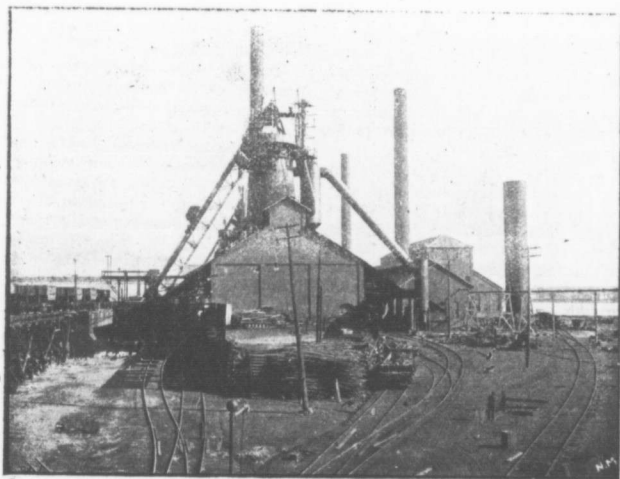


The conscription is a cruel burden, even in the rural districts but so it is over the continent, and a hundred years of conscription have nowhere produced a successful refusal to be conscribed. The revolution may arrive in Russia, as Western men believe it will; but one has heard of revolutions which did not leave the population enfranchised entirely opposed to war. The industrials of Russia are suffering horribly; but it is not the industrials or enlightened, but the regiments and those who compose them, whom the Czar has to conciliate. A Pretorian

Guard has no more power in a true despotism than 1,000,000 civilian taxpayers. We are not to be remembered, affirming that peace is hopeless, but only warning our readers against the belief that because Kuropatkin and Rozbdestvensky have been defeated peace is certain to ensue. It is not certain. The Czar, we may rest assured will not make it unless he is forced to: the Japanese cannot compel him, nor is there any irresistible evidence that anybody can, except the army, which may decide on a long truce as preparation for a continuance of the war."



Part of the smelting plant at Sydney, N.S.