

the advisability of resisting the new legislation as unconstitutional. What is more likely to happen is that the companies will bow to the will of Congress and then use the new situation as a ground for renewed demand for increased freight rates, a demand that in the end will probably be granted, and thus the increased wages that are to be paid to the trainmen will become an additional tax upon the trade of the country.

The trouble is, for the moment, settled. But is it settled for a long time or only for the present? Will not the representatives of the workmen be encouraged by their present success to press for the remainder of their claim? And will not the battle be thus fought again?

The thought that must come to all reflective minds is that this case illustrates very clearly and forcibly the ever growing power of labor in the world's public affairs.

Small Savings and War Loans

WE RENEW the expression of our hope that the Minister of Finance, in arranging for the Canadian war loan soon to be offered to the public, will be able to issue the securities in a form that will enable people of very modest means to participate in the transaction. It is not merely because we hope that a considerable sum may thus be raised by the Government that we have made the suggestion. It is highly probable that, if proper steps are taken to bring the matter to the notice of the people generally, the small contributions will in the aggregate reach quite a large sum. But beyond this the occasion seems to offer an opportunity to teach a lesson in thrift that is much needed. Our Canadian workmen are busily employed at good wages. Labor of all classes is in demand and generally it is liberally rewarded. The high cost of living operates to prevent labor reaping as much gain from this as would be possible under other conditions. But even in the face of that uncomfortable fact it is probable that most workmen could, if appealed to in the right way, save a little money to be invested in the Government war loan, and the investment would give them a new interest in the war and a new sense of citizenship in the Empire. Much encouragement in this direction may be found in a report of a recent effort to interest the British workingmen in the financing of the war. The following report is taken from the London cablegrams to the New York Sun:

As the result of an appeal by the Government to the people during the recent so-called self-denial week the number of 15s. 6d. (\$3.72) certificates sold by hundreds of war savings associations reached the record total of 2,926,035. The aggregate sales for the five months from February 22 to July 22 are 14,385,980.

Some remarkable results were achieved during war savings weeks. In West Hartlepool £37,000 (\$185,000) was invested in certificates and exchequer bonds, an average of 11s. (\$2.64) per head of the population. In Sheffield £20,000 (\$100,000) was invested, and on several evenings the post offices were crowded with munitions workers and others eager to buy certificates.

At Clayton, near Ashton-under-Lyne, the war savings association collected £5,612 (\$28,060) in the course of three days, and in Nottingham nearly 10,000 15s. 6d. (\$3.72) certificates were sold in a booth in the market place.

During the five days from July 17 to 22 no fewer than 798 associations were af-

filiated, and last week this number was increased by 1,066, bringing the aggregate number of associations to date up to 4,274.

Applications for £5 (\$25), £20 (\$100), £50 (\$250) post office exchequer bonds during self-denial week numbered 28,000, compared with 19,000 in the previous week. The value of the bonds sold was £700,000 (\$3,500,000), bringing the aggregate sales of post office bonds to date to £847,000 (\$4,235,000), and the aggregate value to £27,350,000 (\$136,750,000).

The Governing Classes

THE governing classes of the civilized world are the lawyers and journalists. Such is the judgment, expressed in the Westminster Gazette, of Mr. J. D. Whelpley, an American author who resides in England and devotes much of his attention to international political and commercial question. "The people of all civilized nations organized under constitutional forms of government," he says, "have chosen their political leaders from the aristocracy, the law, and from journalism. There have been and there are exceptions to this, but they are so rare as to be notorious." There being nobody on this side of the Atlantic who would be willing to plead guilty to a charge of being of the aristocracy, the seats of the mighty must be given over to the lawyers and the editors. There are good reasons, Mr. Whelpley thinks, for the preference so expressed by the people. The idea that business men are the right men for the work of government he regards as entirely wrong. Business men, he argues, are rarely chosen and those do not make a high record for efficiency. Professors, academic men, are excellent in their way as commissioners, etc., useful assistants, but generally lacking in the true governing power. The lawyers from their training are likely to possess the necessary mental detachment from the world of finance, industry and commerce to enable them to become impartial and logical in their treatment of public question. "The same mental detachment," he says, "is found in the editorial sanctum, and the list of men who have risen to great political power in Republics by virtue of their journalistic training and position is a long one." Mr. Whelpley's picture of the successful public man is interesting:

"The successful public official, call him politician or statesman as you may, possesses a certain quality seldom found necessary in the conduct of private business. It is a more or less intangible quality, easier felt and realized than described. For lack of a better definition, it may be called 'vision.' It is only the dreamer who does big broad things, the governing power of which is the spirit of the people. He has the vision and if he is a statesman he makes this vision articulate. Few leaders of any movement have been reliable encyclopaedias as to the statistics involved. Such a leader is a flag-bearer or prophet. In his train will be found the men of practical knowledge and of figures upon which the leader depends—up to a certain point. His eye, with the greater vision, traces the principle involved and sees in it a right or a wrong done to the people."

In Great Britain the aristocracy have played a large part in the work of government and on the whole they have done it well. The time has come when they must yield much of their power to the representatives of the common people who will, in this age of progress, undoubtedly obtain a steady increase of power.

But it is much to be desired that the members of the old aristocratic houses should frankly recognize the new order of things and, by adapting themselves to the demands of popular government, still make their services available to the nation.

Roumania

NATIONS, like individuals, are inclined to be selfish. In most cases it is too much to expect that they shall be governed by altruism. The small nations in or near the Balkan Peninsula have from the beginning of the great war been keen observers of the conflict, each one anxious to note how the tide is running and to ascertain, if possible, the direction in which her own interest lay. Some of them felt that they had territorial interests that might be affected. They wanted to hold fast to what they had and their "national aspirations" led them to covet portions of their neighbors' vineyard. To remain neutral up to a certain point and then to cast in their lot with the probable winner, who would have control of the spoils of war, seemed to be the desire of most of their statesmen. Bulgaria was at an early stage persuaded that her interests were with Germany and Austria, rather than with the Entente Allies. Serbia and Montenegro were easily crushed by their powerful enemy. Bulgaria apparently feared a similar fate and sought to save herself by joining the Teutonic powers, a decision that is probably regretted by most of the Bulgarians today. In Greece the statesmanship of Venizelos enabled him to see that the interests of that Kingdom lay on the side of the Allies, but the King, influenced, it is believed by his wife, sister to the German Kaiser, was able to resist this view and to maintain a nominal neutrality, in which he set himself against the sentiment of his people, a course that has so far brought him only humiliation. Roumania has been frankly following a policy of opportunism, listening to the suggestions of the diplomats of the several powers, each of whom said, "Codlin's your friend, not Short," and waiting to see what might happen. It is under these circumstances that Roumania now makes decision to come off the fence and cast in her lot with the Allies.

The decision is of much consequence in many ways. The geographical position of Roumania makes her action most important, for Austria-Hungary adjoins on the North and West, and thus the Austrians are obliged to provide a new line of defence at a moment when their resources are already under much pressure. Bulgaria lies on the South, and if she declares war on Roumania she will have her hands full on the Danube. Thus the nations allied with Germany are menaced by a new enemy, whose power is not to be despised, for Roumania has quite a large army of the most capable soldiers in Europe. Nor is it in military power only that the entrance of Roumania gives new strength to the Allies. Roumania is one of the great grain growing countries of the world, ranking second to Russia in Europe. Roumania has also valuable minerals—iron, oil, coal, copper and nickel—things which play important parts in the great war game. Hitherto the Teutonic enemy has been able to draw on these useful supplies from Roumania as a neutral country. Now that Roumania takes her place on the Allies' side this source of supply to the enemy is cut off and all the resources of the country become at the disposal of the Allies. Roumania's action will go far to persuade the doubters everywhere—even in Germany—that the ultimate victory of the Allies is assured. In this way, as well as in the material aid which the event brings to the Allies, the entrance of Roumania into the war is an event of very great importance.

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