

NEWS ITEMS FROM ALL PARTS

SIMPSON AND BAYLEY RECEIVE GREAT OVATION IN NEW-ZEALAND.

Wellington, N.Z. Aug. 8.
The two Canadian, Labor men James Simpson of Toronto, Vice-President of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress and W. D. Bayley, Vice-Chairman of the Winnipeg Labor Party, have been given a royal reception in New Zealand. They are there on invitation of the "Drys" to assist in a big drive for National Prohibition. The Prohibition leaders are already congratulating themselves on securing them as the results of the first ten days meetings and conferences are most satisfactory.

Already Canada's Labor representatives have been taken right into the confidence of the organized workers of New Zealand. Jimmy Simpson is already known throughout the whole country and is met everywhere by delegations of workers asking for meetings. His stories and smile are irresistible and his punch in argument secures a knockout every time. His historical and logical analyses of Bill Bayley dubbed the Professor as the issue are getting right to the heart of the question.

Crowded houses have been the order of the day up to date and the audiences sit for three hours listening to the story of a Dry Canada and a sober working class. Labor M.P.'s have been most kind in showing the Canadians around and altogether the visitors are mightily impressed with the sister Dominion under the Southern Cross.

British Socialist Party Protest Intervention.

"This meeting of workers protests against the armed intervention in Russia in opposition to the declared wishes of the Soviet Government and the direct contradiction of the Allies' pronouncement in favour of the self-determination of all nations. This meeting believes that the overthrow of the Soviet administration would be a disaster to the organised Labour Movement throughout the world, and could only be construed as evidence of the intention of Governments to make war on the working class. It calls upon the British Government to abandon its present policy with regard to Russia and instead to offer Russia the technical and economic aid required for her reconstruction."

The Executive Committee of the British Socialist Party

News From Australia.

The Trades Union Congress, representing over 100 Unions, including all the principal organisations, has passed a resolution in favour of the formation of a Workers' Industrial Union of Australia, with the object of binding all workers into one organisation, eliminating Craft Unionism.

BRITISH LABOR AND PASSPORTS

Owing to some misunderstanding that had arisen with respect to the

attitude of the Central powers to British labors "War Aims", it was decided by the joint executive of the Labor party and Trade Unions to make application to Premier Lloyd George in order to secure passports for a de-

legation to proceed to Switzerland to interview M. Troelstra in order to remove any misunderstanding. The application was presented to the War Cabinet and the cabinet decided to refuse passports. The unique reason put forward for this ruling is:— they have no objection to labor delegates meeting M. Troelstra—but could not grant passports because M. Troelstra had passed through enemy territory on his journey to Switzerland. Could inanity be more ridiculous than this? M. Troelstra may meet either English or German socialists but he must not meet them because he had passed through enemy territory. The venerable is so thin that we are disposed to

am particularly anxious to receive copies of your paper, and I wish that you would put me upon your exchange list.

You probably would be interested in the attitude of the American Federation of Labor towards Socialism and our various publications dealing with its proposals and methods. If these publications would be of interest to you, I should be glad to put you upon our mailing list and send you the official monthly magazine, the American Federationist and the Weekly News Letter.

The struggle to maintain personal liberty is one of so vital an importance to all lovers of liberty the world over, that I feel that those who are especially interested in this fight ought to be mutually helpful to each other. I shall be glad to hear from

LIBERTY¹⁾

(Tune: "O Canada.")

O Liberty, thou warm and lustrous flame,
Thou well of hope—thou path of countless slain
When slaves rebel 'gainst tyrants might
And join in Union strong,
With flashing eye and swelling voice
They sing this rousing song—

CHORUS

O Liberty, star of victory,
O Liberty, we take our stand of thee!
O Liberty, we take our stand of thee!

Our Union now the tyrants seek to crush,
Far from our gaze thy torch they fain would thrust,
But dungeon dim, or gallows grim,
We laugh them all to scorn.
We pay scant heed to gaping wounds,
Nor pause, our dead to mourn.

CHORUS.

Death's dismal wings now hover o'er our land;
In hero's blood the master dips his hand,—
But see the hounds of Hell slink back
As up from shore to shore
Comes Labor's voice, now roused at last,
In fearsome, dauntless roar.

LAST CHORUS.

O Liberty, star of victory,
O Liberty, we take our stand for thee!
We'll face the very jaws of death for thee!

This Poem is forwarded from "Cook County Jail" by Comrade Mahler, written by an unknown member of the I.W.W.

ask:—Would the cabinet have granted passports if M. Troelstra had passed through France? This is the second time the labor party has received a rebuff of this character. How the rulers preserve their prerogatives!

GOMPERS DECLARES HIMSELF ANTI-SOCIALIST.

American Federation of Labor
Washington, D.C., March 9, 1915.
Editor, Labor and Progress,
Melbourne, Australia.

Dear Sir: My attention was called to your paper through the files of the library of the Federal Department of Labor in this country.

The trade union movement of America is very much interested in the problem of defeating the methods and purposes of the Socialist Party—just the same fight that you are leading in Australia. For this reason I

you at any time as to any details of the problems with which you are dealing. Very truly

(Signed) SAMUEL GOMPERS,
President American F. of L.

MAY SHORTEN STRIKE OF COTTON SPINNERS

Interim Injunction Granted Restraining Payment of Strike Money.

London, Sept. 17.—Justice Salter to-day granted an interim injunction restraining the Amalgamated Association of Cotton Spinners from paying strike money to operatives who are on strike. The injunction was applied for by the Board of Trade which proclaimed the strike to be under the Defense of the Realm Act, making the payment of strike money illegal. This probably will shorten the strike, as the dispute is now narrowed to one of wages.

DEBS MAKES NO DEFENCE.

Charged With Treason, Socialist Leader in United States Denies Nothing.

The case of Eugene V. Debs, Socialist leader, charged with violation of the Espionage Act, was given to a jury in the United States District Court on Sept. 12th. His defence consisted of an address by himself in which he explained that he was working for the good of the whole world, but as to the charges he said: "I deny nothing, I repudiate nothing; I retract nothing."

He was sentenced to ten years in prison. Appeal was immediately made—Debs being granted remand until the appeal trial takes place. He was permitted to go home which is in Terra-Haute, Indiana.

A LEAGUE OF CREDIT.

We have already drawn our readers' attention to a French scheme for the "pooling" of Allied indebtedness at the close of the war. A. G. C., writing from Bushey, draws our attention to a financial column in the *Morning Post* for August 2, which almost nakedly uses the names of Allied nations as synonymous with the financiers of those nations and their loans.

Under the heading "Financing China" we read:

Although there may possibly be many details to be arranged, it would seem from the cables from New York that the general principle of an advance to China by the four great Powers—Great Britain, the United States, France, and Japan—has been settled, and it is easy to see that its significance may be very great.

A Washington cable is quoted:

More than a financial arrangement is involved in this policy which is destined to have far-reaching political results. It brings into close and intimate co-operation Great Britain, the United States, France, and Japan, and constitutes them the financial guardians and in a measure protectors of China.

The *Morning Post* is read by the investing public, not by the workers. There is not in all its nicely phrased paragraphs even a glimmer of how the people of China will regard these "financial guardians" who are now plotting their exploitation. The *Morning Post's* concluding paragraph is especially significant.

Even if the League of Nations amongst the Allies is not an accomplished fact, a League of Credit ("credit," observe!) amongst the Allies, including the United States, is daily broadening and strengthening, and may yet prove one of the greatest economic factors in the new era after the war.

Thus, as William Morris taught us long ago, "the patient day" of the workers here, and in all countries, as they submit to their capitalist drivers "builds up the house of pain" for other workers in far-off lands. And it is the workers again who must feed the armies to maintain the executive right of the Allied financiers against those of the Central Powers! How long will it be before the workers wake?

Labor Leader

Under Socialism men will have their first chance to live as civilized men should live.