

## A Few Notes

### AMERICAN SOLDIERS SELL WAR CROSSES.

NEW YORK, July 16.—American Distinguished Service Crosses and French Croix de Guerre, won by American soldiers in France, are obtainable in New York pawnshops for the insignificant sum of \$5.00

Several pawn shop proprietors explained that the emblems had been sold by soldiers who felt the pangs of hunger, but were too proud to beg.—Vancouver "Province," July 17.

Churchill, the offspring of both the British and American junker-class, is urging the formation of a new political party in Great Britain, a Coalition of all Capitalist parties, to fight Bolshevism. By this, is no doubt he means the working class movement. The issue becomes clearer, and the lines of division are drawing tighter.

"I know now what this Bolshevism is," suddenly said one working plug to another, while reading a paper during the dinner hour, "It means us, Bill."

"It is not as an individual that man is heir to the ages, but as a social being. Let him stand alone, let him be wrecked on a desert island, what a poor pitiful forked radish is the civilized man of today. Even were he a Prime Minister he would find that in the struggle with brute facts His Right Honorable-ship was of no more account, rather less in fact, than a naked savage. Without human companionship, without mutual aid, he would become a gibbering idiot."

Signor d'Aragona, speaking for the Italian Federation of Labor at the Southport Conference, made the statement gravely, that the situation was such in his country, that they must not be surprised if in a short time there might be a Revolution in Italy, and the shedding of blood. He belonged to the "Right" wing, but he saw no other solution.

"Common Sense," London, Eng., points out that it is precisely those districts in which the Soviet system has once been established, then overturned by the Whites, and afterwards cleared of them. That Bolshevism is most ardent; that give the largest quota of soldiers to the "Red" army.

Theodore Roosevelt was once asked how it felt to be a great man. "Well," he replied, "I have just been reading some geology, and that makes you feel that the fame of all the famous men that ever lived is a very small thing."

The "Daily Herald" reports "that college men in Oxford University, England, are starting a magazine to be run on labor and socialist lines." The movement is growing from the bottom up.

The Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council voted in favor of the O. B. U. This action says the press despatch comes as a shock to those who thought that the O. B. U. had been killed.

The average life period of a native of India is 23 years, due to semi-starvation. That of England 40 years and that of New Zealand 60 years.

### WHO WANTED WAR?

This is the minute for which we have waited, 49 years—Clemenean.

"I claim" said Abraham Lincoln once, "not to have controlled events but confess plainly that events have controlled me."

The teachers strike in Italy is finished, but that of the priests is spreading considerably.

## Some Impressions of Siberia

(Continued From Last Issue.)

Kolchak's position always has been, and still is, very insecure. When he appealed to the Allies for help to "Restore law and order," the Japanese responded with avidity, not that they cared for him or his troubles, but because they saw an opportunity of getting a foothold in Siberia, a thing long desired by them. They sent a large force of men, who have done the fighting, together with the Czechs and Cossacks. England has sent supplies of uniforms, arms and munition, and has footed the bill with regard to the Canadian Expedition. But in spite of English gold; and British, Canadian, American, French, Italian, Czech, Cossack, Russian, Japanese and Chinese troops, Kolchak's power is nil, for he can not gather in the taxes, and it is with great difficulty that the Trans-Siberian Line is kept open, and communications kept between the towns along it. His new mobilized army is composed of men between the ages of 18 and 40. Since anyone refusing to be mobilized is shot, he is gathering in all the Bolsheviks, and several of them said to me that they did not at all object to being trained, and being given arms and ammunition, and when the time comes they know what to do with them. If the statement in the capitalist press, to the effect that 40,000 of Kolchak's army has recently been captured by the Bolsheviks, is true, then the fact is, that they just gave themselves up. Although perhaps at the time of the revolution they did not realize what Bolshevism meant, the taste of freedom and real life, followed by this reign of terror of the counter-revolution, has made them realize that they have something to fight for, that Bolshevism is the only way to freedom, and they intend to fight till death. Their intense hatred of the Czechs, Cossacks and Japs, add force to their arms and determination to their wills. On the withdrawal of troops, which is likely to be very soon, (according to information I received just before leaving Siberia,) Kolchak's semblance of power will be gone, and the Reds will sweep everything before them I feel sure. At present they harrass and worry the "Whites" and make it very difficult for them to maintain communication between the large towns. In reality the Whites have only got control of the Trans-Siberian Railway, as far as Omsk, all the rest of the country being Red. Trains are frequently delayed by finding that the track has been taken up, the ties and rails having been taken into the forest and hidden, in spite of the fact that there is a guard all along the track.

With regard to the Allied troops, the Japs are

### REVOLUTION IN SIBERIA.

The whole of Siberia (says a Soviet wireless message received Wednesday) is in a state of revolutionary unrest. The population is in a state of revolt. Consignments from Vladivostok to Omsk have to be accompanied by armored trains in order to protect them against insurgents. These insurgents have become so strong that the Japanese, despite their 120,000 men, are falling back.

The province of Daghestan, where Soviet power was established a few weeks ago, has concluded an alliance with the Tchetchen Province (in the Caucasus.) and both are conducting war against Denikin.

### BRITISH HELP FOR DENIKIN.

M. Delara, a special envoy of General Denikin's Government now in England, stated in an interview with Reuter's representative that British supplies of all sorts, from small arms ammunition to fully-equipped tanks, were now arriving, and already over 100,000 tons of material had actually been disembarked and furnished to the army. Before this summer was out General Denikin's forces would almost certainly effect a junction with the troops of Admiral Kolchak, somewhere on the Volga, in the neighborhood of Saratoff.

the only ones who were really in earnest or have done any fighting. Japan has been given just recently a sphere of influence in Eastern Siberia as a reward for services rendered, and as a bribe for further services. But Eastern Siberia will be another Korea for Japan, for the Koreans are in a constant state of unrest and are trying to throw off the Japanese yoke—an Asiatic edition of England and Ireland. For the rest of the Allied troops it is absolutely true to say, that the average man was quite indifferent to the 'Bolshevik menace to Civilization.' In fact, so little did the Americans care about it, that they refused to go up the line against them because the Japanese were there, and they refused to fight side by side with the Japs. Very few of us went far from Vladivostok, most of us having to kill time and patience in barracks. Some of the Imperials were training the White army, but several remarked to me that they did not care a damn about either the Bolsheviks or the Russians, they simply came out for the extra money offered, and most were sorry they came.

Russian credit is very low, when we arrived at Vladi in January, the rouble, which was originally worth 52 cents, had dropped to 12 cents, and early in May it was only worth 3 cents which caused a panic, the Russians refusing to take their own paper money with which the country had been flooded. However the financiers manipulated affairs in some way for their own ends, for the next day it rose to 3 1-2 cents and the panic stopped. I believe the Bolsheviks have since abolished money both metal and paper.

The Bolsheviks have an overwhelming majority in Siberia and are fast organizing themselves, although this is a very dangerous and difficult thing to do at present. Still secret societies are being formed, and men are going to the country and joining the Red army, so that before long, I feel certain that a determined attempt will be made to free Siberia from the tyranny and oppression of Kolchak and his band of assassins. I was interested in the statement made in the capitalist press the other day, that the Czechs are getting Red, and must state that several companies went over to the Bolsheviks at the beginning of the invasion, whilst others were half-hearted in their fighting. It is quite impossible for any body of men to be in Siberia, in constant touch with the Bolsheviks, without becoming 'contaminated,' and I confidently assert that the expeditions of the Allies have done more harm to the capitalist class in their respective countries, than could have been done in five years of propaganda.

Those of us who wished to do so, after establishing our good faith, were able to get right among the Bolsheviks, so learning the truth about them and their ideals, and seeing what they had done and what they hoped to do. We were careful to spread the knowledge thus obtained, judiciously amongst the other fellows, and it is certain that the average soldier taking part in this expedition will be inclined to side with the Bolshevik element rather than with the capitalist class when the class war comes to a head in the respective lands, in which they are privileged to be wage slaves. For my own part I went with the object of obtaining information and knowledge, and I got quite a bit. It was a disappointment to me that I did not see more of the country, but perhaps I should not have learned much more even if I had gone about more. In Vladivostok one came across all nationalities and classes, and if one could overcome the language difficulty, which I fortunately was able to do, (in one case using my knowledge of Latin learnt at school,) and if one used judgment and discretion, a whole fund of information could be obtained.

I am indeed grateful to the British Government for giving me the opportunity of this education, even if at times there were unnecessary hardships to be undergone, and I will undertake to use it for the benefit of the workers in their struggle for emancipation from wage slavery.