

WHAT OTHERS ARE THINKING

Bright Clippings from Wide-a-woke Contemporaries

SENATOR LA-FOLETTE OF WISCONSIN ON TAXATION OF WAR PROFITS.

It is part of the history of all wars that wealth has demanded the minimum of taxation and the maximum of loans.

Wealth has never yet sacrificed itself on the altar of patriotism in any war. On the contrary, it has ever shown itself eager to take advantage of the misfortunes which war brings to the masses of the people.

Every bond that is issued must sometime be redeemed with interest out of taxes that the people must pay.

Paying for a war mainly by selling bonds inevitably causes inflation. Inflation raises prices, greatly increasing the cost of living for the masses. There is no escape from this result.

We have open to us a field of taxation in war profits and excessive incomes, the justice of taxing which all must admit.

Leading economists of the world argue that upon principle, for the good of the government itself, for the soundness of its financial policy, the war should be paid as we go forward in its prosecution.

Wealth is even potential in government. * * * Wealth fattens upon war loans and war contracts and the speculations with which war is always rife. Hence wealth is always for war.

Mr. President, blind is the man, dull, indeed, the brain, that does not read from the war histories of the world the fact that accumulated wealth has been behind the wars and has been potential enough * * * to make the prosecution of the war a financial harvest to it. Sir, that is why the world has had so many wars.

JUSTICE.

"If I knew that every single witness that testified against Mooney perjured himself in his testimony, I would not lift a finger to get him a new trial."—Assistant District Attorney Edward A. Cunha, of San Francisco.

This open and above-board statement shows the bias of thousands of officers of the law who are supposed to dispense American justice, but who really dispense with it.—Industrial Worker.

THE TIME FOR REVOLT.

A message brought to human understanding upon the roar of cannon and the shrieks of mangled men—tyrants of blood and pelf in blind fury threaten the collapse of civilization—a repetition of the dark ages looms ominously in the foreground—the time for thought and action is now at hand.—B.C. Federationist.

A FEATURE OF PROSPERITY.

(By Arthur Brooks Baker.)

I met a statesman on the docks, a hungry man was he. He watched a large and stately ship go steaming out to sea. Her waterline was well immersed, and sturdily the screws were pushing Europeward a load of things to eat and use. I gazed upon the statesman and the statesman dropped a tear, and when I found a voice to speak I asked of him this here:

"Oh, hungry fellow pilgrim on this planet large and fertile, if you had a snail's ambition or the wisdom of a turtle, why should you let your bread sail off to feed a foreign nation, while you stand here upon the shore and perish of starvation?" He gazed on me with pity in his wet and limpid eye and with superiority he made this reply:

"When people live in savagery repulsive, coarse and crude, for them it

is appropriate that they should eat their food, but when a country's prosperous and highly civilized, such animal indulgence is a thing to be despised. Let children howl and hungry ginks expostulate and yell: our crop of wheat is not to eat—we raise the stuff to sell."—Industrial Worker.

IS IT WELL?

Is it well that, while we range with science, glorying in the time, City children soak and blacken soul and sense in city slime?

There, among the gloomy alleys, Progress halts on palsied feet, Crime and hunger cast our maidens by the thousand on the street—

There the master scripps his haggard seamstress of her daily bread, There a simple, sordid attic holds the living and the dead;

There the smouldering fire of fever creeps across the rotted floor, In the crowded couch of incest, in the warrens of the poor.

—Tennyson.

"The banking and financial history of this war is, in important features, as sedulously shrouded a mystery as its diplomatic history."—Manchester Guardian, May 18, 1917.

According to the Deutsche Kirchenzeitung, Munich, the German Catholic clergy are organizing a peace movement on a grand scale under the banner of the Holy Eucharist. The newspaper says that the Bishops of enemy countries have expressed approval, and promised assistance.

ENFORCEMENT A BLUFF?

E. B. Devlin, M.P., Declares Borden Government Has No Intention of Enforcement of Conscription.

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Farnham, Que., Aug. 27.—At a Liberal meeting in the town hall here to-day, Mr. E. B. Devlin, M.P. for Wright, declared that the Borden Government is putting up a great bluff in connection with the talk of putting conscription immediately into operation. He said it is not the Government's intention to do more than make a big fuss for purely election purposes. Mr. Joseph Somers, M.P. for St. John's-Iberville, said:

"Canada has never had since Confederation such a nefarious Government in power as is at Ottawa now. They are a body of political bandits."

Other speakers were Mr. Fred Kay, M.P. for Missisquoi, and Mr. Ernest Lapointe, M.P. for Kamouraska, and all expressed opposition to conscription. Messrs. Devlin and Lapointe were referred to by Mr. Kay as probable Ministers in the next Laurier Cabinet.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO LIGHT!

A Canadian preacher has discovered that God is on the side of the allies.

To many people this will be the most welcome news they have had for many a day. They have been led by the Kaiser's confident utterances on the subject to believe that God was on the side of the unspeakable Germans. They were losing several winks of sleep over it every night. Their acknowledgments of undying gratitude are due to the Canuck parson.

He says the various miscalculations of the Germans have not been due to chance. "It is the Lord's doing," he avers.

He does not explain just why God didn't squelch the Germans before they invaded Belgium.

He probably thought we ought to be able to explain a little thing like that

for ourselves. It wasn't safe, however, for him to make that assumption. He can not fully appreciate the depth of theological ignorance in which we laymen, who do not even have a look in at the affairs of the Almighty, are groveling. We can only guess at it.

There have been two guesses made by laymen. One is that God was on the side of the Germans at the time of the Belgium invasion and that later He got miffed at His superior officer, the Kaiser, and deserted to the allies. If this is the true reason, He had better keep well to the rear, for the Kaiser'll git 'im if He doesn't watch out. And if the Kaiser ever lays hands on Him, it will be good-bye God.

The other guess is that God was originally on the side of the Germans, but that, having noticed that the allies now have the heaviest battalions, He thought it would be wise to flop over and get on the winning side.

Another layman has a theory which is a sort of a substitute for the whole. He advances the theory that God isn't on either side, but just hovering around looking for a place to light. He wants it understood, however, that this theory is purely tentative and subject to change, for, he says, one must always proceed with great caution in matters like this. But he backs up the theory with the allegation that the war fans on both sides have shaken their gory locks at the Almighty and told Him to stand aside while they struck all words of love and peace out of His book; and that no author likes to be treated that way.

Our own private opinion is that God still believes in the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," and in the saying in the sermon on the mount, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God," and that, therefore, if He is taking any part in the matter, He is on the side of the People's Council.

—"New York Call."

THE HELOTS.

When M. Venizelos ordered the recent compulsory levy in Greece, a law was immediately passed "annulling the rights of trade unions" till the end of the war. The following lines which I here translate, show the feeling excited by this imposition.

And this is your conscription!

And this is war, forsooth!

The snare now stands discovered

In all its hateful truth.

Our unions all must vanish,

Perchance, to come no more;

And when we turn to question,

You say, "The need of war."

This—Junkerism never

Shall cease its course before

The workers all are helots

And slaves to men of gore!

—E. Parry, Prof. of Modern Greek, in Melbourne Socialist.

A GLORIOUS VICTORY AND A REWARD.

It was an exciting week-end. We snatched at the evening papers to see what had happened at the Labor Party Conference in London. The headlines chilled us: "Rowdy Scenes," "McDonald Howled Down!" The week's desperate Capitalist Press campaign then had succeeded; Labor was unable to resist a systematic and persistent Press hypnotism; we were beaten. And then our eye catches the voting result in the Stop Press news—a majority of 1,296,000 for going to Stockholm to meet the German Socialists. We have won; the Capitalist press is beaten. What arguments have been used scarcely matter; we guess, anyhow, that passports will be refused; but that Labor can resist a Press war storm at last; that was the triumph, that the victory!

Scene—The lobby at 10 Downing St. A dejected figure sits upon a chair kindly provided by a sympathetic typist. Soliloquises: "Am I still in the

Cabinet or am I not? I was asked to come to the meeting, yet now I am told I must wait outside. They have made me pay the expenses of the Russian delegates back to them.

Benar Law told the House the Government knew nothing about the visit to Paris, yet they authorized me to spend money on the Russians, and now I have been asked to refund."

An hour passes. Enter from the Cabinet door, George Barnes: "Gee, Arthur, you are fired! I've got your job!"—Glasgow Forward.

CLEANING UP THE WORLD.

Houston!

Butte!

East St. Louis!

Ludlow!

A lynching every four days!

Penitentiaries overflowing with inmates driven to crime by cruel industrial conditions!

Insane asylums crowded by people driven to insanity by the same cruel conditions.

Hundreds of thousands of girls and women driven to prostitution by starvation wages!

Universal suffering among the common people because of the high cost of living due to permitting the country to be owned by social parasites!

Babies dying like flies for lack of the necessities of life!

Are we not a lovely bunch to start out to compel the world to be good?—Milwaukee Leader.

THE SECOND CRUCIFIXION

(Continued from Page One)

Here, to the strains of a plaintive tune, they plowed the earth. From the distance the cannon's roar mingled with their song.

The lonely spirit stood by suffering humanity's inexpressible griefs, but he knew and felt that his journey was not in vain; that humanity was not lost.

It was merely Christianity that could not stand the crucial test. But the real Christ message, the identical message which the spirit himself had come to preach in deeds, and not in words, that message was still unknown to this great suffering human family.

That message was still to be delivered.

When the sun snuffed its light above the blood-soaked earth, heaving and trembling with the thunder of cannons, the Spirit of Marx returned to hell.

He had dared, where others cowered. He found life and hope where others but mourned the dead.

Short as his journey was on earth, the lonely spirit learned that this bloody anniversary of the world war marked the dawn of a new epoch.

He had heard the message . . .

It rang out bold and clear.

It came to him from the hut of a toiler.

In the cry of a babe . . .

WANT WAGES INCREASED

G.T.R. and C.P.R. Ticket Agents Demand Improved Conditions.

The ticket staff of the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railways at the Union Station have made a demand on their respective managements for an increase in salaries. This was early last week, and nothing has been done except by the C.P.R., who have already made the working conditions better. The men have also been assured that there will be an increase in wages.

The G.T.R. men have had no reply and have sent their ultimatum to the proper officers in Montreal. The hours are very long and the wages run from \$50 to \$70 per month.

"If there is much delay," said a local man, "there will be trouble."