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September 24, 1917

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"IT IS A RIGHT TO BE MAINTAINED IN PEACE OR WAR. IT IS A RIGHT THAT CANNOT BE INVADED WITHOUT DESTROYING CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTY. HENCE THIS RIGHT SHOULD BE GUARDED AND PROTECTED BY THE FREE MEN OF THIS COUNTRY WITH A ZEALOUS CARE. UNLESS THEY ARE PREPARED FOR CHAINS OR ANARCHY.--Daniel Webster on Free Speech.

BAINBRIDGE INCARCERATED

Our National Secretary, Mr. Isaac Bainbridge, is in prison awaiting trial, charged with issuing a pamphlet entitled, "The Price We Pay." In a letter to me dated September 14th, he states as follows:

I am taking this opportunity of advising you that the crown attorney of Toronto has laid a charge against me for circulating a leaflet entitled, "The Price We Pay," which is considered by him to be prejudicial to recruiting. I was arrested on Wednesday at eleven o'clock, shipped over to the City Hall, charged, remanded and shipped over the Don in the Black Maria to the Central Prison, all in the space of fifty minutes. Owing to unforseen circumstances I was unable to procure legal advice and consequently had to spend the night in jail until my friends got me out on bail at 3.30 the following day.

"I may state that notwithstanding? several attempts to get in touch with my friends outside on several occasions through the medium of those who were responsible for my arrest, all my efforts proved unavailable until such time as public announcement in

ISAAC BAINBRIDGE

the press had come to the knowledge of my associates and they had taken. action on their own initiative. It is what I consider to be a beautiful piece of political railroading."

On the following Friday his case came up again and he asked for a remand, which was granted for a week, but the Crown Attorney and the Judge refused bail, with the result that he is now in prison.

From the Toronto Jail I have received a letter from Mr. Bainbridge, dated the 22nd, in which he asks me to make a call to all locals and sympathizers and to make an appeal to

the "Minister of Justice," requesting consideration in this case, and I may say that a Defence Fund has been opened to meet the expenses of the

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF

The following report regarding Mr. Bainbridge appeared in the Toronto News (Conservative), Sept. 21:

Isaac Bainbridge, editor of "Canada Forward," a Socialist organ published in Toronto, was taken into custody to-day when he appeared in the Police Court on a charge of a

Bainbridge will come up again pext week.

THE SOCIAL - DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The Toronto Star (Liberal), Sept. 4th, published an editorial re the trial, headed, "Should Have a Fair Trial":

If any man is guilty of an offence against the Military Service Act he must accept punishment. But he ought to be fairly tried, and the offence proved in the regular way. The law does not say that it is an offence to oppose conscription as a principle, but it is an offence to counsel resistance to

GEN. LORD ROBERTS ON CONSCRIPTION

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's phrase, used in his speech at the Labor Party Conference about "Our German Friends" has, of course, provided an alluring red herring by the dexterous use of which Mr. MacDonald's political enemies can distract attention from the substance of his argument. But the phrase seemed uncannily familiar and re-reading the other night the late Lord Roberts' "Message to the Nation" (published 1912, John Murray, 6d. net) I came across it again. The late Lord Roberts, it will be remembered, devoted the closing years of his life to a conscriptionist campaign. In speech after speech and letter after letter, and all with a passionate personal sincerity-he proclaimed that the hour of Britain's ordeal was at hand: our commanding position in the world was to be challenged by Germany: only conscription would, or could save us.

Speaking at Manchester on 25th October, 1912, Lord Roberts, while warn-

(Continued on page Two)

The following appeal, which we herewith publish, has been received from the Dominion Executive:

S. D. P. OF C. NOTICE.

Comrade Bainbridge has been arrested and is at present in prison. On Friday he will come up for trial; his fight ought to be our fight; the liberty of speech and press is threatened, and it is our duty to rally our forces to his aid in this fight for liberty.

Our comrade has a wife and three children, and it the duty of the Social Democratic movement to see that none of them should suffer

Send a letter individually to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice, and to the Member of Parliament in your constituency, protesting against the charge against our comrade.

It will need a lot of money to fight this case, and a Defence Fund has been opened, and we appeal to the comrades for \$1,000.00 for to see this case through.

Send in your donations at once. Yours for the cause,

Dominion Executive Committee

breach of the Defence of the Realm Act. Magistrate Denison refusing to continue bail.

"This man must be insane," commented Crown Attorney Corley. "He is not safe to be at large."

"Why not send him to the Reception Hospital then and have his head examined by the doctors," suggested His Worship.

"That would be a good idea,' said Mr. Corley. But Bainbridge's lawyer demurred.

"I feel very strongly in this matter," said Mr. Corley, "and I don't think this man should be allowed out to write the things he has written against the King and country. We are in a crisis at present and a man of this description should not be allowed to go about and sow sedition. Why in Germany he would lose his life if he committed the offence with which he is charged here."

"Take Bainbridge into custody," ordered Magistrate Denison, and the order was complied with.

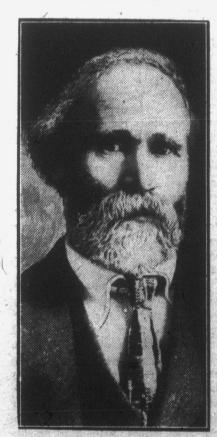
This case against Bainbridge has been dragging along for some time. On a similar charge he was recently convicted in a higher court and remanded for sentence.

the law. Exactly in the same way it is not an offence to oppose prohibition, but you should not advise a man to buy or sell intoxicants against the

In any case, the procedure in regard to this offence, or any kind of sedition, should not be different from the procedure in regard to any other offence. The remarks made in the police court that Bainbridge ought not to be at large, and that his head ought to be examined, are not to the point. He should have a fair trial, and it is perfectly right that he should be defended by counsel—a right which we do not withhold from men charged with the vilest of crimes.

The great advocate Erskine defended Tom Paine, and was criticized as if he accepted Paine's views. As well say that a counsel who defends a man charged with murder is a murderer at heart. Erskine eloquently upheld his right and duty as an advocate to present the case of any man. That is British justice. It should be our pride to adhere to the principles of British justice, which are our price-

Ninety-nine per cent. of the people obey the law; ninety-nine per cent. of the people should make the law.



THE LATE J. KEIR HARDIE, M.P.

September 22nd was the second anniversary of the death of James Keir Hardle, the founder of the British Labor Party and the first Socialist representative to enter the British House of Commons in 1892. On Sunday, all over the cities and towns of Great Britain, meetings will be addressed by prominent Labor and Socialist representatives in memory of this pioneer and fighter for Social

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