

## ITEMS OF NEWS FROM ALL PARTS

Comrade Th. Stanning of the Social-Democratic Party of Denmark has accepted with his party's approval a place in the ministry of Denmark as minister without portfolio.

Before the war women were employed in selling departments and as cleaners in the great Krupp's works in Germany. How the hard work in the cannon factory affects the women is shown by the report of the Sick Benefit Fund for 1915, which gives the number of cases of illness among the women workers at 76.60 per 100, compared with 62.31 per hundred among the men.

In Shawnee, Okla., where the street car men recently organized a union, an agreement was asked for to include a raise in wages. The company turned it down, but after a two weeks' strike granted better terms than were asked for in the first place.

The final figures of the Australian referendum on conscription have been received by the High Commissioner in London. They show a majority against conscription of 61,000.

"Parents have no more right to keep back their girls from the factory than their boys from the ranks. The moral advantage of service far outweighs the moral danger of changed conditions. But, above all, you will escape the moments which come to any self-respecting girl or woman when she asks herself whether it is right or fair or decent that she should be having a good time while our men are facing and suffering what we hear of—and much, too, that we do not hear. It is no small comfort in these days to feel yourself clear of the disgrace of leisure."

"The disgrace of leisure!" For any able-bodied Canadian, whether man or woman, a life of leisure, at such a time as this, is a life disgraced.

### SOCIALISTS GET TOGETHER?

French Wing of the Body Favor Resumption of Relations.

Canadian Press Despatch.  
Paris, Dec. 18.—The Socialist Federation of the Paris district has passed a resolution, almost unanimously, giving favorable consideration to the possible resumption of international Socialist relations.

The resolution emphasizes the possibility of these relations with special reference to peace negotiations on the clear proposals of an exactly defined basis to be submitted by Germany and her allies.

### "BUTTERNUT'S" PLAYFUL COMMENT.

Editor Citizen:—Will you permit me publicly to thank the members of the City Council for their very commendable action at Monday's Council meeting re "Oleomargarine"?

If Mayor Porter succeeds in bringing us through the year with "a surplus" in the civic treasury, and a prospect of oleomargarine on our tables, he deserves to be re-elected for life, I think.

I was so pleased when I read the good news that I composed a song—words and music—in commemoration of the event:

The chorus runs:—  
"O Margarine, cheap Margarine,  
Delicious, oily Margarine;  
I hail thee as my household queen,  
O Margarine, cheap Margarine.  
I long for thee, I sigh for thee,  
My children even cry for thee;  
My wife has got her eye on thee,  
O Margarine, cheap Margarine."  
It is written in the key of M, with

a sub-harmony in the key of B flat, indicating the passing of butter.

In this connection—now that the prices of cereals are reaching such an altitude—would it not be possible, I wonder, to utilize the millions of tons of sawdust lying at the bottom of the Ottawa River as a sort of "filler" in the preparation of our modern "break-fast foods"?

Like oleomargarine, I have no doubt it could be made "chemically pure," and it would surely be "cheap." With plenty of "cheap" substitutes for our staple articles of diet; the extension of the franchise to women; the taxation of land values, etc., etc., Canada should soon prove an ideal place to live in, I fancy. Incidentally, Mr. Editor, do you not think the Citizen owes Canadian wage earners an apology for helping to foist this abomination upon them?—John Lyons, \_\_\_\_\_ Ave., Ottawa.

### STATE MONOPOLY OF PICTURE SHOWS.

A London correspondent of the "Scotsman" learns that Russia contemplates the establishment of a State monopoly in cinematograph theatres. Apart from educational profit, it is hoped by this means to secure educational benefits. In Russia, as elsewhere, the sensational film is alleged to have made the picture-house a school of crime. It is understood that M. Sturmer, the President of the Council, has submitted the scheme to the Czar, who is believed to favor it, and a well known Russian impresario is mentioned as likely to be charged with its supervision.

### TAKE OVER ELEVATORS, MILLS, ABATTOIRS, ETC.

Niagara Falls Council Calls for Government Control of Food Supply.

(Special Despatch to The Globe.)  
Niagara Falls, Ont., Dec. 5.—At the regular meeting of the City Council last night Ald. Lovatt moved, Ald. Gay seconding, "that in view of the fast-approaching crisis caused by the rapid and constant increase in the prices of the necessities of life, and in view of the recent action of the British Government to control the food supply of Great Britain, and also in view of the unparalleled spirit of patriotism displayed by the Canadian people, the City Council of Niagara Falls, Ont., hereby calls upon the Government to take over and control all grain elevators, flour mills, abattoirs, cold-storage plants, warehouses, and other food distributing agencies, in order to relieve the farmer and the consumer from the unpatriotic extortions of the middleman and the food speculator."

The resolution passed without any opposition.

### THE STATE AN EXPLOITER.

The modern State, no matter what its form is essentially a capitalist machine, the state of the capitalists, the ideal personification of the total national capital. The more it proceeds to the making over of productive forces, the more does it actually become the national capitalist, the more citizens does it exploit. The workers remain wage-workers—proletarians. The capitalist relation is not done away with. It is rather brought to a head—Socialism, Utopian and Scientific.

Under the agreement recently secured by the anthracite miners from the operators they will receive an increase in wages that will amount approximately to nine million dollars during the next

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## LIEBKNECHT'S LETTERS

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He is just as revolutionarily disposed toward every foreign capitalist Government as he is against his own. Not to aid and abet an enemy power but to damage all imperialistic powers at the same time in international co-operation with the Socialists of the other countries' is the quintessence of his endeavors.

"He fights in the name of the international proletariat against international capitalism. He attacks it where he finds it and can effectively strike it; that is in his own country. In his own country, in the name of the international proletariat, he fights his own Government and his own ruling classes as the representatives of international capitalism.

"In this logical manner, through the national class struggle against war, the international class struggle against war becomes a reality.

"This is the sense of the words of Jaures that were chosen as the motto of my pamphlet, 'The Class Struggle Against the War,' which appeared at the end of March, 1915.

"2. If the German Socialists, for instance were to fight the English Government, and the English Socialists, for instance, were to fight the German Government, this would be a farce, or worse. He who fails to attack the enemy, imperialism, in its representatives with whom he stands face to face, but attacks it in the persons of those who are far away from him, and does so with the approbation and assistance of his own Government (that is, of the only representatives of imperialism that are directly before him), is no Socialist, but a wretched tool of the ruling classes. Such a policy is the promotion of war. It is not the class struggle, but its very opposite.

"Certainly, the international Socialist, and he alone, because he is carrying on the class struggle against his own Government, has the right also to attack the foreign Government. But in all countries, including Germany, there is sufficient energy, unscrupulousness, and demagoguery for that purpose, so the Socialist must devote his entire strength to the attack upon his own Government, so as at least to minimize the worst of the confusion.

"Therefore, I am not concerned here with the sins of others, but with those of the German Government; indeed, it is my duty to try to protect the foreign Governments against unjust charges, because lies should never be spared, and because to-day such lies serve better than ever the reprehensible purpose of inciting the nations against one another and of stirring up the war-hatreds.

"Wherever the occasion was offered I attacked the foreign Governments face to face in their own lands and in Germany when I thought it would be a success abroad in a Socialist sense or at the same time was attacking the German Government face to face by so doing. I shall never do it when I would thus be aiding and abetting the incitation to war.

"Because of my fight against Czarism and the Czar-like policy of the German Government, I was hounded for years by the German authorities. Because of that just before the outbreak of the war, and contrary to all parliamentary traditions, I was handed over to the court of honor of the Bar Association by a Prussian Chamber of Deputies that was filled with hatred and indignation; during the war, in November, 1914, the proceedings against me were closed with a verdict of guilty. I shall hand over the material which will show how I regard attacks upon enemy Governments in the present circumstances.

"3. It is inherent in the very nature of the conscious international struggle for the Socialist to look upon the co-operation of the Socialists in all countries as a whole, for him consciously to do his part in his own land in this division of labor for a common purpose, for him consciously to recognize his struggle and that of the Socialists in the other countries as functions that mutually complement each other, and thus he also consciously takes up the struggle against the governments.

"To emphasize this international point of view against the enemy in his own land might appear as a motive for excuse, for uncertainty, for irresolution—and thus weaken the class struggle. If this point of view must be expressed it should only be for the purpose of making propaganda among those who are to be won for the international Socialist policy against the war and in order to make those who are promoting this policy understand what they are doing.

"In such a sense and in such a manner the social revolution of the working class meets capitalism's war.

"KARL LIEBKNECHT."

### EXAMPLE IS BETTER THAN PRETEXT

Mrs. Douglas McKnight (Bessie Hawley) will receive for the first time since her marriage, with Mrs. J. H. McKnight, at 244-Russell Hill Road, on Friday, Dec. 8th.

Mrs. Gordon Webb (formerly Miss Marion Dickinson) held her first reception since her marriage at the home of her mother, on Pine Crest Road, on Thursday afternoon, when she was looking very pretty in a shepherdess gown of coral brocaded silk, draped over a petticoat of cream colored Georgette crepe, and carried a lovely bouquet of white pom-poms and sweet-heart roses, tied with a bow of white satin. Mrs. Arthur Webb, who was also receiving, wore a charming dress of navy blue taffeta, with blouse of hand-painted marquisette. Mrs. Warren Chambers, the bride's aunt (who came over from Buffalo), was in black satin, with exquisite bead trimming. The drawing-room and hall were decorated with yellow and bronze 'mums, arranged in pretty baskets. The tea table was centred with Venetian lace and a cut glass bowl of pink roses and ferns. Mrs. W. H. Williams assisted in the drawing-room, and Mrs. James Knox poured tea, assisted by the Misses Margaret McCallum, Rita Harrington, and Dorothy Nicholson.

The auxiliary of the Women's College Hospital held a very successful tea and musicale yesterday afternoon at the beautiful house of Mrs. R. W. Eaton in Farnham Avenue. Mrs. Eaton received the numerous guests, looking very handsome in black satin gown, the corsage of black Georgette crepe over pale yellow satin, with necklace of pearls and diamonds. The artists contributing to the program were: Miss Vera Allen, Miss Kathleen Wallis, Miss Nas Gunn, Miss Mann, Miss Constance Buck, Miss Mildred Marsh, danced in the large hall at the end of the program. Tea was served in the dining-room, the table arranged with Cluny lace and a large cut glass basket of russet chrysanthemums, Mrs. Rutherford and Mrs. Bishop pouring out the tea, assisted by Mrs. David Nasmith, Miss Dorothy Reid, Miss Helen Blackford, Miss Helen Levisconte.

We presume that this is their practical method of practicing the much-talked-of virtuous economy. Could Capitalist hypocrisy be better exemplified?

### ...PARTY ANNOUNCEMENTS...

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
Meets at Mrs. A. Martin's, 10525 98th Street, Edmonton, Alta.