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THE CANADIAN FORWARD

To Our Contributors—

The columns of The Canadian Forward are open to contributions from all friends of the cause. Though we can by no means undertake to publish all we may receive, everything, by whomsoever written, will receive careful attention.

Subscriptions (post free)—

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363 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Canada.

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TORONTO, CANADA

October 24, 1917



Men are never so likely to settle a question rightly as when they discuss it freely.—Macaulay.



PLUTE PATRIOTIC ZEAL

Discussing the shipment of rails down the Okanagan Valley, the Minister of Agriculture made reference to the fact that 3,000 men had gone to the front from this district. This evoked a stormy reply from Mr. Carvell, who said: "I am tired of this flapdoodle, this wrapping the flag around transactions for which there is no other defence of the Minister of Agriculture, in order to get votes," he continued.

We are disposed to thank Mr. Carvell for this pointed reference "to get votes," not that we had any hallucination in regard to the matter in question, but as the admission of one of our political stars. There are more ways than one to make the country safe for Borden's re-election. (Democracy.) The Allen Election Act is specifically designed for no other purpose. We do not see any line of moral demarcation between this policy and the despotic regime which came to such a dramatic ending in Russia. In fact, the Borden system of maintaining control is the more reprehensible of the two, because of its hypocritical disguise the spirit thereof is the same. We trust the electors will not be deceived by their loud-mouthed pretensions to loyalty—example is better than pretext. How about the treatment meted to returned soldiers?—sufficient to bring the blush of shame to the cheeks of every honest man. What effect are "Hanna's pills" having upon the bank balances of the profiteering rascals? A country mansion and a limousine. Yes, the Borden administration has been so attentive to our national needs that the four years of war has produced more millionaires than any ten years of peace in Canadian history. The price we pay for our stupidity. Let those who want starvation vote for Borden and the "big interest" alignment he is trying to work up. If the Canadian electorate are well advised they will give the quietus to the "Hun in our midst" when the perennial voting day comes round. We are confident there are a sufficient number of electors to do the job, provided they have got the sand.

The political barometer registers the "Borden administration" at a very low mark, and we venture to suggest it will be down to zero by election time, notwithstanding the warming pan which will be applied assiduously from

now on. We urge all Socialists and Labor men to a prolific use of the pen and the spoken word, notwithstanding the dangers that beset those who adopt such a laudable vocation at the present time. Liberty can not be given. It must be taken. Take it now, or forever hold your peace. A million voices call you to action from the inhuman stige of the front line trenches. Millions of maimed and dying appeal with outstretched hands—"How long, Oh, God—how long?" Cease your theoretical rambles—there is work to do. Hear again the call of our noble dead, "Workers of the world, unite; you have nothing to lose but chains; you have a world to gain." The plaintive voices of broken-hearted mothers who have lost their sons, wives who have lost their husbands, children who hsp the name of Daddy, look to you through a vale of tears. May your voices revibrate like a thousand trumpets; your hearts be hearts of oak; your courage that of giants. To do and dare—it is humanities call.

A REFLECTION OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

(By Georg Brandes, noted Danish critic, in Call Magazine.)

Czarism was for the last century a strong embodiment of all the vicious principles. It represented coercion upheld by cruelty, wrong maintained by persecution, imprisonment, exile and the death penalty. It stood as the invincible foe of the human race and humanity. Now it has ceased to exist. It is like a dream that has come true. To those in Russia who have cherished hopes, to those who for the last 30 years have longed and earnestly worked for the liberation of Russia, to them their hopes, their longing and the realization of their work is no longer a distant chimera—it is a reality. What few older people, after the failure of the revolution in 1905, ever expected to see what has been realized. It is now felt that the last 12 years have not been wasted. Without great efforts, without resistance, almost, the Russian people emancipated themselves by means of the revolution from the upper classes, who were the real autocracy. They cast off their masters, just as the steam throws off the lid from the boiling kettle. The big center for all oppression in Europe has become a hearth from which the flames

of liberty leap forth. The Russian government has ceased to war against the intelligence of its big domain; has abolished the censorship against domestic and foreign literature.

The Poles may be next to throw off the yoke. The people of Ukraine may use their own language. The Jews will be given rights as citizens and as human beings. Georgians will be free. Lithuanians, Esthonians, etc., will be oppressed no more. It is the first time since the great French revolution that anybody hears the holy message of freedom proclaimed in a manner that it is not to be denied in the same breath.

We have lived to see a people that was bound, gagged and downtrodden raise itself and lift its strong liberated arm. It is as though one's innermost soul were filled with summer and sunshine; as if one heard the chirping of all the larks that herald the spring of liberty.

The revolution has in some evoked the mingled feelings of joy, fear and hope. The joy arises from the fact that the pernicious principles upon which the czar and papal rule, unfettered by any laws and until recently supported by the western powers, no longer exist, and are no longer able to enslave and oppress the people, to shatter and to destroy the best and most valuable that has existed in eastern Europe. The fear is that the feelings and disposition of the people will remain as before. The hope is based on the idea that the spirit of the revolution will gain in strength, so as to turn against nationalism in Russia—act as a damper on its growth in England and France, and, finally, spread to the German people, crush the junkers, and finally make for peace.

If the Russian revolution could be instrumental in making an end to that idiotic war which tears and destroys the white race for the benefit of the yellow race, coming generations will have reason to bless it as one of the greatest benefactions humanity has received at the hands of a single country, and will look with reverence on those who so speedily accomplished it.

As regards the future of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, I must remain skeptical. Liberty, in my estimation, is equivalent to free trade, and, as those nations who oppose free trade are advocating liberty, it seems clear that the friends of liberty are in reality in favor of autocracy. The question of liberty has been perverted and abused by the various governments, just as the phase of brotherhood has been contorted by the church; only the ideal of brotherhood is invincible. Brotherhood, as conceived to-day, however, has descended into a class war and brought on the present world war, in the course of which the majority of the races on the earth massacre each other to the best of their ability. Why is this?—Because the human race has wasted its vital energies of thousands of years on the illusion called the "Heavenly Kingdom," instead of using its intellects for the improvement of mundane conditions.

Religion is a word still surrounded by a halo, though religion belongs to the infancy of the human race, and, since this infancy, has only worked for evil influences.

As long as the church in Russia, as well as elsewhere, is sustained, to feed people on superstition, with priests who keep them in ignorance, and schools remain that educate children to believe in legends and fairy tales, which 1,900 years ago were fit for slaves and small tradesmen in Asia Minor or the coast of Greece, then the revolution is not accomplished, and cannot be considered as real evolution.—American Jewish Chronicle.

THE DAWN OF LIBERTY

(By Thomas Curtis Clark, in New York Call.)

Around the world truth speaks in new-found voices;
The darkness flees and all the world rejoices.
The people's God has heard the people's plea;
It is the dawn—the dawn of liberty.

God shakes all thrones; the jeweled crowns are falling.
"We live to serve!"—this is the clear cry calling.
The hosts of earth shall see a world set free;
It is the dawn—the dawn of liberty.

No longer shall the war lords strike with terror;
The end has come for darkness and for error.
The light of truth shall rest on land and sea;
It is the dawn—the dawn of liberty.

Rheumatism

A Home Cure Given by One Who had it

In the spring of 1893 I was attacked by Muscular and Inflammatory Rheumatism. I suffered as only those who have it know, for over three years. I tried remedy after remedy, and doctor after doctor, but such relief as I received was only temporary. Finally, I found a remedy that cured me completely, and it has never returned. I have given it to a number who were terribly afflicted and even bedridden with Rheumatism, and it effected a cure in every case. I want every sufferer from any form of rheumatic trouble to try this marvelous healing power. Don't send a cent; simply mail your name and address and I will send it free to try. After you have used it and it has proven itself to be that long-sought-for means of curing your Rheumatism, you may send the price of it, one dollar, but understand I do not want your money unless you are perfectly satisfied to send it. Isn't that fair? Why suffer any longer when positive relief is thus offered you free? Don't delay. Write today.

Mark H. Jackson, No. 616 Durney Bldg., Syracuse, N. Y.
Mr. Jackson is responsible. Above statement true—Pub.

A PERTINENT QUESTION

We are told that death would be preferable to the conclusion of a peace that was dishonorable to Belgium. Are our children honored by existence in conditions that produce these results? Are the honor and safety of our children not as dear to us as the restoration of Belgium? If we cannot have peace except on the basis of a free Belgium, why peace that did not guarantee to our children freedom to live a clean, healthy, noble life in Britain?—Forward, Glasgow.

CRIMINAL COWARDICE

The workers will be extremely foolish if they permit the perpetuation of class distinction in industry, education, or general living conditions. They can revolutionize society now, and establish social freedom and security in comfort for ages yet unborn. If they continue to permit themselves to be hoaxed into contentment until the conditions have changed and the opportunity has gone, they will rank in posterity's estimation as the blindest, meanest and most cowardly generation in history.—Forward, Glasgow.

It is unfair to judge Christianity as taught by the great Carpenter of Nazareth by the "pillars" of Sherbourne St. Methodist Church, as exemplified in that famous Canadian Trinity, Kemp, Flavell and Henry Pellet. Ye gods, what an inspiration it must be to honest old W. A. Douglas who has put in a lifetime of service for humanity when he looks towards the altar and sees that trio saying their prayers. Some things reach the point of seriousness where they are really funny.

This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it.—Abraham Lincoln.

"Our country is the world—our countrymen are all mankind."—William Lloyd Garrison.