

WHAT OTHERS ARE THINKING

Bright Clippings from
Wide-a-wake Contemporaries

"THOU SHALT NOT KILL."

By Murray Youtz.

In the light of human sympathy, culture and intelligence, it is impossible to justify a war in the twentieth century, between civilized countries upon the basis of morals.

There is, however, a business basis, upon which war is inevitable between civilized countries in the twentieth century.

I do not believe there is a conscientious and sincere follower of the Lowly Nazarine who will deny the truth of the first statement—for surely we have one of those commandments from God, himself, "Thou Shalt Not Kill."

Every free educator in the world will, I believe, acknowledge that an industrial system based upon a struggle for markets will result in warfare (between business interests), either commercialistic or militaristic.

I believe that the finer intellects of the world will acknowledge the truth of the above two statements, and if so, the conclusion must be that the modern business system is immoral, unchristian, inhuman, ungodly, and destructive of the golden rule sentiment of civilization.

The Army and Navy League, with organizations and interests akin to these, want War, War, War!

And while the patient may sigh,
The doctor wants him to remain sick,
And the undertaker hopes he will hurry
up and die—

Man's material interest dominates his
action—

"Even as you and I."

MACKENZIE KING IS GETTING HIS

Rockefeller's Hired Man Comes in for
Severe Denunciations at the Hands
of Union Labor in the United
States.

Wm. Lyon Mackenzie King, former Minister of Labor under the Laurier Administration, and framer of the Lemieux Act, which has been repudiated by organized labor in Canada, is earning an unenviable notoriety in the United States, where he is generally referred to in labor circles as Rockefeller's hired man.

The ex-minister is in receipt of a good fat salary from the Rockefeller interests, and he is generally credited with being the author of the infamous no-strike law, against which the labor interests in Colorado are putting up such a determined fight. This law is a far more undemocratic measure than the Canadian Act, for it is compulsory arbitration with a vengeance. Under the Lemieux Act, after the question in dispute has been investigated and an award handed down, neither side to the controversy is bound to accept the ruling of the board, and the workers have a right to strike if they see fit.

Under the Colorado Act, however, the right to strike is taken away. If the workers are dissatisfied they have no redress, and if they quit work they are summarily dealt with by the court, ure in the propaganda of Rockefeller's non-union union, whose chief aim apparently is to, if possible, chloroform the workers in the mining districts. Mackenzie King is also the leading figure while efforts are being made to put the legitimate organization out of business.

Now efforts are being put forth by the big interests to have "no strike" laws enacted in other states to, if possible, more thoroughly throttle the legitimate aspirations of the trades unions.

In Colorado the whole state is aroused against the iniquitous measure. While Mackenzie King tells the capitalists and legislators what a good thing the Cana-

dian Industrial Disputes Act has turned out to be, the improved Colorado law is being worked over on them.

If ever the ex-Minister seeks to re-enter public life in Canada he may have some difficulty in squaring things up with working class voters on this side of the international boundary line. To be known as Rockefeller's hired man might prove to be a somewhat serious handicap against his making the grade, and it certainly would be used against him by his opponents with telling effect.

Probably the workers in Canada would not feel like voting for a man who, if elected, might help in putting a "no strike" law where it might get them.—*Industrial Banner.*

ON THE FIRE HALL SLATE.

The following prayer of an Englishman of the eighteenth century may, with slight modifications to suit present-day conditions, serve for our own set of hypocritical church-going capitalists. It is copied from an old English paper: "O Lord, Thou knowest that I have nine houses in the city of London and likewise that I have lately purchased an estate in the county of Essex. Lord, I beseech Thee to preserve the two counties of Essex and Middlesex from fires and earthquakes; and as I have a mortgage in Hertfordshire, I beg Thee likewise to have an eye of compassion on that county. Lord, for the rest of the counties, Thou mayest deal with them as Thou art pleased. O Lord, enable the bank to answer all bills and make all my debtors good men. Give a prosperous voyage and return to the Mermaid sloop, which I have insured. Keep my son Caleb out of evil company and from gaming houses. And sanctify this night to me by preserving me from thieves and fire, and make my servant honest and careful."—Exchange.

SUB-HUSTLERS

1. *The Science of Sub-Hunting.*

It is easy to get new subs., if you spread the net right. Let the slogan be, "Every Socialist" get five new subs. at once, then keep the ball rolling, by each new hustler getting another five, and the thing is did. "Simple." Nels Sachle.

2. *Something for nothing in the sub. line.*

Each subscriber send five dollars and get in return six dollars' worth of Sub. Cards. You can make money, and help the workers to see the light. The advantage of this kind of warfare is in its-killing capacity or in the opportunity to kill a lie, and develop brains at the same time. Try it; it will develop your debating powers. It will make interesting reading in the columns of the Forward, and we have a number of headlines that will give it its mark in current history. Something like this:

"How Henry Captured the Dub."

"The Bullet That Saved a Soul from Hell."

"The Tongue is Mightier Than the Sword."

"The Story of a Captured Sub." etc.

3. *Educate Yourselves by Selling Subs.*

Send five dollars for sub. cards, sell the same, and have the best educational magazine on the American continent sent free for one year. The International Review, and others, when the Apostle of Liberty (the censor) sees fit to remove the censorship on other desirable magazines.

A lawyer is one who protects you against robbers by taking away the temptation says Henry L. Mencken.

WOMEN'S COLUMN

This is a time when every intelligent woman should be wearing a thinking cap—her own thinking cap—I know that the "thrifty" ladies will condemn thinking caps as extravagant and even sinful luxuries, especially for working people, but we protest that while we may produce something that looks like cake without butter, eggs or sugar, it is entirely impossible to develop a product which will in any way resemble a human civilization without the brains of the men, and especially of the woman, who have been not preaching but practising "thrifty" more or less patiently and silently all their lives. So at the risk of incurring the wrath of the "war-time thrift committee," one urges every woman to throw economy to the winds while she invests in a good serviceable thinking cap.

The women of Ontario have been granted the franchise; it was "very sudden at the last"—but we have just got our breath again and have begun to realize that never did an honor bring with it a greater responsibility—because never in the history of Canada or of the world have so many questions to be met and solved, and never have so many opportunities for good or evil presented themselves; it is a serious fact that the future well-being of this part of the world at least lies in the hands of women, and if we continue to allow the "ward boss," the society dame, or the dead and gone ancestor to do our thinking for us, we had better remained in our ancient state with the criminals, idiots, and children; because if we could not advance civilization very far, we did not then deliberately hinder it, while to-day we find all the interests which exist by graft or special privilege, all the human parasites, "playing up" to the woman vote, and angling for it with the sort of bait which is expected to "do the trick"—for instance, we notice one society lady—who is still thinking away back in the days of King John—urging upon her favorite association, which is a very large and almost purely military body, that now "one of the first things to be seen to was the controlling of the foreigners' vote." It might be a good thing for our woman of the thinking cap to see to the "controlling" of these "patriotic pagans," since they and their ideals are a far greater menace to us than many legions of foreigners. Already our legislature has been approached with a demand from this class for the introduction of compulsory military training for boys of from nine to twelve years old, in our Public schools—a bit of class legislation, since if one can afford to send the children to private schools the drill may be evaded; all sorts of untruthful and absurd reasoning is used as an excuse for this expensive and useless innovation—one particularly brilliant reason voiced by a "titled" Canadian was that the wearing of the uniform teaches "politeness and discipline"! "Very charming and pretty to look at," says our woman of the thinking cap, but will it develop that thing so desperately needed—the social conscience—will it help the boy to realize his own value as a producer; will it shew him how to get more for his labor than a bare living? Will it keep the little folks out of the sweat shop? It will take a multitude of women thinking thus to prevent much backward legislation from being fastened upon us at this time, because, as usual, the people with "axes to grind" are on their job, and they are using the opportunity when so many of us do not see what is happening in Canada, our eyes are strained across the sea, where the militarism of Europe has come to judgment and thousands of our best are being drawn into its hideous vortex.

There are other matters besides this impending curse of militarism, which should occupy the mind of the new

voter, even though she may have to displace or remove entirely some cherished old "notions" which are occupying valuable space under her thinking cap.

To the great work of reconstruction after the war she may if she will bring much sound human judgment, the iniquitous child labor bill on our statute books should receive her best attention, one of our prominent ladies has said that "we don't want to embarrass the Government," but the woman who is thinking more deeply knows well that to "embarrass" a Government is a slight matter as compared with the sin of allowing the labor of a little child to be used for profits, the protection of the child life of the nation, and the care of the aged should be especially our woman's work, the fear of old age which to-day darkens so many lives should, and can, be made a thing of the past, the man and woman who has worked through youth and middle life should look forward to old age happily and fearlessly, and this would require no "miracle working" if each did his fair share of labor.

Even the enormous problem of how to pay for the war might be equitably solved if sufficient brains were brought to the task; at present it looks as if the industrial worker will have to shoulder most of the burden—as usual, and yet it is a fact that a few thousand women armed with "thinking caps"—and votes—might insist upon and obtain a certain "conscription of wealth" which would solve the question and would make for some true "equality of sacrifice." At the same time, it would be a far less drastic measure than the conscription of life, which is thought to be a quite reasonable arrangement, by so many men and women. It all boils down to this, if we are to justify our existence at all, now is the time to begin; let us bring our own thinking up to date; it is only as we work and keep moving that we grow physically, and the same is true of our mental development—every woman, but especially the woman in industry, will go about her work more cheerfully even with this added job of thinking, because of the hope that comes out of it all—the new idea, that by reason of her thinking, it may be possible some day for men, women, and little ones to live in a world that is no longer ruled by fear and force, but guided and governed by reason and love with equal opportunities and a square deal for all.

HARRIET DUNLOP PRENTER.

WILLIAM MORRIS

Poet's Tribute to a Poet.

In a land of dreams he wandered as a friend of Art and Song,
And his paths were laid in beauty, and his life was glad and strong;
And the sun was bright above him, and the scenes that filled his eyes
Had the glory and the lustre of an Earthly Paradise.
But across his land of vision, like the sweep of sable wings,
Came the sounds of lamentation for the want that Famine brings,
For the pride of manhood blighted by the cruel fight for food,
For the light of youth beclouded, and the wrongs to womanhood,
For the cold and famished labour, when the barns are full of corn,
And the busy mills are storing what the workers might have worn.
And the dreamer saw the sorrow, and he heard the bitter cries,
And he left his dreams of morning and his Earthly Paradise;
And he changed his lyre of music for the bugle of the fight,
And he sounded forth his challenge to the myrmidons of Night,
To the tyrant and oppressor who had done the people-wrong,
While he led the marching millions with the summons of his song.
—A. E. Cross, in New England American.