

# WHAT OTHERS ARE THINKING

## Bright Clippings from Wide-a-wake Contemporaries

### SAYS SOCIALISM WILL GROW AFTER THE WAR.

#### Hyndman Sees Revival of International Sentiment Among Workers.

International Socialism, though broken down by the war, will be revived, and there will come a day when British and German Socialists will again sit at the table together, says H. M. Hyndman, the 75-year-old leader of British Socialists.

"The war's immediate effect upon Socialism is not apparent," he said, "but one thing is certain, and that is that the war has taught the workers more than they could have learned in a score of years of peace. The war has made them think politically. When the soldiers come back home they will not be willing to go back to the hopeless chaos. They will demand better working conditions. We see a great strengthening of Social democracy as a result of the war.

"When the war broke out the capitalist system found itself incapable of handling the community under circumstances which demanded great and continuous national effort. So the state stepped in and took the railroads, and has since been commandeering and controlling nearly everything.

"The result is a system of state Socialism, which, of course, is not true Socialism. But at least we have a near approach to one of the fundamentals of Socialism—public ownership of public utilities—and I see no reason why it shouldn't be continued after the war is over."

### THE TERMS OF PEACE.

Let Pity and Compassion wholly frame  
Such terms of Peace that all mankind  
may bless;

O may they leave no legacy of shame,  
No latent fear, no seeds of bitterness—

Such terms of Peace that Hope itself  
may borrow

Something to cheer our journey on the  
morrow. —R. H. L.

In New York, that city of great wealth and prosperity (so-called), we see that the wives of the workers are rioting and crying for bread. No, New York is not in Germany, but in the land of the free (to plunder) like Canada, where the speculator is allowed to gouge the people to the limit with the consent both of the people and governments.

"He who takes air from you asphyxiates you and commits murder, and he who takes from you any of the rights of free speech, free press and free assembly, murders your hope, tortures your aspirations, kills your ambitions, assassinates your thoughts and brings ruin and disgrace upon the whole community.

Labor must have, shall have, and will have, the constitutional rights of free speech, free press, and free assembly."  
—The American Federationist.

Berlin, March 19.—Philipp Scheidemann, Socialist leader in the Reichstag, says in the Socialist newspaper, Vorwarts: "It does not require many words to explain why almost the whole world is arrayed against us. The answer is given quickly. The whole world sees among our enemies more or less developed forms of democracy, and in us it sees only Prussians.

"We have always answered by referring to the absolutism of Russia, but now Czarism has gone, and the Emperor's successor is to accept the throne only if the representatives are to be

electe on the basis of universal, equal, direct and secret suffrage.

### WAR AND WALL STREET.

Perhaps some light is thrown on the extraordinary war fever which has seized the metropolitan press by the following "daily market letter" issued by a Wall Street broker, George Graham Rice. This letter does not discuss "rights" or "national duties," but its explanation of the responses of the stock market to the threat of war is blunt to a degree, and should be kept in mind; it is the key to the pressure now being steadily exerted upon the administration to plunge us into war. Pressure equal and opposite MUST be exerted. The letter follows:

"When on Saturday at 11.15 a.m. the news was flashed that Ambassador Bernstorff had been handed his passports, uncertainty changed to certainty, and the stock markets began a recovery. To-day the rise was continued.

The situation in a nutshell, as expressed by the highest banking authorities, is about like this:

"We are on the verge of war with several of the great nations of the world. These nations are 'cribbed, cabled and confined' by the navies and armies of such powerful governments as England, France and Italy. The American nation is, in fact, about to enter upon a national joyfest. This country, with its untold resources, richer than any other country in the world, is about to engage in war with nations of the first class, and enjoy all the thrills of war without being compelled to do any of the real fighting. We shall now place ourselves upon a war footing equal to that of any of the warring parties, and with only the remotest possibility of an invading army or an invading navy reaching our shores. To place ourselves in a proper position, we are about to spend \$2,400,000,000 or more of American money, and spend it at home.

"In fine, overnight, \$2,000,000,000 worth of new home buying has come into existence, and the buying power from abroad which recently has been looked upon as a pinchbeck, now becomes the genuine article. Unbounded prosperity is at hand. Practically everything that is needed for war purposes in this country can be supplied in this country, and the Government's treasure, which will be poured into the lap of producers and manufacturers will remain here.

"Posterity may pay the debt in increased taxation and prosperity may feel the burden, but at this time the country and its flourishing population are bound to feel the quick and full effect of the unloosening."

Which is just another way of saying: "After us the deluge!"  
—American Socialist.

British workers are not satisfied with the industrial conscription schemes that have been foisted upon them. A call has been sent out by prominent labor men urging that the workers in London and other large cities assemble in mass meetings on March 31 for the purpose of considering the whole programme of conscription and so decide on what is to be done to preserve industrial freedom.

While it was thought that the two Socialists in the New York Legislature had locked the passage of the Slater Bill to enforce universal military training, the measure was later jammed through, and is now a law. All boys between the ages of 16 and 19—200,000 in number—must now prepare for war. New York State also has a conscription

law, and Governor Whitman threatens to enforce it immediately.

## NEWS OF THE MOVEMENT

(Continued from Page 5).

the House that it was probably intended to be such, but that as a matter of fact I regarded it as the greatest compliment that could have been paid to me. I mentioned the incident of Keir Hardie being similarly treated by the late King Edward in respect of a garden party tendered to the members of the British House, and went on to say that if such distinction tended to place me in the same category as my friend the late Keir Hardie, I regarded the treatment as conveying to me the highest-honor that it was in the gift of the Crown to bestow.

The other occasion on which a very erroneous report was published in The Forward was some weeks ago, when you published a paragraph dated "Winnipeg," which stated that Dixon and myself had been called upon to resign our seats as a consequence of our attitude toward National Registration, and that we had refused to do so.

The truth is that Dixon promised to resign and re-contest his seat if sufficient signatures were attached to a recall petition showing him that 25 per cent. of the number of electors voting at the last election desired him to do so. They have been trying to secure these signatures for more than two months, and have not yet succeeded. As a matter of fact, the effort has become the subject of popular newspaper ridicule. In my case, I have never been asked to resign, nor have the fanatics who have been courting notoriety by boosting the Dixon petition ever tried to break into my constituency. One half of my constituency comprises Ward Seven of the City of Winnipeg. A few weeks ago we had a bye-election for the aldermanic seat in that Ward. We put a Labor candidate into the field. He was opposed by the secretary of the Commercial Travellers' Association, who had previously been a member of the City Council. In spite of his violent appeals to what it pleases him and his kind to call patriotism and his denunciations of the Labor forces of this city as traitors, Alex. Hume, our candidate, won out with a majority of over 100 in the largest vote ever cast in the history of the ward. I give you this information as a possible indication of, at least, one of the reasons why the so-called patriotic element have not deemed it advisable to challenge my seat in any way.

I wish you to understand that I am not writing you in any censorious spirit in connection with the above mistakes. I appreciate thoroughly your difficulties and only desire to warn you against the acceptance of reports which are liable to be colored to suit interests other than our own.

With best wishes, I am,  
Yours very truly,

R. A. RIGG.

Note:—We deeply appreciate Comrade Rigg's defence of his attitude upon this, as upon all other questions in which he has been brought into open court. Suffice to say that the paragraphs referred to are both of the quotations from the Telegram, Toronto. We do not stand as sponsor for anything the Telegram may say and merely place them in our columns for the purpose of boosting. "Every knock is a boost." The first of these quotations comes under the head of "Clip and Comment" of our March 10th issue, and the second under the head of "What Others Are Thinking Of," Feb. 10th. Place these in contrast with Comrade Rigg's statement of the actual occurrence and you will be able to estimate capitalist press reports at their true value, and in so doing the purpose of these insertions will be fully attained.—Ed.

"We, the Social Democratic Party of Montreal, Local No. 4, strongly condemn the enforcement of the Militia Act or any form of conscription as highly undemocratic and a violation of the fundamental liberties of the people.

We furthermore hold that military compulsion cannot be separated from industrial compulsion and that this form of militarism endangers the whole standard of industrial conditions and places the men in the various shops and factories under military control, putting a powerful weapon into the hands of private employers working for their own profits and dividends.

We, the members of the above organization therefore pledge ourselves to offer strong opposition to any such proposals.

MONTREAL LOCAL No. 4,  
M. Liphitz, Secretary.

Winnipeg, Man.—We held a meeting in the Labor Temple on Sunday last for propaganda purposes, when Alderman John Queen spoke on "Economic Waste Under the Capitalist System." He showed by statistics how the productivity of labor had enormously increased, and was still increasing under the industrial regime that the advent of machinery has produced, and pointed out the enormous economic waste that was taking place in Europe, where millions of men had been taken from the mills and factories, and were now engaged in wasting the products which were being made by their fellow workers in shop and factory, and in spite of this wasted economic effort, those who are not immediately working for war purposes were able to supply the requirements of society. A good discussion followed the lecture, those taking part were chiefly our friends from the S. D. P. of C. Next Sunday Com. Tiffin will lecture in the same hall, and we have arranged for further meetings. The Jewish comrades are holding a mass meeting to celebrate the revolution in Russia, particulars next week. Sold seventeen copies of the Forward at the last meeting; please send me another bundle of the most recent issue.  
S. J. ROSE, Sec.

Greencourt, Alta.—The Greencourt comrades have been favored by a speech from Comrade H. Thomas. The address was delivered under the auspices of North-Paddle Local No. 62 to a well-attended and deeply appreciative audience of 21 ladies and 51 gentlemen.

Comrade Thomas is leaving this part of Saskatchewan for a few months, and the special opportunity presented to him on this occasion to address this social gathering on his popular subject, "Sociology," especially in its relation to Maxian economics was deeply appreciated by the audience.

Special reference was made to the war and its relation to economic conditions as applied to the bulk of those who are participating in it, and the inevitable aftermath which will come as a reward for services rendered. A dance followed, in which everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Valiant service was rendered to the cause by a distribution of literature, after which a fitting vote of thanks was passed to the speaker, and especially to the ladies, who had so generously contributed to the success of the social by the due care and attention that had been given to replenishing the inner man by way of refreshments, etc. A very enjoyable and profitable time was spent, followed by many hearty handshakes and farewell greeting to Comrade Thomas.

L. WOLTER, Sec.

While there is a lower class,  
I am in it;  
While there is a criminal class,  
I am of it;  
While there is a soul in prison,  
I am not free.  
—Eugene Debs.