

CIVILIZED Mankind is rapidly rearing from a race-cursing spell. Soon every red-throated cannon on earth will boom no more—silenced forever. The tears of war-robbed widows and war-orphaned children and the blood of the world's strong men will cease to stain the earth, and never again on "great" battlefields will foul birds feast on the shattered corpses of youths torn from the trembling embrace of fond mothers and forced to face the storms of lead and steel—to decide which nation is superior AS A FIGHTER—From "War—What For?"

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GET OFF OUR BACKS

By Gordon Nye.

LET us remind you who are gentlemen, masters and captains of industry, that we, the workers, who bear the burdens of the world, we without whose labor society could not endure for a day, we who with brains and muscles toil to feed and clothe and house the world—will not always crouch on our knees and permit you to ride upon our backs.

Today you have the advantage. You are well fed, you are warm, you own the bread and the meat, the cotton and wool, the coal and iron, the copper, gold and silver. You claim all the lands, all the mines, all the money.

You own everything. At times your conditions become so intolerable we in self defense are forced to strike. If we wring some concessions from you at one place, we lose at another place. If we win on the railroad, you increase the freight rates and take from our brothers what we have forced you to concede to us.

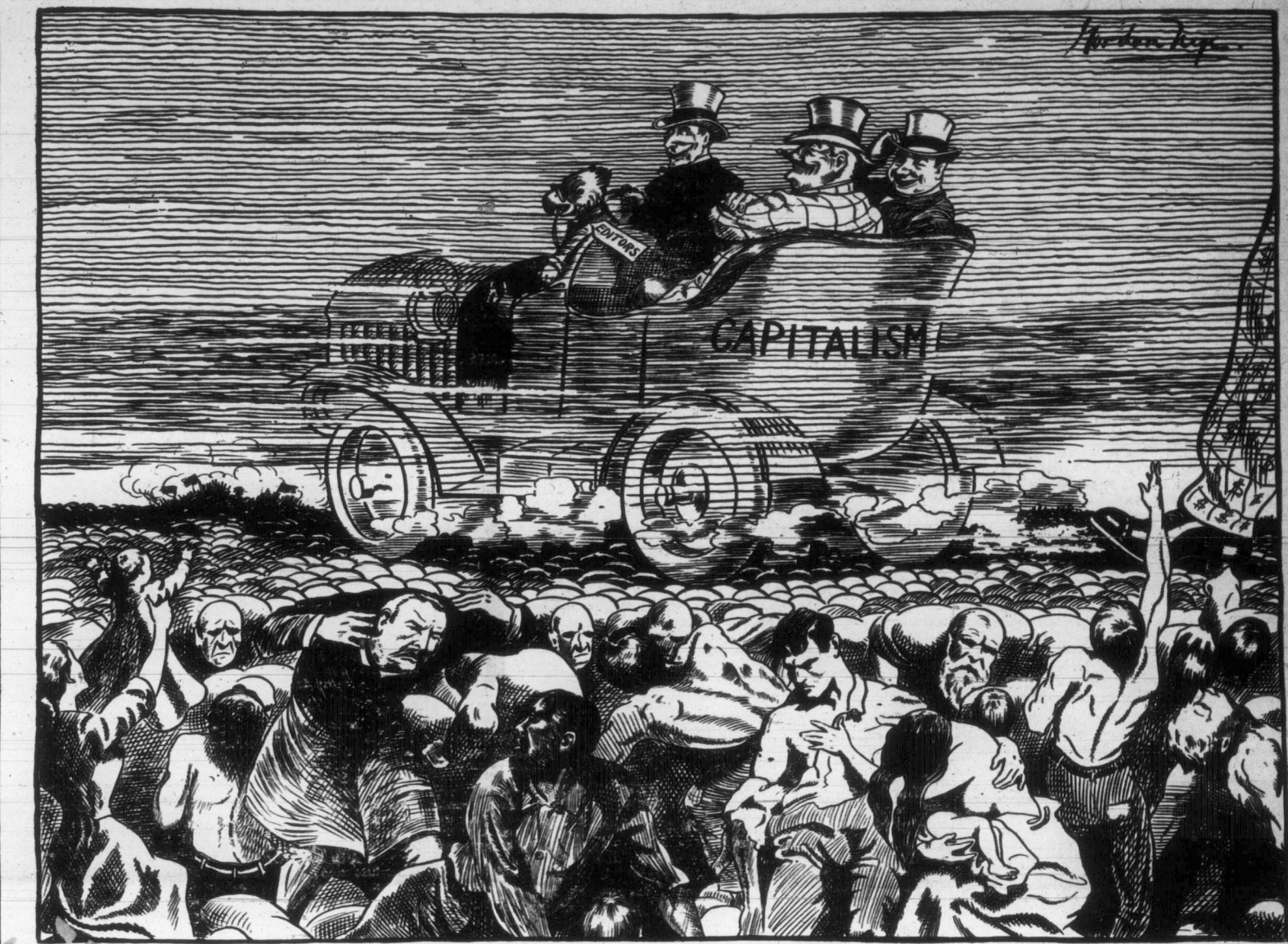
When it becomes necessary for you to wage war in order to find new commercial markets for the surplus we produce, you call upon us, wage slaves, to do your fighting.

In the past you have trusted your slaves under any flag—British flag, the banner of the Crescent, or the banner of the Cross. You have no particular flag and no particular country. You claim all flags and all countries. Yesterday you rallied us with the battle cry of "God and Our Native Land," and we jumped at our brothers' throats and slew them. But we have found you out. Today we know that you wage war under any standard that appears strongest to you. And from today on you shoulder your own guns and do your own fighting.

Every four years you select two candidates for premier. You label one a Liberal and the other one a Conservative. You flatter us—call us horny handed sons of toil, call us uncrowned kings—to keep us contented with our lot. You divide us into two camps, play us against each other, and because we are ignorant and vote for your candidates you win. But we are learning. We have caught you in your lies.

You tell us that your financial, industrial and commercial systems are the best on earth. Why shouldn't you boast? You own the earth and exploit our brothers in every country. You own everything, even our lives, because under your system the means of employment are privately owned.

You have built churches, colleges, and libraries with the wealth we produced. You have employed preachers to teach us to be contented with our lot; professors to prove that you



GET OFF OUR BACKS

—From New York Call.

furnish us employment and but for your wisdom and philanthropy we would starve.

You are masters and gentlemen. We are industrial slaves and tramps. You are wealthy, we are poor. You are strong and on top. We are weak and on our knees.

But from today on we fight you.

You put labor and capital upon the same basis. You speak of the "hog market" and the "labor market" in the same terms. We want no more of it! Too long have we, with minds, hearts and flesh that can suffer, been treated with less consideration than money. The time has come when the welfare of our families—men, women and children—must be considered paramount to all that money means.

Our women and children need food, clothing, shelter and education, and we are going to secure those things for them upon our own terms—the

terms of labor. We create these things, that is why we insist upon our own terms.

Whenever you build a railroad, or organize a corporation, or exploit a gold mine you sell stocks and issue bonds. You found banks, you issue "soap wrapper" money by the yard, but all this is only paper—paper based absolutely on water, or air, with your signatures to it.

You have taught us that there is something sacred about your marks on these bonds and paper money. We have believed you for a long time, but now we are going to expose your crookedness.

Why not? Can you advance one reason why you, the idle owner, should get what the industrious workers make?

Why should your class control and own the meat after labor has prepared it?

Why should your class own the harvesting machinery after labor has manufactured it?

Why should your class own the iron and steel after the workers have produced it?

Why should your class own the Pullman sleepers after the workers have built them?

Why should your class own the mansions after labor has constructed them?

This is the conundrum of the ages. You build nothing, invent nothing, make nothing; but you claim all, and hire us at your price to make more goods, build more houses, invent more machinery for you.

You hire glib-tongued orators to tell us that the interests of capital and labor are identical. What is capital but the surplus of the wealth we created, over and above what you gave back to us to keep soul and

body together in order that we can come back and create more wealth for you.

We know that your class, who live in the mansions, own the mansions and the tenements too, and own the mines, mills, and factories. We also know that because you own, you do not need to work.

We know that those who live in the tenements build the tenements and build the mansions too, build the mills, factories, and dig out the mines where they toil. We know that we own nothing but ourselves and that we must sell our labor power from day to day to you in order to live because you own the machine. We know that because we do not own we must work and overwork.

Look us in the face, ye masters! We are badly dressed. Our bodies and faces bear the marks of want, of hardship, of excessive toil, of haunt-

ing anxiety and fear. We are shabby, hungry, weary and careworn. We must overwork to keep ourselves in poverty and keep you, the owners, in luxury and power.

It is upon our shoulders, we working men, that the world rests.

And remember, we are many—we are in the majority. We can shake you off our backs. You only appear great, because we are on our knees. We are going to arise. We have stood your system of robbery too long already.

You are like the huntsman, who crowded the buffaloes too close to a precipice. They turned on him and killed him.

You have crowded us too far already.

It is time for us to turn.

You cannot own and run the industries of the people any longer. Get Off Our Backs.

WHAT IT COSTS

Socialized effort is far better than individual effort.

The various countries have socialized their army. They furnish the food in large quantities. They buy their guns and clothing wholesale. They pay high prices for horses. They pay high prices for barracks. Nevertheless the waste of competition has been eliminated and the cost has gone down.

The cost per annum for each soldier drilled of the various nations is as follows: Each British soldier costs the nation \$310 per annum; a German soldier costs \$320; French, \$154; Austria-Hungarian, \$270; Italian, \$216; Spanish, \$330.

That is the cost per soldier to furnish them food, clothing, shelter, ammunition, horses, arms, and all other military expenses.

The soldier dresses well. He has good horses. His arms are of the best. And he costs from two hundred to three hundred dollars per year.

In the marine service, for every marine the naval cost per year runs about \$1,200. Each fighting soldier on the sea costs in dreadnaughts and provisions and other naval expenses about twelve hundred dollars per year.

The productive worker in Germany gets about three hundred dollars per year. They support the German

court and the courts of the various smaller states of Germany. They support 621,000 soldiers each costing \$320 per year. They support 33,000 marines each costing \$3,000 per annum, including the cost of new dreadnaughts building. They support the enormous host of private capitalists and landlords.

The workers of the other nations suffer from the same burdens.

The workers are tired of their heavy burdens. Hence they have united into an international working class organization under the flag of Socialism and are pressing forward to free themselves from their oppressive burdens.

When they have done this they can increase their income fourfold and cut down their time of labor per day to one half.

A workingman need not stay out of Socialism because he does not want to be dictated to. The moment he joins a Socialist organization, he has as much right to say how that organization shall be run as any other member has.

"Let me tell you this, the day will come when a nation that lifts up the sword against a nation will be put in the same felon category as the man who strikes his brother in anger." Lloyd George, Chancellor of the British Exchequer.

A soldier is a common murderer.

The working class will free itself.

The annual cost of armies and navies is \$2,330,000,000.

As the workingmen grow more intelligent, the military spirit dies.

War is a red terror that will be abolished under Socialism.

During the nineteenth century twenty millions of human lives were sacrificed in war.

Socialism is not an autocratic movement. It is a democratic movement by workers for workers.

The preparations for war has cost Europe \$29,000,000,000 in the last 25 years.

"Thou shalt not kill," says the Bible, and the Christian nations of Europe spend \$2,500,000,000 per year on murder, past, present, or future.

A modern battleship costs more than the land and buildings of the oldest university on this continent, and becomes obsolete in fifteen years.

What the United States spent in acquiring the Philippines would have irrigated every acre of arid land in that country.

THE ARMIES OF THE WORLD

The amount of wasted energy in war preparations is something enormous. Not only is there the direct loss of the time of the soldiers and sailors, but there is also the indirect loss of time of men who make cannons and build battleships and other useless instruments of slaughter.

Let us take the standing armies of the world and see how many men are kept from useful labor. Let us figure up the navies also and find out this waste. The statistics here given are for the soldiers permanently busied with war.

Great Britain keeps up a regular army at home of 136,000 men. She has a white army in India of 76,209. She has a native army in India of 165,000 men. She has 11,580 troops in South Africa. She has 11,653 soldiers in the Mediterranean, 6,262 in China, and soldiers elsewhere. The standing army of Great Britain is composed of 431,173 men. She has 128,000 men in the navy.

The United States army is composed of 92,628 men and the navy is composed of 55,288 men. This is exclusive of the national guard. By the Dick military law passed in 1906 the President was given command over the militia of the various states and could order them out for war at home or abroad. This gives Taft the power to call out the militia of Col-

orado, ship them to Pennsylvania and set them to work butchering the striking miners there. If they refused they could be court-martialed and shot for mutiny. There are 105,000 men in the national guard.

Germany, army, 621,162 men; navy 33,500.

France, army, 600,183; navy, 25,500.

Russia, army, 1,500,000; navy 60,000.

Austria-Hungary, army, 312,574; navy, 12,899.

Italy, army, 288,409; navy, 30,398.

Spain, army, 91,000.

Portugal, army, 30,000; navy, 6,107.

Belgium, army, 46,235.

Bulgaria, army, 52,000.

Greece, army, 29,000; navy, 4,000.

Netherlands, army, 34,662; navy, 11,822.

Servia, army, 35,605.

Sweden, army, 60,492.

In Europe there are in the above countries 3,837,531 men under arms in the standing armies. This excludes the national militias of Denmark and Switzerland. This does not take into account the Turkish army which is composed of 360,000 men. A conservative estimate of the men in the prime of life withdrawn from productive work in Europe owing to militarism would be 4,000,000. In case of war or threatened war this force would grow to 10,000,000.

The navies of Europe total 312,226 men. The Turkish navy, is composed of 40,000 men.

Surely the brain of man can find something better for these millions of men to do than the goose step.

Speaking at Newcastle in 1903, David Lloyd George, the present finance minister of Britain gave his experience of reform by old party leaders. He said, "I sat as a member of an Old Age Pensions Committee—appointed by a Unionist Government—and I really thought it meant business. I was younger then. We drew up a scheme and found it would cost twelve millions of pounds a year. The Government said it would cost too much, and, by way of a diversion, plunged into the South African war. Since then they have increased our taxation by armaments and war debts more than would have sufficed for all our Old Age Pensions."

Laurier is hurrying Canada on the destructive road of militarism. Borden is egging Laurier on. Borden declares that we are not spending enough for war. The Socialists are the only ones who stand for peace.

When the German Emperor came to his throne the expenditure per annum on the German navy was \$12,500,000. Now it is \$105,000,000 per annum.