and into the terrible oppression that he is inflicting on the workers; and at the same time this travesty on justice and this oppression is threatening the very base of capitalism. So, I pity the capitalist. He, too, is a victim. Do n't you remember that passage from St. James which says "Go to, now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted and your garments are moth eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered (that is, unused and uninvested) and the rust of them shall be a witness against you and eat your flesh, as if it were fire."

That is it. The rust of them—the inability to keep this system going, to keep the money invested—the thing that is making the trouble. Listen further: "Ye have heaped treasures together for the last days." The unused treasure, money which they are unable to keep in service, is a dangerous thing. Already there is a cry for the taking of that treasure. A preaching is being widely circulated from Chicago favoring this among many other things: "A man's opportunities are never exhausted so long as other men, not his friends, possess millions of acres of land and thousands of tons of gold. The guarded treasure alone of modern kings and presidents, high priests and millionaires, are positively the richest the world has ever known. Here is opportunity on a large scale. Here are the goals of the Cæsars, Nebuchadnezzers and Napoleons in the days that are coming. The profit system is simply a large gathering machine. It was bound sooner or later

to gather that vast treasure into the hands of a few. When it gets into the hands of a few, it will become a temptation for those who are dispossessed. It is for this reason that I say I pity the rich at this time; and it is for the rich that I declare that the socialization of this wealth is the only thing that will save them from rapine and robbery in the days to come.—James A. Wayland.

### Criminal Waste.

The criminal wastes of capitalism constitute the most stupendous crime against humanity. The utterly wanton destruction of the natural resources, the ravaging of forests and mines to rush out profits without the least delay, and by this reckless method destroying what ought to be the patrimony of future generations cannot be excused upon any ground compatible with reason and sanity. The criminal wastes thus involved in the capitalistic method of production for profit are made strikingly manifest in the following extract from the address of J. A. Holmes, director of mines, to the miners' convention:

"In ten years 30,000 men were killed and 60,000 injured. We have destroyed three millions of tons of bituminous coal and two millions of tons of anthracite coal, since mining was begun in this country, by our wasteful methods which leave so much coal unmined. In the last twelve months we have allowed to escape into the air 480 billions of cubic feet of natural gas. That is the price of competition."

Life is as ruthlessly sacrificed as are the young trees of a forest when the heart of it is cut out and rushed to market, to realize profits by the lightning express methods of capitalism. Fortunately, the end of capitalism is near, and its criminal ravages are soon to be a thing of the past. Socialism will conserve the life of man and the resources of the earth for his sustenance until the latest generations.—Ex.

The capitalists have had the power of selecting and recalling judges long enough. Now the people mean to run the men they pay.

New Zealand gives a pension to every widow, according to the number of her children. This country prefers to let them work for a miserable pittance or sell their bodies to the plutocrats for their pleasure.

President Walker of the Illinois miners, in his annual report, declares that "every great industrial battle which has been fought and lost by the workers in the last twenty years was lost because the employers had control of the powers of government," and he urges the 75,000 coal diggers of Illinois to unite upon the political as well as upon the industrial field.

1836 THE BANK OF 1912

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M.W. Reive, Manager