THE SAMARITAN

A Letter from the Battlefield. Translated from the German by J. K. Mergler.

Dear Louise :—I hope that you are by now in receipt of my last letter. Say, was he not very interesting? Have you been diligent in showing him around among our friends? What has Risa said? Her jealousy and envy over my romantic adventures must have surely driven her mad, especially over my love-affair with that Bulgarian officer. You well know how much Risa envies me for my conquests in cupid's domain. . . . . the wretch. Please write me if the summer freckles have already made their appearance on her face? They usually come to her in March, when the sunshine is halfway effective.

Apropos, complexion! I have once before expressed my fear to you that my skin would probably suffer out here, but thank God, my fair complexion, which you all the time admired, is as fair as ever. Most certain that but for your timely advice of taking my toilet cabinet along, I would have fared badly enough. My greatest worry now remains, that perhaps my stock of eau-de-cologne be exhausted before the war ends. I tremble whenever I think of this threatening misfortune. . . But Great God, this is the necessary accompaniment of war, and whoever like myself ventures out on the staff of Mars must necessarily suffer in patience. Yes, dear heart, such are some of our hardships, but what can you understand of such things?

Yesterday I felt very hurt. One of the medical men reproached me for having been absent for five days from the hospital. In all seriousness reproached me. I assure you, the man acted almost vulgarly. You can understand how I took it. . . . . Such effrontery, and that before a lady! Granted that wars had a bestial influence on men, but there must exist a limit to immodesty before ladies, even on the battlefield. You well guess what a freezing look I gave him as reply. I told Annie and Mary about this. They felt this undeserved abuse as strongly as I, and we decided to ignore this ungallant boor in future. Yesterday he dared to order me to look after a feverish soldier; my work was to be changing the ice bags for him constantly. I made as if I did not hear at all. I would have him understand how deeply he had insulted me, the brute. Concluding from all this, you easily see what sacrifices one of us brings, our misery is yet heightened by the fact that one cannot dress properly out here. You remember the three bewitching hospital costumes I had made previous to my departure for the front. All the three, of the latest cut and colors to suit my complexion. I almost believe you were with me at the tailor's for my first try-on. You recollect the ravishing coat of lilac silk, you know the one, with the Brussels lace, and decollete, a sublime thing. The tailor claimed this to be his first and only chef-doeuvre. And, what a fit! Much did I enjoy the thought of wearing it here at my work.

But picture to yourself my disappointment, when I received the strict orders to wear an ordinary grey linen coat, one the common nurses wear. I almost lost my perseverance, and thoughts entered my mind sometimes of returning home. Yes, dear Louise, you notice how hard it is to be a good Samaritan, and work for your country's good.

Aside from all this, you must know something of the hard work one has to perform here. By mentioning hard work I beg of you, for heaven's sake not to think that I perform duties where blood is to be seen. Dear me, no. . . One of our sort is too tender, and too nervous for such things. To do this we have our sisters by profession. They are the truly fit ones. Nothing could touch these robust natures.

Those belonging to our circle must not forget their part as ladies, even on the battlefield. But our doctors are far too narrow-minded to perceive this. They labor under the false impression that to aid them in their bloody operations is most important. They are heartless, and cannot feel any sympathy for the poor convalescent officers, who are much more in need of ladies' company than all the medical recipes. You will admit, dear Louise, that I am right. . . . And that I do not forget. . . . here is one among the officers . . . . well, he is simply sweet! He was only slightly wounded. All the ladies verily fought for a chance to nurse him. All crazy in love with him, one by one. You may just surmise that I, too, became a target for his aim. . . . What do you think of that military expression?

But all jokes aside, if you'd see him you'd be a dazzled by his beauty as I. So interestingly pale. Charming, I assure you. . . . and a figure. At first, fat Ella seemed to be the lucky one. . . . The shameless flirt was all the time after him; but after all it was I who hooked him away to the rage of all. I must now bid my dear friend farewell. A quarter of an hour later I have a rendezvous. You will guess with who. Oh, what green jealousy for Ella when she knows of it. . . . So you see, sometimes I find it pretty amusing out here, although we dispense with a great many of customary enjoyments. If we could only persuade the convalescent officers to arrange something odd. There is, for instance, enough space here for a tennis lawn. The ladies were enthusiastic when I proposed this, but the doctors, brrr. Yes, and another misfortune to report. My favorite bonbons are all gone. You know how used I am to them. I must go, dearie, he is waiting. Many kisses from your self-sacrificing Samaritan—Nelly.

P.S.—You can hardly imagine how much I dearly miss my manicuring lady. You cannot obtain such indispensable service out here, but as I remarked before, such is the life one must lead, when serving our country.

Socialism is civilization.

Socialism is applied Christianity.

There is a divinity to Socialism which leads us on.

Why not study Socialism? You will have to some day.

Socialism has gripped the moral enthusiasms of its followers as no other modern movement has done.

Wholesale prices have advanced sixty per cent since 1895. Have your wages gone up that much in that time?

In Great Britain two millions of people are always on the hunger line. These people are not fed. But when a suffragette goes to jail for some crime and refuses to eat, she is forcibly fed to the great detriment of her health. Is not the present system an insane one?

How can love thrive under the competitive system? Because so much brotherly love does exist now, shows that we but have to do away with the economic causes hindering the development of love to cause this most noble of passions to come to a glorious fruition.

A suspicion is growing that the London police have their quota of grafters just like New York and Chicago. In Chicago it is hotels, in New York it is street walkers, in London it is clubs. But it is the same kind of graft produced by the same old rotten system.

Ontario grocers have been scoring the garnishee act, which leaves the worker with $25 unseizable. The retail grocers want to be able to seize the pay of the slave for the grub that the slave has eaten. Oh, yes, this is a glorious system all right for the development of materialism.

The Vincent de Paul Conference of St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Montreal, dispensed 13,000 meal tickets to poor people last winter. This shows the charitable nature of the society, but why should we have poverty at all? Surely in this land of bursting barns and great wheatfields charity should be entirely unnecessary. It would be were we on a just economic basis.

Says James Russell Lowell: When a deed is done for freedom, through the broad earth's aching breast runs a thrill of joy prophetic trembling on from east to west. This time the thrill is trembling the other way, and making the German plutes tremble in their boots. The Socialists of Prussia, where the electoral system is reactionary in the extreme, are likely to follow the example of their Belgian comrades and declare a general strike to enforce political rights.

P. H. Scullin has transferred his activities from Vancouver to Montreal. Scullin is trying to engineer an Industrial Peace Association in which the worker and skinning capitalist shall forget all about their antagonistic conditions and become brothers just the same. Of course the skinners are for such an organization, but somehow, both in Vancouver and in **Montreal, the skun workers** do not seem to take kindly to that kind of brotherhood.

An income tax is being imposed in the U. S. and the richer a man is the more he will contribute to the expense of government. Some producers are hailing this as a great and beneficial reform. But in Great Britain they have a heavy income tax, and there twelve millions of people are constantly on the poverty line. Mere juggling as to how the taxes of the capitalist state are to be arranged will bring little relief to the workers, whose wages are governed by the cost of living.

Lemieux and Pelletier have been nagging each other in Parliament over the deals that have been made in the postal department. Lemieux, when he was Postmaster General, purchased 110,000 rural mail boxes at a big figure. Pelletier has purchased 350,000 postal locks and keys at a big figure, and they have been flinging charges against each other. What does it matter to the slaves whether the postal boxes and keys were bought cheap or dear? It is a question that does not touch them as they only get a slave's pay. The workers are foolish to bother about how the surplus stolen from them is spent. What they should aim to do is to stop the stealing.

A couple of years ago people flocked to Toronto exhibition to view the Igerottes' village. A large number of this tribe was brought from South America. They were a great attraction. They lived on dog meat. People crowded into the village and held up their hands in horror at the manner in which roast doggie was disposed of. The capitalist press devoted columns to these dog eaters, and boomed the village for two whole weeks while the exhibition lasted. But they are mighty mum about the foreigners of New Waterford, N. S., who are compelled to eat dog in order to exist. The Igerottes ate dog because they liked it; the workers of Nova Scotia eat dog because they are forced to by the high cost of living and miserable wages under the capitalist system.

The net profits of the C. P. R. are $43,000,000 a year. Over a hundred thousand wage workers have to work three hundred days a year to get a like amount. The net profits of the C. P. R. flow to the owners of the stocks and bonds each year and they do nothing in return for the more than kingly revenue. Common sense shows us that such a dividing up is radically unjust. Socialism, in proposing to abolish such anamolous conditions, simply is common sense applied.

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CAN A BUSINESS MAN BE A CHRISTIAN?

By Arthur Rice.

"Can business be run on Christian lines?"

Taking this question as his theme, the Rev. A. P. Shatford, rector of St. James the Apostle Church, Montreal, delivered an address on business men and Christian ethics. He stated that twenty-five business men had been written to, and twenty-three (presumably the twenty-three who control Canada) had replied. The general opinion was in the affirmative. A millionaire has this to say: "I consider business morality very high indeed. There is nothing of truth in the statement so often made that a business man cannot be a Christian."

The opinion of the man who does not believe after 25 years of business experience that business can be run on Christian principles is of interest: "I have yet to find a thorough Christian who has succeeded in business. Success in business today is judged by the dollar standard. Christianity and business principles will not mix."

Mr. Shatford disagreed with this view, and pointed out that a man may be successful without being wealthy.

A man cannot become a millionaire and be a Christian. Any man with a grain of sense can reason this out, unless robbing your fellow men of the fruits of their labors is Christianity.

It is almost an impossibility for a successful business man to be a Christian. The capitalist system, under which he is forced to do business, won't let him be a Christian. For instance, the capitalist who can force men to work for him at very low wages for long hours, can manufacture goods cheaper than the capitalist that pays his men good wages, with short hours. The man who can put goods on the market at the lowest price, gets the orders. Business cannot be run on Christian lines, as long as we have in operation the capitalist system. You have just got to change the system.

Bear in mind that all commodities are made from raw material, with the help of labor. The workers continue to toil on it until the commodity goes through all stages and is finally put on the market and sold. But the workers are robbed of the greater part of the social value they create at every turn under the capitalist system. Is there anything Christian about this? A man today goes into business for what he can make out of it for himself, not to help his fellow men, but for the surplus values he can skin out of them, and which makes him wealthy. With the coming in of the co-operative commonwealth, business then can be run on Christian lines, as the worker will then get the full social value of what he produces, and it would be an impossibility for any man to rob another. The anti-social unbrotherly spirit in commerce, business and industry will be abolished, and the golden rule, now smothered beneath the weight of robbery, which is the basis of our present system, will become operative.

AGRICULTURE.

Total occupiers of agricultural land in Canada in 1900 (1910 statistics not yet available) were 544,688. Of these 474,441 were ownersm 47,744 were tenants, and 22,503 were part owners and part tenants.

Total number of acres occupied, 63,334,815. Occupiers of from five to ten acres, 91,186. From 11 to 50 acres, 81,243. From 51 to 100 acres, 156,778. From 101 to 200 acres, 150,826. Over 200 acres, 64,655.

In 1901 the northwest provinces had 66,593 occupiers of agricultural land. In 1906 these provinces had 122,398 occupiers.

In 1909 the average value of farm land was $38.60 per acre. Average value of land per each farmer $4,488.30.

Total value of agricultural crops in 1909, $532,992,100. Value of wheat was $141,320,000. Vglue of oats, $122,390,000; potatoes, $36,399,000; barley, $35,434,000; turnips and other roots, $18,197,500; fodder corn, $15,115,500; corn for husking, $12,760,000; mixed grains, $10,916,000. Flax, beans, sugar, buckwheat, peas and rye make up the balance.

Value of farm animals in 1909, $558,789,000.

Value of dairy products about $95,000,000.

Value of the 95,000,000 acres of land occupied at present, $3,281,000,000. Total value, $4,467,781,100.

Average agricultural wealth per individual farmer of the 700,000 Canadian farmers, $6,382.54.

Say, Mr. Farmer. Are you worth $6,382.54 clear? If you are not, what kick have you coming against Socialism?

Champ Clark, Democratic leader of the U. S. Congress, is backing the state of California in her quarrel with Japan. California has passed legislation excluding the Japanese from holding land. Champ Clark says every state should have the right to legislate as to the ownership of private property within her borders. Champ Clark will not stand by his words. The workingmen own property which they sell. They sell their power to labor. Yet when labor withholds its labor power from the market, which they have a perfect right to do according to state laws, national troops are rushed into the strike area to browbeat the strikers and slug them back to their work—in other words force them to sell their power to labor at the terms the owners of capital see fit to pay. Champ Clark is with the master class, so is President Wilson. For that matter, so is Premier Borden and Opposition Leader Laurier. So is Premier Asquith and Chancellor Lloyd-George and King George of Great Britain. Labor's votes have gone to support their political enemies. We suggest that labor's votes go only for labor's own revolutionary candidates.

HOW TO KICK.

A new sixteen-page pamphlet by Robert Rives LaMonte, which is very interesting because it explains the necessity of the Kick Political as well as the Kick Economic. Everything that comes from this author is unquestionably good. Single copy, 5 cents; ten copies for 25 cents. Postpaid.

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THE TORCH, WHOEVER BEARS IT

(Elizabeth Furey in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat).

The God of the Great Endeavor gave
me a torch to bear,
I lifted it high above me in the dark
and murky air—
And straightway, with loud hosannas, the crowd acclaimed its light
And followed me as I carried my
torch thro' the starless night;
Till mad with the people's praises,
and drunken with vanity,
I forgot 'twas the torch that drew
them, and fancied they followed me.

But slowly my arm grew weary upholding the shining load,
And my tired feet went stumbling
over the hilly road,
And I fell, with the torch beneath
me,
In a moment the flame was out,
Then, lo! from the throng a stripling sprung forth with a mighty
shout,
Caught up the torch as it smouldered and lifted it high again,
Till, fanned by the winds of heaven,
it fired the souls of men!

And as I lay in the darkness the feet
of the trampling crowd
Passed over and far beyond me,
Its paens proclaimed aloud—
While I learned, in the deepening
shadow, the glorious verity—
"'Tis the torch the people follow,
whoever the bearer be!"

WORLD NOTES

Further reports of municipal elections in Great Britain show that 341 Socialists have been returned, a gain of 115.

The daily average number of persons employed in the factories of India in 1910 was 1,014,241. In 1900 the number was 994,132.

From all parts of Britain come reports of renewed activity of the Independent Labor Party, and a great Socialist onsweep is heralded with confidence.

At the annual congress of the labor party in Belgium 258,912 members were represented as against 220,711 in the previous year and 194,782 in 1910.

The number of persons killed and injured in industry in Germany in 1886 was 10,540 injured and 2,716 killed. In 1896 the number had insreased to 86,403 injured and 7,101 killed. In 1906 the number had increased to 139,726 injured and 9,141 killed.

The annual income of Great Britain is estimated at $10,000,000, of which only $3,500,000 goes to the producers. The Lords of Fat certainly do not want to see capitalism abolished. But the producing class is learning, and will soon give it the grand bounce.

Victor Grayson, former Socialist M. P. for Colne Valley, Great Britain, in discussing the British situation in New York, declared, "I think in about five years we will see ourselves in the throes of a great struggle. I don't think that five years is too expectant either. Lloyd George's schemes have been devised to frustrate labor. He is a decoy duck. His measures are intended to smash the trades unions." Grayson also predicted a great European war to secure control of the rapidly diminishing world markets.

The seventh conference of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance will be of special interest this year. For the first time in the history of the women's movement it is expected that Hindu, Buddist, Confucian, Mohammedan, Jewish and Christian women will sit together in congress, uniting their voices in a common plea for the liberation of their sex from those artificial discriminations which every political and religious system has directed against them. Delegates have been invited from Egypt, India, Burmah, China, Japan, and the Philippines. The affiliated associations of 23 countries are also eacg entitled to send 12 delegates. The conference will be held in Budapest from June 15 for five days.

The Kaiser of Germany is worried over the charges of corruption against the Krupps. It is the best tactical strike the Socialists have made in years. It has shattered the position of General von Heeringen, Minister of War, and will probably add half a million votes to the Socialist party. Dr. Liebknecht declared that the Vickers and Armstrong concern in England was responsible for the Boer war, that the French armament interests, particularly Seneider and Creuzot, carried on criminal politics in the Balkans, and showed where Herr von Gontard of the German Arms and Ammunition Company had endeavored to bribe an article into the French paper Figaro to the effect that France was increasing her machine gun armament, and thus cause similar action in Germany.

Capitalism Breaks Up the Home

We in America have been venting our feelings in the last ten or fifteen years against a number of national ills, such as child labor, divorce, the social evil. We have considered each of these as separate and distinct. As a matter of fact, they are all children of the same parents—unemployment and industrial maladjustment. This industrial maladjustment, with the resultant seasonal and cyclical periods of slack work, is now forcing upon the country an even graver issue. It is the "dream home" — the home that might have been. Marriage is becoming a luxury to thousands of workingmen in the United States. They cannot afford a sweetheart. They cannot think of a home. Modern industry so decrees. . . For every unmarried man who cannot afford to make a home there is a woman in a shop, in a factory, or department store, and sometimes — on the street.—Chicago Tribune.

Net profits of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company will be around $1,300,000 this year. The average wage of the adult male wage worker in Canada is $481 per year. The net profits of the N. S. Steel and Coal company are equal to the total annual wages of 2702 male wage workers. This is the income a small section of the capitalist class get for doing nothing. Through owning the places in which the wealth producers work the capitalists make the workers divide up what they produce. If you wish to stop the dividing up process, your place is with us.

The Sydney, N.S., Post of April 16th, published an article of how foreign immigrants at Waterford, N.S., were forced to eat dog meat to live. The same issue of the paper contained an editorial severely criticizing the business element and the immigration agencies for not advertising the great advantages Cape Breton has to offer immigrants, particularly of the laboring class. The antics of the capitalist press would be ridiculous were they not so tragic in their blindness or their hypocrisy.

It is good policy to carry an extra copy of Cotton's in a side pocket. By sending a dollar for a yearly bundle of four per week, this is always possible.

The capitalist system is the workingmen's jinx, and is always present.

Socialists are throwing out the life line to save the workers from the capitalist sharks.

There is nothing in Socialism to degrade any individual. There is nothing in capitalism to uplift.

Mammon has got the present-day world so strongly in his grip that Christ is forgotten.—B. C. Sunset.

Capitalism cannot stand the spotlight of publicity. That is the reason it keeps a subsidized press to shield its iniquity from the public gaze.

Capital is the means used to exploit labor. Under Socialism we will not abolish the means of wealth production, but such means will no longer be used to exploit labor.

Do the capitalists eat dog? No, Clarence, the capitalists do not eat dog. They eat quail and pheasant, and mushrooms, and a whole lot of other nice things which the dog eating working class provide for them.

The working class are browbeaten, threatened, fined, jailed, and molested till they are the most miserable of all God's creatures. They are so benumbed in spirit that "Turkey in the Straw" sounds to them like the "Dead March in Saul."

Funny how a lot of politicians appear to be living so far up Easy Street after a few terms at Ottawa. They claim their indemnity barely covers their expenses and the time lost. Then where does the rest come from?

"A prison has become a temple of honor," declared Gladstone in one of his speeches. For Bill Haywood or Mother Jones to go to jail in the cause of the oppressed working class is no disgrace, but renders honor to the places of incarceration.

The international Socialist movement is surging steadily to the fore. Many money-grubbers in their blind lust for wealth take no heed of Socialism. These will sink with their beloved system when the time is ripe. Their puny efforts will be futile to stem the tide of progress.

Townsend Martin, a New York millionaire, declares, "The average employe in this country produces $1280 of wealth each year. Of this amount he gets $437. The remainder, $848, goes into the hands of other men, the capitalist or the exploiter of labor."

"It will not come in our time." Men who say this about Socialism are blind. They have not been following events. In the last ten years the thoughts of the people have been completely changed. In the next ten years those changed thoughts will be written into our laws, and humanity will come largely to its own.

Workers, own the machines you attend. You have to mine the iron ore and transform it into steel to make them, you have to build them and you have to run them. Why should you not own them, and therefore own their product? This is one of the aims of Socialism. Looks fair, does it not?

You come across with good money for a capitalist paper which tells you nothing but lies, which dare not tell you the truth, and which is not by any means the friend of the worker. Why hesitate to expend a small sum on Socialist literature which aims to help you, and you alone? Socialism is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

How the capitalist papers hang on to the inane gabblings of the moneyed crowd! Methuselahistic jokes are spread broadcast and credited to some old moneybags, and everybody is supposed to set up a cackle. The real joke is the man who is silly enough to print such vaporings. He is the Simple Simon. But Lor' bless you, he has to do it, or else lose his hold on the pap teat.

With the thousands of children getting a Socialist education from their parents and in the Socialist Sunday schools, will there not be a fine crop of young revolutionists in a few years? In a very few more years the man who would try to pull off a $35,000,000 robbery of the working class such as is now being attempted at Ottawa, would get his good and plenty. The young blood will smash the capitalist system into oblivion.

Seven shipping companies on the Great Lakes have merged into one company called the Inter-Lake Steamship Company. The new company owns thirty-nine vessels, and is capitalized at $9,500,000. Thirty-nine vessels with their accessories owned by one company is collective ownership for private profit. Under Socialism there would be collective ownership by the public powers for the public good.

Trainmen have a thick book of rules to study and go by. And they are practically forced to break these rules every day by the rush and scramble of the competitive system. The trainman who does not take chances is rarely on the list of promotions. If the travelling public knew of the risks taken by engineers and conductors in their attempts to please the trainmasters and those higher up, Shanks' mare would be the prevailing mode of transportation.

If the educationists of Canada arose in a body and asked for $35,000,000 to advance their cause, they would get the merry ha ha. If all the medical men were to ask for $35,000,000 to fight the white plague, no notice would be taken of them. If the workers asked for decent dwellings and the abolition of slums the Borden government would just plow ahead with their crazy scheme of giving $35,000,000 of the nation's wealth for the enrichment of a few private individuals.

SOCIALISM AND CHRISTIANITY

By Arthur Rice.

James 5, 1-6, of the bible says:

"Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your rich are corrupted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire! Ye have heaped treasure for the last days. Behold, the hire of the laborers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept by fraud, crieth; and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of the Sabbath. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just, and he doth not resist you."

The workers are being robbed of the fruits of their labors more today than they were in the days of James, when no machinery was used and by men who call themselves Christians. The Socialists are going to make it impossible for any man to pile up a big fortune. The workers produce all the wealth and today men get rich by robbing them. By doing away with rent, interest and profit you do away with a system that makes slaves and idlers. The capitalist takes the money he has robbed from the workers to further rob them by building houses to rent, factories for profit, and loaning it to others on interest. In this way the workers keep him in idleness.

The bible says: "If a man does not work, neither should he eat." Workers, when you realize you are the only society that is necessary in the world, the capitalists will have to get off your backs.

The capitalist press declares that Socialists are against Christianity, when Socialism will abolish the evils against which St. James thundered.

Socialism will prevent the man who does not work from eating his bread and living in wanton luxury in the sweat of other men's brows. It will also take care of the maimed, the halt, the lame and the blind and will care for the widows and fatherless in their affliction. The statement that Socialism is against Christianity and anti-religious, is a lie spawned in the depths of the hellish brains of capitalist liars.

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