

WHAT OTHERS ARE THINKING

FERDINAND LASSALLE.

Prediction of the Social Revolution Statement—On Trial for Preaching Revolutionary Doctrines.

"The social revolution is bound to come. It will come either in the full panoply of law and surrounded with all the blessings of peace, provided the people have the wisdom to take it by the hand and introduce it betimes; or it may break upon us unexpectedly, amidst all the convulsions of violence, with wild, disheveled locks, and shod with iron sandals. Come it must, in one way or another. When I withdraw myself from the turmoil of the day and dive into history, I hear distinctly its approaching tread."

PATRIOTISM.

For an hour the captain had been lecturing his men on the duties of a soldier, and he thought that the time had come for him to test the results of his discourse.

Casting his eye around the room, he fixed on Private Murphy as his first victim.

"Private Murphy," he asked, "why should a soldier be ready to die for his country?"

The Irishman scratched his head for a while; then an ingratiating and enlightening smile fitted across his face. "Sure, captain," he said, pleasantly, "you're quite right. Why should he?"—Chicago News.

WISE WORDS ON THE WAR.

Commenting on a recruiting poster which depicts a boy asking his father the question, "What did you do in the Great War, daddy?" Bob Smilie the Scotch labor leader said that if his son should ask him the question, he would answer: "My boy, I tried to stop the bloody thing."

Writing on the war in the "Glasgow Forward" two years ago, Willie Stewart said: "They will always have enough men to carry it on, but never enough to finish it." Willie is among the very small band of truthful war prophets.

The London (Eng.) "Call" says if the war is to be a "fight to a finish" you won't know the winner from the loser."

H. G. Wells, author of "The War That Will End War," and other optimistic war books, seems to be less sanguine than of yore. He now calls upon the allies to state specifically what their aims are. Referring to Lloyd George, Asquith, President Wilson, and the other glib phrase-mongers, he says "They chaffer like happy imbeciles while civilization bleeds to death."

PEACE TREATIES.

A curious-minded French essayist and novelist named Charles Victor Cherbuliez, calculated that from the year 1500 B.C. to the year 1860 A.D. some eight thousand peace treaties have been solemnly signed, sealed and delivered, each purporting to settle forever the causes of war between the signatories, and each lasting, on an average, about two years.

Further analysis would probably show that the main difference between the tenth century B.C. and the nineteenth century A.D. consisted simply in the fact that peace treaties, on an average, lasted a little longer, a solemn compact for peace among modern Christian nations being better than one among ancient pagan nations in that it might be expected to endure twice as many months.

Given the same system of international relationships, with each nation as sole judge of its own acts, and holding to the invidious truculent code of honor which teaches that a nation's highest interest consists in suffering no limitation to be placed upon its

freedom of action, all that anybody can rationally expect of a peace treaty signed somewhere in Europe in 1918 is that it will last a little longer than the average. The basis of enduring peace cannot be found in treaties signed under that system.—Saturday Evening Post.

FAMINE AND REVOLUTION TO END THE WAR AND BRING SOCIALISM.

That hunger would end the next great war was the prophecy of M. De Bloch, the Polish banker and economist, who, writing in his "The Future of War" (published in 1897), said:—

"The factor which will decide the war will not be the decisive battle; it will be the pressure of want, the lack of food; in short, economic results which must inevitably follow any great war in the present complex state of human civilization."

What the Governments will all come to see soon, more or less clearly, is that if they persist in squandering the resources of their people in order to prepare for a war which has already become impossible without suicide, they will only be preparing the triumph of the Socialist Revolution."

With the same remarkable foresight he also declared that once the conflict settled down to trench warfare it could only result in a military stalemate—a deadlock.

WHO MADE THOSE BOMBS?

There has been a renewal in the capitalist press of the rumors of the meeting of capitalists in Switzerland, of which our Government ostentatiously announced its complete ignorance at no very recent date. The "Westminster Gazette" quotes the "Munchener Post" to the effect that this was a meeting between the participants in the International Nobel Dynamite Trust. That concern was wound up last year after making profits beyond the dreams of avarice. The German and British shareholders exchanged their interests and separated their properties not without managing to distribute some of the blood money of war orders. Now that there is in course of formation a new syndicate which is to include all the British explosives manufacturers, both those who were members of the Nobel "International" and those who were independent, it would not be surprising if they entered into "conversations" as to their relations in the time beyond the war. Perchance they may restore the fifty years' agreement which they renewed in 1911. We know that the British Capitalists and the German Capitalists jointly owned, controlled, and financed factories in Ayrshire, Hamburg, Waltham Abbey, Cologne Llanely, Dresden, Avigliano, Prague, and elsewhere to make military explosives for Germans, British, Austrians, Italians, for anybody out of whom a profit could be wrung or a dividend extorted. The bombs which come hurtling through the night, dealing death and destruction in the homes of London are filled with high explosives manufactured in works built, equipped and maintained out of the £1,500,000 investments of British patriots whilst those which British airmen are to hurl upon Frankfurt and Cologne will come from British workshops in which German capitalists were equally interested. This scandal should be exposed wherever propaganda is being carried on. This is moral "T.N.T." to use against the impudent barrage-fire of the jingo newspapers which are now demanding that Socialist and anti-Militarist agitation shall be sternly suppressed. This demand comes from the very gang who, whilst they knew that there was likelihood of war between Britain and Germany and whilst they were "boost-

ing" the National Service and Navy Leagues, were continuing to line their pockets with the profits of German explosives industries. Austrian torpedo works, and Turkish arsenals. They were glad that "there was no immediate prospect of disarmament." These are the people who, endeavoring to use the anger caused by air-raids, hope to silence the truths they dread to have repeated.—The Call, England.

THE REASON WHY.

Woodrow Wilson's declaration that the United States had entered the war in order "to make the world safe for democracy" is a very fine specimen of idealism. But Lord Northcliffe's blunt remark, it seems to us, is nearer the truth. The United States, he said, entered the war to make the world safe for the United States.—The Hamilton Herald.

TUPPER FEARS REVOLUTION IN THE DOMINION.

Vancouver, Oct. 29.—In a statement issued here on Saturday, Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper sees the annihilation of Unionists in Quebec. He views the Quebec situation as serious, and says that in his opinion Canada "may be convulsed in a terrific revolution."

AN AFTER CONSIDERATION.

Sir Graband Batten was showing a very old friend and confident round his newly acquired and magnificently furnished mansion.

"I've racked my brains to think of a suitable name for this place," he told his friend. "I want something striking and appropriate."

"Well," remarked the friend, "it reminds me of some old Scotch castle. Why not call it Dunrobbin?"

"Not a bad suggestion," agreed the millionaire, "but it's hardly appropriate. I've no intention of retiring until after the war."—New York Globe.

OUR POINT OF VIEW.

We are opposed to conscript servitude, either military or industrial, regardless of whether such conscription is enforced by means of a press gang or other circumstances of human slavery that are equally compelling and equally degrading. A people who will lay down to either, certainly ought to be compelled to drain the cup of their servility to the very dregs. And they certainly will be so compelled. Slaves are slaves, and so long as ruling class society continues, a slave's fate will be their portion. Rebelling against individual edicts of a ruling class while at the same time sustaining and buttressing and bulwarking that class in its privileges to own, and to rule, and to rob, gets the enslaved workers nowhere but into even more serious trouble than they previously enjoyed. And it is indeed both wicked and foolish to advise them to blindly "kick against the pricks." The Federationist is not guilty of having done so. This paper advocates the complete conquest of the so-called public powers by the working class, to the end that the ruling class may be sent to that oblivion which it is sooner or later destined to adorn, and the wealth producers of the earth may no longer be ruled and robbed.—B. C. Federationist.

GENERAL HELL.

The German papers report that General Von Mackensen's chief of staff is General Hell.

So that when Lloyd George told the plebs of London the other day that "We'll give the Germans Hell" he was once again Too Late. Mr. George may have created such a surplusage of General Hell that the home market became glutted; but Hell in General (i.e., General Hell) seems to be a record crop everywhere, and Germany having her own General Hell requires no fresh importations.—Glasgow Forward.

THE ISSUE.

The outstanding issue in the coming federal election is not anti-conscription but anti-capitalism, profit-making and all its concomitant evils.

What is Labor's opinion of the alleged federal "union" government? It is the combined evils of both the old parties, with all that that implies.—B. C. Federationist.

The end of all government is the happiness of the people, but the discontent of the people caused by the repression of their liberties will, if persisted in, lead to anarchy and the end of all government.—G. F. Stirling.

THE INTERESTS OF BELGIUM LIE IN AN IMMEDIATE PEACE.

"Such was the declaration of Judge Albert van Steenberg, the honored Antwerp barrister, at Geneva and Berne. In his address at Geneva, partly cried down by delegates of the Entente Association, and received at Berne with animated applause, the Belgian visitor brought to the Swiss fraternity the expression of the will of the Belgian people for peace. 'Belgium wants peace,' said M. van Steenberg, 'and that not a German peace, nor an English peace, but a Belgian peace. The Belgian peace must be a peace that will not admit of a complete victory either to the one or to the other of the belligerents, but one which is built up on agreement and conciliation. It must be an immediate peace, since Belgium can suffer neither a too long occupation, nor fresh battles in its territories. She must break with all the false neutral politics hitherto pursued, which the secret diplomacy of Palmerston's country forced upon her and which offered absolutely no security, because the compacts of 1831 and 1839 were worthless.' The barrister, well versed in the Belgian archives, then showed how through the compact of 1831 by English intrigues the guarantee of inviolability had been torn away, and that by a series of secret manipulations Belgian neutrality had never had the existence that it had in Switzerland. That Germany was not by any means alone to blame for Belgium's fate, but in a greater degree English diplomacy. It will be easily understood that these fearless assertions raised quite a tumult at Geneva, which even some utterances against Germany could not subdue. Still greater was the indignation provoked at Geneva and the delight at Berne, than these historic declarations had caused, by the bold words of the Belgian, that it was sinful to try and justify the continuation of the War in the interests of Belgium. The interests of Belgium, on the contrary, demand an immediate peace."—From the "Neue Zürcher Nachrichten."

It has always been the opinion of broad minded statesmen that to take away the liberties of subjects is to incite the license of rebels.—G. F. Stirling.

THE TRUE IMPERIALISM

(William Watson.)

Here, where the tide of conquest rolls
Against the distant golden shore,
The starved and stunted human souls
Are with us more and more.

Vain is your Science, vain your Art,
Your triumphs and your glories vain,
To feed the hunger of their heart—
And famine of their brain.

Your savage deserts howling near,
Your waste of ignorance, vice, and shame—
Is there no room for victories here,
No field for deeds of fame?

Arise and conquer while ye can
The foe that in your midst resides
And build within the mind of Man
The Empire that abides.