

task. If a factory owner objected or held back, he was shot and somebody else took his place.

In spite of this scientific organization of industry, long practised in preparation for "The Day," there is no doubt much suffering in manufacturing districts. The makers of laces, artificial flowers and fine fabrics that were sent over the world have been ruined and their work people scattered. It would be impossible for the German government to provide work for all classes of manufactures. One example will suffice: The Aschaffenburg Paper-making Machinery Company, dependent largely on foreign business, shows a loss of \$1,625,000 for the year, or more than half its capital of three million dollars.

The chief suffering, then, must be borne by the working people. Thousands upon thousands of them cannot buy enough food. If they can pass the doctor, they go to the front. If not, they must grin and bear it.

THE WORKMAN.

WHILE some of the workmen have suffered from shortness of food, they appear to have borne the privation well. The pride in their country keep them up. On this feature, a visiting correspondent writes:

"In private conversation, it is true, I found among working men traces of criticism, scepticism, desire for peace, and even of pessimism. But their mood easily swung round to one of admiration for Germany's military prowess and for the soldiers in the field, who are their brothers, relations, or friends. Their confidence in the strength of the nation and in ultimate victory seemed to me unshaken. They proudly showed me letters from the front which told of life in the trenches, of dangers

escaped and of heroic deeds.

"This state of mind prevailed among the working classes in every industrial district I visited, from the Saxon textile region to the huge agglomeration of industrial communities in Westphalia, where war supplies are poured out beneath the thick cloud of smoke which now never lifts. With such a spirit permeating the great mass of the working classes, and with the prevention by military discipline of all serious propaganda adverse to the war, there can be no prospect, as far as it is possible to judge at present, of any attempt to break up the solidity of the nation as a war machine. The German people have never shown any spontaneous revolutionary spirit. Overwhelming reverses might possibly—though even this is very problematical—set free internal forces strong enough to imperil the present organization of the State."

FINANCIERS AND PROFESSIONALS.

AS for the professions and all those engaged in secondary occupations, their livings must be gone. They can find no place in the big war machine for bankers and brokers and lawyers, real estate men, wholesale merchants, art dealers, and even small merchants. On these classes the burden of war falls heavily. The Government has taken toll of their savings in the banks for the war loans. Any gold, even as jewellery, has been commandeered for the use of the State. Their home investments pay no revenue. Their debts from abroad are cancelled. Life for many of them has become a dreary blank. If these classes have anything, motor car, horses, waggons or wealth that the State needs, it must be given up. Nor are their sons exempt from the army—they, too, must go to supply fodder for the enemy's guns.

When the war is over there will be three classes of people in Germany—farmers, makers of munitions

of war, and soldiers. Only those who work with their hands can survive—assuming that the war will last a considerable period yet. And yet this is not the forbidding picture it seems, because the German is essentially a worker. He is trained to work and to study scientific production. Hence he may lose his accumulated wealth and become poor—but he can probably find consolation in making respirators, explosives, flares, periscopes, and all the hundred and one scientific aids to war which Germany has invented or devised.

IN CONCLUSION.

NO signs are apparent that Germany is breaking down under the strain. The national wealth is being reduced, selling to foreign countries has been cut off, the supply of raw materials is running low, the national debt is mounting high, and German paper money is being issued in vast quantities. Just how long the country can stand the strain is not easily estimated. Germany's casualties of, say, three million, are one-twentieth of her population. On this basis they would equal Canadian casualties of 360,000, so they must be felt. However, it is largely a question of patriotism.

There is one point in which Germany is favoured above the Allies—her munitions of war were made in peace time at peace prices. Because of the Allies' unpreparedness, because they refused to believe that Germany intended to bring on a war of conquest, they are now buying munitions at double and treble prices. Hence their expenditures are much greater than Germany's. Even now Germany's workmen in the munition factories get low wages and are satisfied with less than is demanded by the workmen in the countries of the Quadruple Entente.

THE MAN FROM AUSTRALIA

Hon. John Christian Watson Believes that the War will be a Great Help to Democracy

By AUGUSTUS BRIDLE

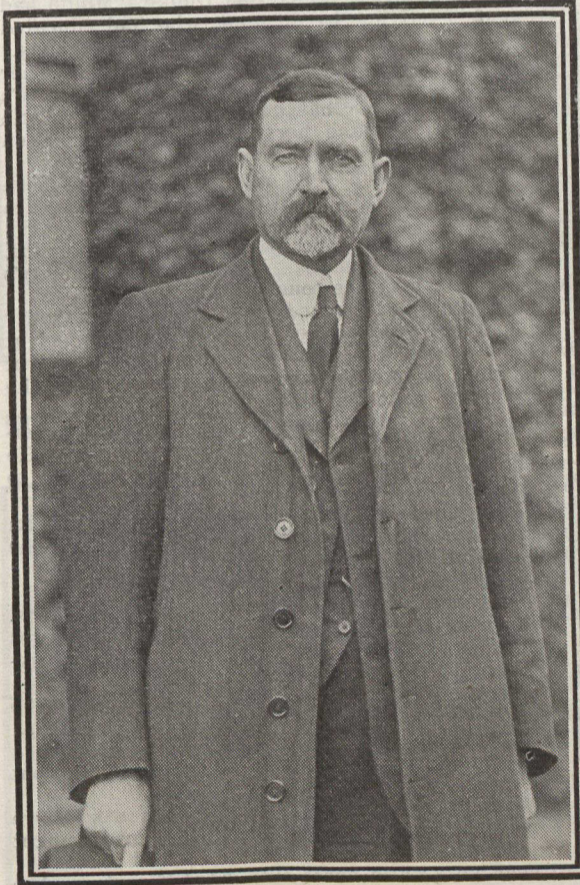
WHEN a man from Australia swings into town and hits the trail out again, never expect him to be humbled by the length, breadth and height of any such place as Canada. That man is used to time-tables as long as your arm, because he comes from a country that somehow always seems to be on the other side of the world from anywhere except India, China, and Japan. He goes round the world via the Pacific and Vancouver, or through the Indian Ocean, the Suez Canal and the Mediterranean.

The man from Australia you expect to be antipodean, because he comes from the Antipodes. You may even imagine him in a sheep-rancher hat, his trousers in his boots and a don't-care swing in his gait that expresses the unconventional land where he pays his taxes and works out his ideas of Empire. You may forget in your tourist imagination that for years down in Australia people have been working on conventional ideas of government and economics in more or less unstereotyped ways.

HON. JOHN CHRISTIAN WATSON, ex-Premier of Australia, left Sydney last February. He has been in England, is now in Canada, and he will be back in Sydney in about a month. Not travelling for his health, nor merely for public business. When the war broke out the ex-Premier had a building up and part of the staff hired for the creation of a new labour daily newspaper. He is the only original printer's devil that ever became Premier of an overseas Dominion in the British Empire. Democracy in Australia is a real working principle. Hon. Mr. Watson looks it. He has spent a good bit of his time in England with Premier Asquith, Sir Edward Grey, Hon. John Burns, and a number of other public men. In Ottawa he interviewed Cabinet members and the Premier. And nothing has excited Mr. Watson, who is neither an encyclopaedia nor an egotist. He never plumes himself on the fact that he fought his way from a font of type and a galley-stick to the first citizenship of a great young Commonwealth. He could go back to type-sticking to-morrow if necessary. That's the democracy of labour which in the Antipodes has changed the political map. In the present Federal House, 43 of the 75 members are Labourites. The rest are a fusionist party, made up of the remnants of what was left in the two old-line parties. They call themselves Liberals, but are really Conservatives. The Labour party is the Liberal party. A few of the Labour members are Socialists, but as such not particularly influential. Labour in Australia is pretty much a unit on all public questions. And the socialistic end of the programme is largely expressed in collective ownership.

MR. WATSON comes from a country where a great many things are down side up from what they are in Canada, or even England; a country without railway magnates, because all the railways are owned by the individual States; without telegraph or telephone monopolies, because telegraphs and telephones are operated for the benefit of the people; largely without strikes because organ-

ized labour is a great national movement in control of the Federal Parliament and four out of six State Legislatures. Mr. Watson is ex-Premier of a country that is inhabited mainly along the coast; rather more than half the area of Canada, and about quarter larger than India; with a little less than 5,000,000



Hon. J. C. Watson rose from printer's devil to be Prime Minister of Australia. This is the first snapshot he ever had taken for a newspaper.

people, four cities of more than 100,000, two with over 500,000—Sydney and Melbourne; owning one-sixth of the world's sheep, whose wool just now is going into millions of British uniforms; the only overseas dominion where pearls, whales and pineapples are found together—though not exactly side by side; and the only country in the world that set out to build a model Capital with no intention of making it a commercial metropolis—Canberra, which, when finished, will be a thing of beauty and a joy forever about sixty miles south of Sydney, built far inland on a rock almost as solid as Gibraltar.

Mr. Watson never permits himself to romance about this unusual land. To him Australia is not so very picturesquely remarkable, because he was born in Valparaiso, Chili—though he has the speech of an Englishman. He was not lost in gasping admiration at our vast distances in Canada, because they have man-swallowing interior empires at home. Our transcontinental railways gave him no cause for alarm, though he admits that they have no such roads in Australia. Our lack of a navy impressed him.

"You see," he said, matter-of-factly, "we expect you to co-operate with us in policing the Pacific. Though, of course, it's really none of our business whether you have a Canadian navy or not."

Practical to the last dot. The Australian never loses his poise.

"In our country," said he, "defence is a first principle. We are a huge island. You in Canada are a half continent. We are a land of coastal cities, easily bombarded. Your greatest cities—except Vancouver—are all inland. Our people live largely within easy reach of the coast. Yours wander thousands of miles into the interior."

"You are a Labour leader—yet you believe in war," said the interviewer. "Is that as they have it in England?"

"Very different. I can't say that we believe in war. Rather in defence. With us the nation is the army for the purpose of civil defence. I was myself converted to the citizen army idea by reading one of Macaulay's essays, where he points out that it was always the standing professional army in England that was an instrument of despotism. Make your citizens into soldiers and you have at once a nation in arms to resist tyranny."

HERE he compared with Germany; but absolutely disclaimed any Germanic idea in the Australian citizen army where lads of 14 are taken into the Cadets for a term of four years, furnished with small rifles which they learn how to use like skilled marksmen, take gymnastics and drill, and by the age of 18 are drafted into a first line of defence; so that every able-bodied man in Australia is a citizen soldier—except those who are sailors in the Navy.

"No," he insisted, "that's not a bit like Germany. It's not an army under the thumb of despotism, but an army of liberty and defence. We believe in the citizen army idea, too, because it develops manhood."

No reference was made during the conversation to Langemarck and the Dardanelles. Obviously, Mr. Watson believed that Canadians, as well as Australians, know how to take care of themselves in a scrimmage—even without universal training.

"And I was never so amazed," he went on, "as when I saw part of Kitchener's army in England; men whom I have often seen by thousands slouching—he gave it the soft sound—"in English cities; hollow-chested Hooligans transformed by gymnastics and drill into men with go and snap and good bearing. Such a transformation is amazing."

"You are not pessimistic, then?"

"Well, I admit that England was badly unprepared," he said. "She shut her eyes to what was