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SAVE HUMANITY

To the Editor: Dear Sir,—I read with much interest an article appearing in Sturday's Herald by Professor Gustav Cassel, dealing with Germany's economic power of resistance. Since, however, little has been discovered by the exploring professor that was not already known to almost every Socialist; it was his prophetic vision contained in the last paragraph that arrested my attention—the probability of the economic ruination of each belligerent country at about the same speed and the consequent destruction of European civilization.

I suppose the title of professor still continues to give the hall mark to intellectual capacity; therefore I presume his opinion is worthy of thought being bestowed upon it by every person capable of thinking; if his observations and message were not intended to provoke thought; the alternative suggests—useless publication.

Now, Mr. Editor, I hope every reader will betow the same amount of sincere and honest thought upon my following remarks as myself who shares the world's sorrows with common humanity, before they pronounce the hasty and ever ready verdict—pro-German!

I am of the opinion the professor is stating the truth of the situation in his predictions, therefore—whatever happens, from now on; whatever battles may be won or lost, whatever valuable ships may be sunk or property destroyed; however many soldiers may be killed, wounded or taken prisoner, one thing seems certain, that finally everything must end with armistice and peace negotiations. Then why should not peace negotiations begin now?

If it appears to all thinking men that nothing further is to be gained than endless spilling of blood—then the end becomes more bitter with every passing day, urging us in the name of humanity to break our silence and do something, lest the very stones beneath our feet cry out for justice!

What judgment will future generations pass upon us, as they read our inglorious history? That we stood idly by and allowed the powers that be; to take the power from the hands of the people and dig their spurs into a people tired and weary of war, and cannot longer conceal their love of peace.

Common humanity, the citizens of the working class world, derived little benefit from past wars of conquest; establishment of national honor, and defence of national pride has meant but little to them. The point of the world's progress, to my mind, is invention, and the discovery of something that means more assistance and more happiness to mankind. Here a bold question suggests itself: Can the military occupation of any province, or the moving of a boundary line confer a greater benefit to the world's

Announcement.

The Toronto Social Democrats have organized a Lecture Forum.

The second of a series of weekly lectures will be held under these auspices in the

Musician's Temple,
University Avenue,

—on—

SUNDAY, March 4th
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WATCH THIS NOTICE.

R. A. RIGG, M.P.P.

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peoples than the inventions of Thomas Edison?

Can the exploitation of a conquered people by an organization of greedy manufacturers (and it matters not to what nation they belong) give as much service to mankind as the inventions of Marconi? Surely the past gives us no precedent.

Since, however, the professional soldier of every warring nation is dead (the flower of the nation's armies fell in the early days of conflict), therefore we cannot any longer view the millions of dead as possible Napoleons, Hindenburgs, or Kaisers. Since it is our civil population that is being driven to the cannon's mouth it must not be lost sight of, that these men were trained to fill useful occupations in a peaceful community, and the possibility is, that amongst every mother's son, that goes to make up the awful lists of dead, there may have been found a benefactor in the shape of an inventor or a discoverer of ways and means, to use the seemingly mysterious forces of Nature to the advantage of mankind, thus becoming a pride to his country.

Who knows how many Shakespeares, Newtons, Kauts, Goethes, Tolstois, or Marxs have fallen amongst the thousands of British, French, German, Belgian, Russian and Canadian youths, who to-day fill nameless graves?

Hence, if viewed in the above light, Humanity as a whole has lost—and however great the gratification of personal vanity may appeal to rulers, it cannot and will not replace that loss. No humiliations inflicted upon the enemy can bring back our dead. Therefore, the concern of all thinking people is, or should be, not who started the war, but conserve and save humanity, by a settlement that shall not severely humiliate any one of the several combatant powers; for humiliation was ever the genesis of hatred and war.—Stratford News-Letter.

Closer and closer the workers are getting together stronger and stronger they are becoming economically and politically, and nearer and nearer comes the day of emancipation.

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