



ALBERTA NON-PARTISAN.

Toronto is the most narrow, bigoted and ignorant city in all the Christian world. It has never been anything else, and never will be. Of old, Toronto's favorable avocation was the stoning of the prophets; to-day it is the hugging of profiteers. In Toronto these gentlemen foregather. This is so true, apt and incisive as to render comment superfluous.

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY.

Crown Attorney Corley is going to cost Toronto about \$7,500 per year in connection with liquor cases. The Legislature recently passed an Act whereby he is entitled to \$5 per case from the city. He was willing to compromise on the sum, but the Controllers refused, and now he will send in his bills for the whole amount. During the past month he has been averaging about half a dozen liquor prosecutions per day, which would mean \$30, or over \$600 for the month. His year's bill to the city will likely be between \$7,000 and \$7,500.

Much has been written about paying for the war, if the government are as deeply concerned in the conscription of monetary things as they were of human beings, here is a splendid opportunity for them to make good. The windy emissions of this gent would fulfil a useful purpose in preventing a gas attack on the western front and probably save some useful members of society.

WHAT IS SEDITION

Judge Hodgins defining sedition in the Bainbridge case in his instruction to the jury said: "It is not a question as to whether the statements made by the prisoner are true or otherwise. The question is: Were the statements made by prisoner intended to hinder the operation of the law."

It is obvious that truth is outlawed by such a law, for verily men may be imprisoned for teaching truth for truth's sake. All that we need in such cases to warrant a conviction is a jury holding opposing political convictions to those accepted by the prisoner. Why prate about liberty of the press while truth is exiled?

Petrograd, 7th Feb.—White Guards after defeating Red Guards and revolutionary troops holding the arsenal at Petchersk, shot nearly 1,500 workmen. All who wore workmen's blouses or had "horny hands" were massacred, and all the members of the revolutionary military committee were shot.

This will be very pleasing to the Toronto Telegram—and a few others we know.

PROFITEERING AND ITS ONE SURE CURE.

The firm of J. & P. Coats which, we understand, has a monopoly of the British cotton thread trade, made a net profit last year of \$16,804,750, as against \$13,171,940 in the first year of the war. It is admitted this increased profit has been made after paying all war taxation, including excess profit tax, and on a reduced output. In other words, the millions of wealth-producing users of cotton thread have been excessively plundered in war times by legalized

methods. The consumers are, says the "Co-operative News," now meekly paying eight and nine cents per reel for what before the war was dear at four cents. About the time this information was published in Britain a report came from Russia that the Bolshevik Government had made short work of this firm's career of profit-plunder so far as the Russian branch is concerned. It has taken over the management and production and financial operation, and the workers in the firm's factory are complete masters of the situation.—Canadian Co-operator.

WHAT THE NATIONAL SECRETARY SAID IN NEW YORK.

The National Secretary, who addressed the Convention of Labor, Socialist and Radical bodies in New York, has been honored by a press despatch. If they keep on at this he will soon have an international reputation—perhaps an unenviable one. It is evident that the message was calculated to breed opposition to the group that he represented, but such has not matured up to the present time. The report did not appear in New York capitalist papers. We merely wish to reprint one passage in order to show that press despatches are calculated to give a certain inflection of meaning sometimes totally different, both in word and implication to that which was intended by the person to whom the statement is attributed—which is customary with the Capitalist frauds and liars. (Canadian Press despatch.)

"We must destroy the very elements of the world civilization before we can begin to revolutionize the world" he declared.

What the National Secretary said: "We must remove the basic elements of the present world civilization before we can begin to construct the new Social Order."

The reader will note that this is exactly the position of the British Labor Party, their declaration reads: "The End of Civilization."

"We need to beware of patchwork. The view of the Labor Party is that what has to be reconstructed after the war is not this or that government department, or this or that social machinery, but so far as Britain is concerned, society itself."

Perhaps the despatch was sent for the edification of the police. The report of the convention will be published in a later issue.

"Truth," says an epigram in one of Oscar Wilde's plays, "is seldom simple and never pure." One of the chief concerns of every Government during the war has been to imbue its subjects with the belief that, so far as their own Government's relations to other governments is concerned the truth was both essentially simple and pure; but the publication of the secret treaties has demonstrated, in this connection, the correctness of the epigram.

WHEN THE WAR WILL END.

(By H. Lambert)

In The Veteran

The topic of when the great world war will end is a never-ending theme. While I do not presume to be gifted with prophetic insight into this or any other subject, perhaps the expression of the views of a humble worker, who participated actively in this war, may not be without interest to my comrades and readers of the Veteran. We have

read speeches by some of the great statesmen of the allied nations including America, who have stated in unmistakable terms, that peace would not be concluded until the world had been made safe for democracy; and in that statement, I most heartily concur. But if by democracy they infer the kind of rule we have so long been subjected to in the name of democracy, I must state in most emphatic terms that I for one, do not believe that this will be the end of the great world war. On the contrary, a peace concluded, on the basis of the status-quo in regard to labor and capital before the war will be the beginning of the real war, and not the ending as they so fondly imagine. Do not confound these assertions with politics of any kind, socialistic or otherwise. Consider politics as being entirely eliminated. Perhaps, I am an idealist who is in these matters somewhat ahead of prevailing ideas, or if he is not, at least has sufficient courage of his convictions to permit them to become public property.

We have now a Government, elected by the majority of the people, and to it we all, as in duty bound, owe our allegiance and support. But still this constitutes no solution of the issues involved in the great world War. They may send support to our boy's at the front, and thereby hasten the end of, or prolong hostilities. We may in time force our enemies to conclude peace, and for that consummation, I most sincerely and heartily pray. The real trouble will then commence and by this I mean the great economic struggle which is now inevitable. The great masses of the people, are so disgusted at the colossal failure of our so-called democracy, as embodied in class-legislation, stupendous graft, immense fortunes by profiteers, gigantic combines by the idle rich who suck the life-blood out of the masses, ride in automobiles, decked out in patriotic emblems, and preside at public meetings, urging the young manhood of the country to go to war while they stay at home in ease and luxury, piling up still greater fortunes, destined for use in the future to grind down still further the workers into a worse state of industrial slavery than that which they at present undergo.

Let me not cheerfully presume to offer a solution of the present economic muddle! It cannot be solved by any one living man. I do know this however, that deep down in the heart of the working class, burns a fierce fire of hatred of the conditions which make them virtual slaves of the capitalistic classes. How long that fire can be kept in check depends in a measure upon the duration of hostilities between the warring nations and the amount of wisdom displayed by the different responsible statesmen combined with the measure of reciprocity that the wealthy classes are prepared to accord the wishes and operations of the great masses of the people, who almost alone have borne the burden of this gigantic struggle. If they are prepared to meet the wishes of the majority and let the people rule, as they are justly entitled to do under a true democratic regime, I am prepared to state my conviction that the great war will end just as soon as hostilities are concluded and the sooner the wealthy classes are prepared to accept this theory, the sooner will this end be obtained.

The end of the great world war will come when the divine right of Kings has been relegated to the

scrap heap, when militarism has been superseded by industrial equality, when the ranting preachers, who now prate under the guise of Christianity, preach the true fellowship and brotherhood of man, and cease to be the paid hirelings of the idle rich, when profiteering by the few at the expense of the many is a memory of the past, and when the riches of the earth, and the fulness thereof have been diverted to the spiritual, moral, and material benefit of the producer on a world wide scale.

TO A COLLEGE PROFESSOR

(By Phillips Thompson, Oakville.)

So you are going to give a lecture on the Labor question, proving that Labor and Capital have common interests.

You have read any number of works on political economy and are a clever speaker and writer.

But do you really know anything about the Labor question?

Let me ask you a few questions as to your qualifications.

Do you know what poverty is from years of bitter experience?

Have you passed the best part of your life in a continual struggle for the means of providing your family with the necessities and some of the ordinary comforts of life?

Were you ever evicted or threatened with eviction, because you could not pay the rent?

Did you ever in the middle of winter wonder where the money was coming from to buy the needed load of coal?

Were you ever fired from your job for no reason at all except that the boss didn't like your politics, your religion, or the color of your hair?

Do you know what it means to be black listed?

Have you walked the streets of a strange city looking for work day after day with only a dollar or so between you and starvation only to meet with cold refusals?

Were you ever in jail, or in danger of being sent to jail, on a charge of conspiracy, picketing, boycotting or sedition? Many thousands of good honest workingmen have had that experience.

Did you ever really know a workman—I don't mean as a mere nodding acquaintance, but as you know men of your own class—to eat, drink, visit and chat confidentially with them?

I thought not. Then you know nothing at all about the Labor problem—not the first thing.

You had better devote your attention to solving the old question of what happens when an irresistible force comes in contact with an immovable body.

Or to trying to reconcile Science and orthodox religion.

Meanwhile, let me commend to your attention a poetic selection that seems applicable to your case:

The toad beneath the harrow knows
Exactly where the harrow goes
The butterfly upon the road
Preaches contentment to the toad.

No one is well paid for his work who does not get the full social value of what his labor produces. When the workers get ready to demand this there will be no surplus value for the capitalist, and he will go out of business, just as did the robber barons of the middle ages.

A man needs but three meals a day. Why should he be allowed to own and control a million?