

MILITARISM
WILL DESTROY
THE
PEOPLE

THE CANADIAN FORWARD

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MILITARISM

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"NO ANNEXATION AMENDMENT" DEFEATED IN BRITISH COMMONS

The motion before the House was the reading for the third time of the Bill for the Consolidated Fund which involves the War Credits.

Snowden Leads Off.

Mr. Snowden: I beg to move to leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words, "this House welcomes the declaration of the new democratic Government of Russia, repudiating all proposals for imperialistic conquest and aggrandizement, and calls on His Majesty's Government to issue a similar declaration on behalf of the British democracy, and to join with the Allies in restating the Allied terms in conformity with the Russian declaration."

Since the last occasion, three months ago, when the question of peace terms was raised in debate from these benches, two events of profound importance have occurred—the democratic revolution in Russia and the entry of America into the war.

The Russian Revolution.

No event in our generation has so thrilled the world as the Russian revolution. It has given us a new hope in democracy and revived our faith in Internationalism. It has given us a hope that the war aims which have been declared by the statesmen of the various countries—the maintenance of civilization and the triumph of democracy—are going to be realized in the only way in which these ideals and aims can be realized, that is, by the peoples of the different countries.

I need say little about the character and policy of the old Russian order. It was frankly Imperialistic. We were made publicly aware near the end of last year by a declaration made in the Russian Duma of the fact, of which some of us were fairly well convinced before, that for some time a secret compact had existed between Great Britain and Russia conceding to Russia, in the event of an Allied victory, certain territory, including the occupation of Constantinople.

When that declaration was made we heard the first rumbling of the coming revolution. It became quite evident that this frankly announced policy of Russia's Imperialistic aims in the war was not accepted by the democratic representatives in the Duma. Twelve of them were suspended, amongst them Kerensky, who is now a member of the Provisional Government, and the President of the Workmen's Council. We have here the real inwardness of the Russian revolution.

Kerensky's Splendid Challenge.

I beg the House to listen while I read an extract from a speech delivered by M. Kerensky in the Duma recently at a reception given to certain foreign delegates. He said:

"You must know that Russian democracy is now the mistress of the Russian land. We have decided to put an end for ever in our country to all attempts at Imperialism and

usurpation, for we do not wish the enslavement of anyone. We believe in the idea of liberty, equality and fraternity for all the peoples. The enthusiasm which animates Russian democracy springs from the knowledge that the dream of a brotherhood of all nations is approaching realization. Russian democrats will maintain to the end the position created by the declarations of the Provisional Government and the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' delegates. We will not permit a return to the old aims of a war of usurpation. We beg you to convey to your Governments and the workmen of France and Great Britain that these are the true sentiments of the Russian people."

We are responding this afternoon to the appeal from the leaders of the Russian revolutionary movement. The declaration of the Provisional Government is clear and specific, and it is endorsed by the whole of the Russian people.

Continuing, Mr. Snowden reminded the House of the attempt recently

clear from all the declarations which come from representative opinion that Russia's mind is now on peace. That is the dominating idea.

War Aims: America in Line.

They have placed themselves in line with the declaration of the American President in the speech that he delivered to Congress when he announced America's entrance into the war. In that speech he said:

"We have no selfish ends to serve. We desire no conquests and no dominion. We seek no indemnities for ourselves and no material compensation for the sacrifices we shall freely make."

There you have a little more fully expressed the formula, "No annexations and no indemnities." That represents the attitude of one of the most powerful democracies in the Alliance.

French Democracy Also.

There is no doubt whatever that the views of the French democracy coincide with those which have been expressed by the Russian revolutionaries. There are in France, and have been since the outbreak of the war, two sections of the French Socialist Party, what is called the majority and what is called the minority. I think it is certain that what is called the minority is in reality the majority. In all their councils the vote is practically equal, and the majority get the small

Labor Party have also repudiated a war of imperialistic annexation, and in the same manifesto they repudiated the proposals of the Paris resolutions. They have declared for universal Free Trade. The Rumanian Socialists have taken up an international position upon this question.

Socialists in Enemy Countries.

If we turn to the enemy countries we find that Bulgaria has already its Socialist delegates on their way to Stockholm. In regard to Germany there have been, as we all know, divisions in the great Social Democratic Party, the greatest Socialist Party in the world, which at the last general election polled about 5,000,000 votes—votes which I believe were more anti-militarist than dogmatically Socialist. There have been divisions between them, but never about peace. There are no fundamental differences between the two parties in Germany as to the kind of peace that ought to be established at the end of this war. There are no differences between the two parties as to the urgency of that peace.

Towards Revolution in Germany.

We see in the papers this morning, accompanying the speech of the German Chancellor, a speech of Herr Scheidemann, the leader of the majority of the German Social Democrats, in which he reiterates what he has often said that there must be no annexation, and that what is French and what was French must remain French. Yesterday he made a passionate appeal for peace, and he declared that unless the German Chancellor makes a definite declaration of war aims repudiating all annexations, if in the event of France and Great Britain supporting the declaration of the Russian Provisional Government, and the German Chancellor refusing to follow, then there will be a revolution in Germany. That I understand is a consummation which our Government have been hoping for for a long time. They have now the means of bringing about that desired revolution. Let them accept the war policy of the democratic Government of Russia, and let France do the same, and the consequences, I can assure the right hon. gentlemen, upon Germany will be far-reaching.

The revolution came first in Russia, but it will not stop there. If our Government's Secret Service information is good, they know better than I can tell them that in one of the countries of the Alliance the people are on the verge of revolution to-day.

I repeat, that the revolution will not stop with Russia. It will come in every country.

The Russian Government have appealed to the peoples of the belligerent nations asking us to press our Governments to come into line with them.

The Allied Note Obsolete.

The Allied Note of last January has been rendered quite obsolete by the Russian revolution. The Allies are, therefore, no longer committed to it. The situation in Russia has made it necessary that a new Allied Note should be issued which repudiates all imperialistic aims and which will declare—to use a formula which I hope will be defined a little more closely

PETROGRAD ELECTION BULLETIN—GREAT SOCIALIST VICTORY— MAJORITY OF 360,000.

Social-Democratic Party (Menschiviki faction) acting with the bund	330,000
Social-Democratic Party (Bolschiviki faction)	330,000
Social-Revolutionaries (Group of Toll)	66,000
Other Socialist Groups	14,000
Total Socialist Bloc	530,000
Reactionaries, Clericals, Monarchists	16,000
All other parties (Cadets, Octobists, Radicals, Liberals etc., of all shades)	154,000
Total Anti-Socialist Bloc	170,000
Socialist Majority	360,000
The total vote is about 70 per cent. of those qualified to participate in an election.	

made by M. Miliukoff to minimize the real effect of this speech by the Note which he attached to the declaration of the Provisional Government before forwarding it to the various Allied Governments. When this became known something in the nature of a mild revolution took place. Miliukoff was compelled to withdraw his own interpretation of the Note, and to give to it the interpretation which it was clearly intended should be placed upon it by those who were responsible for it.

Russia Set on Peace.

One of the latest moves is the invitation which has been issued by the Workmen's Council to the various Socialist parties and factions in Allied belligerent and neutral countries to meet at a conference for a discussion of war aims and peace terms. We hear this morning that the Workmen's Council has decided to join the Coalition Government. Its influence hitherto has been great, but it has been in a measure an influence and a power without direct responsibility. Now the three will be combined. It is perfectly

majority they obtain only by the votes of delegates who have no credentials and who are refugees from the invaded parts of France. But there is no difference at all between the majority party and the minority party among the French Socialists in regard to war aims. They both, in a very remarkable manifesto, united in approving of President Wilson's declaration of a League of Nations, of no domination and of no imperialistic annexation. The French minority party have taken up from the outset of the war identically the attitude of the Independent Labor Party in this country.

Italian Socialists United.

In Italy the Italian Socialist movement, which is particularly strong, has been saved from acute division. The Italian Socialist movement is practically united in its opposition to the war.

Even Belgium and Rumania.

In Belgium, where the circumstances are peculiar, and where one cannot naturally expect an anti-war attitude, the Belgian Socialists and the Belgian

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"No Annexation Amendment"

(Continued from page one.)

later—for no annexation and no indemnity. The difference which occurred between Millukoff and the Workmen's Council a week ago brought to light the fact that there are other secret treaties in existence than the one that was exposed by Trepoff at the beginning of last December; but these Millukoff refused to disclose. They cannot much longer be kept secret, now that the workmen have taken their part in the responsible government of Russia.

Asset to German Militarists.

The old Allied Note was the child of undemocratic diplomacy, and it has had the most disastrous results. I have no doubt that it is in a measure responsible for the very unfortunate speech that was delivered by the German Chancellor yesterday. It stiffened Germany. It increased the power of the militarist class in Germany. I think the greatest mistake our Government has made has been that they have not deliberately pursued the policy of dividing the two sections in Germany—of alienating the democracy and the militarist class. Instead of doing that they have cemented the alliance of the two in what they have believed to be a war of national defence. Nothing has been done more towards that end than the unfortunate Allied Note of January last. I candidly admit the force to the statement that a war which was entered upon without any idea of territorial aims may so develop that it is necessary if its objects are to be attained that there shall be a readjustment of territory; but the Allied Note was a great deal more than that. The Allied Note was imperialism and conquest naked and unashamed. It was not restitution and security. It was conquest and domination. We all admit that.

The Minister of Blockade (Lord R. Cecil): Where do you find that?

Mr. Snowden: In every line of it—in its proposal to dismember the Austrian Empire. Surely I need not quote what is within the knowledge of every hon. member of this House. "Territorial readjustments which will be necessary after the war." We are informed that President Wilson has refused to enter into the compact of the Allies.

Lord R. Cecil dissented.

Mr. Snowden: Refused to enter into the pact of London—then the news papers have been misinformed. Has he entered into it?

Lord R. Cecil: No question has been raised about it.

Mr. Snowden: I am quite sure that what the Russian Provisional Government means is that no country shall continue after the war to hold by the sword what it has gained by the sword during this war, and that no territory shall be transferred to any Government except by the will of the people who are transferred. That brings us up against the statement that we will make no peace with Germany because the word of Germany cannot be trusted. Were we to accept that, then we might abandon ourselves to despair. There is nothing but war before the world. I cannot accept that.

German Will to Peace.

I believe that there is proportionately as strong an anti-militarist sentiment, as strong a desire for peace, as strong a desire to establish some kind of system which will avoid future wars in Germany as in any other country that you can think of. Herr Scheidemann said yesterday in the Reichstag that 99 per cent. of the people of Germany were looking to the establishment of universal peace. I do not

know if the right hon. gentlemen opposite approve of the idea of a League of Nations. There was a remarkable meeting held in London two days ago to discuss this question. You cannot have a League of Nations which does not include the Central Powers, because a League of Nations which did not include them would be a League of Nations against them, and you can never have a League of Nations except upon very stable conditions. The possibility of a useful League of Nations after the war will depend upon the terms of settlement that we are going to have, and that we contemplate, will be the kind of settlement which the democracies of the belligerent nations are going to have.

A People's Peace.

Make no mistake about it, it will be a people's peace. This war is not going to be settled as other wars have been, by Statesmen whose incompetence or criminality made the war. This war is not going to be settled in the secret chambers of diplomacy; it is going to be settled by the democracies of the different countries. This war is going to sweep away for ever, in the settlement of the war, all those old methods employed in secret diplomacy, capital using diplomacy, which have been responsible for wars in the past.

Now part of the Russian Government have sent an invitation to all the Socialist parties in the world to meet them soon in International Conference. This is an event of the greatest significance.

The Parliament of Man.

This conference will be the embryo of the parliament of man.

If the British Government be wise, if the Governments of the Allied Powers are wise, they will accept this invitation to the Workmen's Council as a heaven-sent means of extricating themselves from the awful position in which they are now placed. It is the only way in which the war can be settled. It is not for me to say what the decisions of this conference will be, but I think I could state them with a tolerable degree of accuracy. In the first place this conference will be international. Delegates who attend that conference will be men who have developed what the noble lord the member for Oxford University described so eloquently last Monday at the League of Nations meeting as the higher morality which considers its obligations to humanity greater than its loyalty to any one country. That would be the governing spirit of the International Conference. While, as to policy, its policy will be to secure such readjustments of territory as will remove one cause of war, namely, resentment at being subjected to an anti-racial rule.

Its Probable Decisions.

I do not say, and nobody can say for a moment, that it would be easy to re-draw the map of Europe and to make race and Government area coterminous. It will be a very difficult problem, but if there be the spirit to do it it can be done.

Another decision to which this conference will come will be this: I am sure that it will announce a policy which will try to remove as far as possible financial and commercial competition as a cause tending to produce war.

Free Traders All.

There are many causes of war—the ambitions of ruling dynasties or of militarist classes, race, religion; but in these modern times the most fruitful cause of war is commercial competition, the desire for new markets, the use of foreign policy and diplomacy as a means of aiding interested financial

groups in the different nations. Without universal free trade, I am afraid, this will always remain an invitation to and a possible cause of friction between nations. The Conference will speak with one voice upon that question. They will speak unanimously in favor of free trade and the open door for the commerce of nations.

That Conference will repudiate the old doctrine of the balance of power, which the late Primé Minister so truly described as a precarious contrivance, and for leagues of nations against leagues of nations it will substitute a league of nations, and, as has been pointed out by a German Socialist, it will advocate the establishment of international arbitration for the settlement of all disputes. And the Conference will also declare for the abolition of the method of secret diplomacy. It is a monstrous thing that the people of the country should be committed to war, and should be driven into war and have to sacrifice their lives because of commitments made by governments of which they were previously altogether unaware. National diplomacy will have to be free and open in the future. Parliaments will represent the people and will have to ratify agreements before agreements can have effect. There is one other matter about which we have heard very little during the war. We heard a good deal about it in the months preceding the war owing to the disgraceful disclosures which were made—namely, financial interests in the manufacture of armaments. We shall have to remove that altogether.

The Only Way to End the War.

Now, roughly speaking, this is the kind of peace that we want. It is the kind of peace which those of us who have had to bear the charge of being unpatriotic have been waiting for. This is the kind of peace Russia wants, and the kind of peace that the people of every country of the world are longing for. The Government have had many opportunities in the past of bringing this war to an end. I am afraid there are few signs of greater wisdom on their part. There appears to be no evidence that they are using other means than the brutal weapon of slaughter to achieve their ends. That way will never bring peace. It is only by the exercise of reason and common sense that peace will be achieved. The awful lists of casualties now appearing every day in the newspapers indicate something of the terrible anguish and suffering now being endured, and it is because of that and because I believe there is now a hopeful opportunity of bringing this war to an end in such a way as will realize the objects for which we entered it that I do pray that the Government will not reject this present opportunity but that they will put themselves into line with the new democracy of Russia, which expresses the longing and the hope of the democracies the whole world over.

—Labor Leader.

(Continued in next issue.)

A REPLY TO MR. DOUGLAS

We take the opportunity of making the following insertion (by a voice from the fog), written in reply to criticism of The New Socialism, by H. A. Russell, contained in the columns of the Square Deal of May, 1917. We do not stand as sponsor for all that "A Voice From the Fog" says on this matter, but we are very much of his opinion in regard to what he has to say with reference to Mr. Douglas mystifying abstractions, viz., Justice, equity, righteousness, etc. These are meaningless terms separated from the laborer receiving the full "Social value of his labor."—Ed.

What Mr. Douglas Says:

In discussing the methods whereby

we may judge of the correctness of any proposal for social betterment, amongst others, this author give the following:

"That it involves no artificial or arbitrary adjustment of work or wages. That it preserves the fullest liberty to the individual. That it ensures to each the full value of his labor and equal opportunity; and finally, that it appeals to every sense of justice and fairness."

To all these tests we fully and heartily agree. When he appeals to justice and fairness we can without reservation utter a cordial Amen. But when, on the next page, he makes the assertion "That the realization of the ideal of justice can be accomplished only by the overthrow of the capitalist system," then at once he rushes into a fog. That word "capitalist" gives no assistance to the investigation of social adjustments. We might as well say "wealthism" or "commodityism" or "goodism" as to say "capitalism" or "capitalist system." A capitalist system we are going to have under any condition, the only difference between systems that is of any importance to examine is a just capitalism or an unjust capitalism. So long as our socialist friends stick to their unmeaning terms and do not use plain English, they will mislead themselves and others. Let them stick to the words justice, equity, righteousness and brotherhood, and then they will be walking in the light.

To the Editor:

Dear Sir,—The long-anticipated by me, came to hand in your issue this month, to wit., An esteemed "Single Taxer" who is perhaps unconsciously influenced by the drunken condition of flourishing capitalism, thought it opportune to criticize a book by Mr. H. A. Russell, "The New Socialism"; and it seems to me, that in the effort there is a timely exhibition of the logic of popular political economy, which, at this time when capitalism is so intensifying that even its immaculate potency seems to the ordinary mind, mild. It seems to me of more moment to your readers than to be confined to the opinions of Mr. Russell and Mr. Douglas. Though desiring not at this time a controversial comparison of "Single Tax" and "Socialism," yet the assertive and corrective attitude adopted by Mr. Douglas needs some attention. For it seems to me either pure bluff, or a display of ignorance regarding the nature of "Capital." If the former, I do not understand it from Mr. Douglas; if the later, it is what I would expect from "The anthropist" dealing with iniquities of our social system. Therefore, I would, as a voice from the fog, ask Mr. Douglas if he is as positive that "Single Tax" would afford the largest possible equality, as that we shall have Capitalism in any system. He says the word "Capital" affords no assistance in investigating social adjustment; but would he be equally as positive that the word "Holy Ghost" affords no assistance to adjust the conduct and conditions of sinners, or, would a good or bad "Holy Ghost" be the only important consideration to adjust personal iniquities?—like a good or bad capitalism to adjust social iniquities.

It is possible for the anthropists walking in the light to see "the cat," yet see no connection in the terms "Holy Ghost" and "Capital," but that does not prevent a Socialist in the fog seeing much similitude in these two mediums of purposeful trinities in concept, in composition, in function, for stripped of their aliases and the many complex forms they incarnate they appear in all their purposeful essentials two phases of one evil; both are historical products of human selfishness. The first parading in ecclesiastical verbiage such as righteousness, authority, humility, and other platitudes to

(Continued on Page 5).

WHAT OTHERS ARE THINKING

Bright Clippings from Wide-a-wake Contemporaries

THE CRUELTY OF CONSCRIPTION.

A Letter to Women.

Who made the Law that men should die in meadows?

Who spoke the Word that blood should splash in lanes?

Who gave it forth that gardens should be boneyards?

Who spread the hills with flesh and blood and brains?

Who made the Law?

Who made the Law that death should stalk the valleys?

Who spoke the Word to kill among the sheaves?

Who gave it forth that Death should lurk in hedgerows?

Who flung the dead amid the fallen leaves?

Who made the Law?

The above lines were found on the body of the author, a young soldier, who died on the field of battle. He was killed in the Somme fighting last October.

Well may we ask "Who made the Law?"—the law that drives such boys as these to death, with sorrow and wonder in their hearts.

Women of Canada—in Ottawa to-day they are planning to thrust upon us this cursed law. Perhaps the hellish deed will be accomplished before your eyes fall upon this page!

What shall we do? Are we calmly to submit when our boys are driven out to the slaughter?

In the "Forward," of June 12th, there was an account of the sufferings of my dear young brother, under the Conscription Law in England. He is a life-long pacifist, a conscientious objector. Dragged from his business (he is a yarn merchant) and his widowed mother, whose other boy is with the troops, he has already spent more than thirteen months in the brutal hands of the military authorities. The story would break a heart of stone, and he is but one of the many thousands.

Do you realize what Conscription means? Oh, women, women with mother-hearts, this war was arranged and is dominated by the blood-stained capitalists of the world, not by any means those of our nation only.

Their hands, red with the murder of the flower of earth's youth, are held up by the apostate "ministers" of the sweetest Teacher of Love and Brotherhood this world has ever known, Christ the Toiler, Christ the Carpenter, Who gave back the sick and the dead, healed and restored to their loved ones.

The world is submerged in a sea of madness. And so, I send forth from my breaking heart a call to Canada's women. Do you realize that they will make of your own sons, not only soldiers, but slaves. Militarism is already enslaving men all over our Empire. The poor people of India are dragged to the colors, or to indentured labor. In England, after serving terms of imprisonment, those who from Christian of Socialist motives refuse to submit are offered "alternative service"—a dignified name for a most degrading condition. Here, men are treated worse than convicts—men of the higher refinement—placed under the control of unthinkable brutes, mocked, forced to labor under conditions that would shame negro slavery. Of course, many refuse this "alternative" and are returned to prison; though the law of England expressly states that the "genuine" conscientious objector is entitled to absolute exemption. But militarism knows no law. The best and noblest men in England and Germany to-day are behind prison bars.

Are we going to endure this here? Three times the women of Germany, massed in the thousands, have stoned

the palace of the Hohenzollerns, demanding that the slaughter of the men shall cease. Bayoneted, sabred, shot—they are for all time the example to all true motherhood. Women of Canada, shall we arise and save our men?

From my little farm home where I weep and pray and suffer, I call to the women with mother-hearts. If you will help, write to me, enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope; and let us form our plans to resist this accursed slavery.

(MRS.) GERTRUDE RICHARDSON,
Swan River,
Manitoba.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

(By J. McArthur Conner.)

I have just read R. A. Riggs', M.P.P., speech in the Manitoba Legislature, on January 22, 1917, on National Service, and one of the passages in that speech deserves attention by all Canadians. Here it is:

"A friend of mine in this city has been fired by his employer because his views on the war are not satisfactory to his employer. He is the son of an old Scotch Crofter. He has two brothers fighting in France to-day. His old father, over seventy years of age, has for the past twenty-one years held the lease of a small farm in Scotland. The lease has now expired. When he made application for renewal the landowner informed him that he could not agree to a renewal as he wished to utilize that farm for the purpose of making additions to his game preserve. And the two sons of that old Scotch Crofter are fighting for freedom, fighting for their country, while their father is being driven off a little piece of land."

This story interested me. Is it not a tragedy that because the land which is in the hands of a privileged section, instead of being publicly owned, deprives an old man of his means of life, while his two sons are fighting in France? Yet this is just a repetition of history. From 1851, Colonel Gordon, owner of the lands of Barra, Invernesshire, Scotland, came to the conclusion that the small croft system was not giving him enough return in rent, and he set about in the most diabolical manner to get rid of the crofters from Barra. The gallant Colonel had previously tried to get rid of Barra by offering for penal settlement purposes to the State. Great discontent at that time was caused among the crofters by the action of the British Government in withdrawing the grant it had previously given for improvement and cultivation of the Highlands, and placing it in an immigration fund.

This gave Colonel Gordon his opportunity, so he thereupon chartered transport ships to sail up to Lock Boisdale, and he ordered the people under a penalty of \$10.00 to assemble at the ships, where many of them were forcibly seized and carried aboard. Others, who resisted, were handcuffed. Those who were lucky enough to escape were hunted and chased over the hills like the early Covenanters. Fathers and mothers were separated from their families. From 1,500 to 2,000 people were transported.

Picture the scene of hungry women wailing in Gaelic for the sons they would never see again—for in those days unless you laid in a stock of provisions for six weeks, the captain of the vessel generally obliged the passengers to pay as much as 400 per cent. on the cost price of food. Here was a people driven from their native land, and finally landing in Canada, starving, ill-clad, and not knowing a word of the English language; trekking on foot from Quebec to Toronto to

Hamilton, where with their starving families they tried to eke out a living by day labor or begging a wretched existence. Is it any wonder that a strong wave of indignation swept over Canada. The Quebec Times, after describing the scenes of how the mothers wrap the frozen remains of their dead infants in a few frozen rags, and with a Celtic wail of despair, consign them to a hole in the frozen earth, had this to say:

"The expulsion of these unfortunate creatures from their homes—the man-hunt with the policemen and bailiffs—the violent separation of families—the parents torn from the child, the mother from her daughter—the infamous trickery practiced on those who did embark—the abandonment of the aged, the infirm women and tender children in a foreign land—form a tableaux which cannot be dwelt on for an instant without horror. Words cannot depict the atrocity of the deed. For cruelty less savage, the dealers of the South have been held to the execration of the world."

The year 1851 saw every crofter in Barra evicted and everything they possessed confiscated.—"Our Noble Families," by Thomas Johnstone.

Unless we in Canada are prepared to free the land, what guarantee have we that the generation yet unborn in Canada may not be subjected to treatment like this from a privileged class?

THE SOLDIERS AND THE SOCIALISTS.

A Prediction Based Upon Analysis.

At present the aims and activities of no two classes of people seem wider apart than those of the Soldiers and the Socialists. One class is for conscription—the other against. One is for war—the other against. One holds peaceful meetings to denounce capitalism—the other breaks up the meetings and attacks the Socialists.

It is not "legal" for the soldiers to break up socialist meetings. But the capitalists and their newspapers applaud when this is done. The capitalists do not desire the socialists to get a hearing, because the socialists point out that wars are for the rich; that the soldiers are dying for their benefit, for the sake of their trade; that the capitalists are exploiting the workers, praising them when they become soldiers, but using them for selfish commercial purposes.

The soldiers come chiefly from the working classes. So long as the newspapers can incite the soldiers to oppose the socialists, so long will they keep Canadian workmen from uniting to put an end to the exploitation and deception of the present time.

First, the workers build up a great economic system. Then, when the capitalists in different countries go to war for economic supremacy, they appeal to the workers to fight their battles. They say it is a war of defence, of liberty, of justice; and many believe these things and go to fight against other workers who were fooled in the same way. In most countries it is now too hard to fool enough workers, so the governments use conscription to make them go.

The governments are really executives which look after the interests of the bankers and manufacturers—the capitalists in general. The governments never treat the workers fairly. And the governments never treat the soldiers fairly. The Canadian Government is much the same as other governments.

The socialists are showing how the workers are kept in wage slavery to the rich. The soldiers who were workers before they enlisted understand the conditions the socialists point out. After the war the soldiers will have to go back to the same or worse conditions, unless the socialists can change them.

Suppose the Allies have defeated

Germany and the war is over. The men who come back will have to go into the factories and mines to work for other people, just as before the war. Those who are soldiers now will have to become the wage slaves of the big Canadian capitalists.

The soldiers are not gaining any real freedom even for themselves if while they are fighting against other soldiers the rich people at home are left ready in a position to exploit them when they come back.

Many of the returned soldiers are already dissatisfied with the treatment they have received from the authorities, and to protect their interests they have formed associations. The men are beginning to see through much of the cheap praise they are getting from the newspapers.

The papers are practically all for the soldiers, but they are for the capitalists, too. They will not be for the soldiers all the time, but only so long as they are serving the capitalists. As soon as peace transforms the uniformed man back into an ordinary employee his interests will be lost sight of or subordinated to those of the rich.

Before there can be complete freedom all the working people must unite to wrest it from their capitalist governments. Those who are soldiers now will help in this. They cannot afford not to help. To win a war against a foreign government means very little so long as your own government belongs to those who exploit you.

Many of the soldiers understand this now. But the wealthy people who control Canadian affairs do not want the soldiers to see this. They want to have the soldiers set against the socialists so that the capitalists can "put it over" both sections of the working class.

In many countries, notably in Russia, the workman and soldiers realize that they should be united against their economic masters. And the message of socialism will soon reach the minds and hearts of the soldiers in Canadian cities—it will spread amongst them.

Thousands of soldiers will say: "We have won a war for the capitalists—now let us win in a struggle for ourselves." The soldiers and socialists will stand absolutely united against their common exploiters.

The Canadian capitalists will not like that; the big and little capitalist newspapers will not like that. But that is what is going to happen.

Mervyn Smith.

POLICE FOR 'OPPRESSION.'

An Emanation of the Prussian Spirit.

We beg to draw Forward readers' attention to the following excerpts in order that they may fully appreciate the "Wondrous Liberty" they will incidentally be fighting for in the event of conscription being placed upon the Statute Book by the imperious political jobbers and anti-Democrats in Ottawa.

Board of Control,
Toronto, June 26, 1917.

Mr. I. Bainbridge,
363 Spadina Ave., Toronto.

Dear Sir,—I beg to forward herewith an extract from the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Control, held on June 26th, as follows:

A communication was read from Mr. I. Bainbridge, Secretary of the Anti-Conscription League, advising that he is instructed by the League to request permission to hold a meeting in the north end of Queen's Park, or any other convenient location that may be prescribed by the Mayor, the subject of such meeting to be "The proposed compulsory military service measures of the Borden administration."

Ordered: That Mr. Bainbridge be advised that the Board are of opinion

(Continued on Page 8).

MARX CRITICISM

Of the Proposed Gotha Platform of 1875

Reprint From Weekly People.

(Continued from last issue.)

4. The emancipation of work (Befreiung der Arbeit) must be the work of the working class, opposed to which all other classes are only one reactionary mass.

The first part of the sentence is taken from the introductory words of the statutes of the International, only it is "improved." In those statutes it is stated: "The emancipation of the working class must be the work of the workingmen themselves." Here, on the contrary, "the working class" has to emancipate—what? "The work." Comprehend who can.

As recompense for such a statement there is inserted the counter statement, a Lassallean citation of purest water: "Opposed to which (the working class) all other classes form only one reactionary mass."

The Communist Manifesto declares: "Of all the classes that stand face to face with the bourgeoisie to-day, the proletariat alone is really a revolutionary class. The other classes decay and finally disappear in the face of modern industry; the proletariat is its special and essential product."

The bourgeoisie is here conceived as a revolutionary class, as the bearer of large industry, in contradistinction to the feudal and the intermediate strata, who would retain all social privileges and who are the reflex of the outgrown methods of production. Therefore, they do not, together with the bourgeoisie, form only one reactionary mass.

On the other hand, the proletariat is revolutionary as against the bourgeoisie, because it, rising upon the foundation of large industry, seeks to remove the capitalist character from production, which the bourgeoisie in turn seeks to perpetuate. But the Manifesto adds that the "lower middle class . . . become revolutionary only in view of their impending transfer into the proletariat."

From this standpoint it is therefore again nonsense to say that they, together with the bourgeoisie, and on top of that the feudal class, "form only one reactionary mass" as opposed to the working class.

Did we at the last elections shout at the artisans, the small manufacturers, etc., and the peasants: "Over as against us you together with the bourgeoisie and the feudal lords form only one reactionary mass?"

Lassalle knew the Communist Manifesto by heart, as his faithful followers knew his writings, which were to bring salvation. If he therefore grossly falsified the Manifesto, that happened only that he might gloss over his alliance with the absolutist and feudal opponents as against the bourgeoisie.

In addition to that, his philosophical dictum is now dragged in by the hair in the above paragraph without the least connection with the garbled citation from the statutes of the International. It is therefore simply a piece of impertinence, and not at all displeasing to Bismarck—one of those cheap crudities, in which the Marat of Berlin indulges.

The working class strives for its emancipation next of all within the confines of the present-day national State, conscious that the necessary result of its efforts—which is common to the workingmen of all civilized countries—will be the international fraternization of peoples."

Lassalle, contrary to the Communist Manifesto and to all earlier Socialism, regarded the labor movement from the narrowest national standpoint. He

is being followed up in that respect, and this after the activity of the International!

It is self-evident that the working class, in order to be able to fight at all, must organize itself at home as a class, and that the home country is the immediate scene of action of its struggle. In so far as class struggle is, not in essence, but as the Communist Manifesto states, "in form," national. But the "confines of the present-day national State,"—for instance, those of the German Empire—are again, economically, "within the confines" of the State system. The first worthy merchant knows that German trade is at the same time foreign trade, and the greatness of Herr Bismarck consists also, of course, in a kind of international politics.

And to what does the German Labor Party reduce its internationalism? To the consciousness that the result of its endeavors will be "the international fraternization of peoples"—a phrase borrowed from the bourgeoisie league of peace and freedom, which is supposed to pass as an equivalent for the internationalization fraternization of the working classes in their common struggle against the ruling classes and their government. Of the international functions of the German working class not a word is said! And thus the working class is to oppose its own bourgeoisie which, with the bourgeoisie of all other countries and Bismarck's policy of international conspiracy, is leagued against it.

As a matter of fact that avowal of internationalism in the program is immeasurably below that contained in the party of free trade. This latter party also claims that the outcome of its efforts is the "international fraternization of peoples." But that party also does something in order to make commerce international, and in no way rests satisfied with the consciousness—that all peoples carry on trade among themselves at home.

The international activity of the working classes in no wise depends upon the existence of the "International Association of Workingmen." This latter was only the first attempt to furnish a central body for that activity; an attempt which, because of the impulse given, was of a lasting character, but which, in its first historical form, was no longer fulfillable after the fall of the Paris Commune.

Bismarck's "North German" paper was entirely in the right when it, to the satisfaction of its master, stated that the German Labor Party in its new program abjured internationalism.

II.

Starting from these principles, the German Labor Party aims with all lawful means to establish the free State—and—Socialist society; the abolition of the wage system with the iron law of wages—and—of exploitation in every form; the removing of all social and political inequality.

Of the "free" State I shall speak later.

So the German Labor Party must henceforth believe in Lassalle's "iron law of wages"! And in order that it may not be passed over unnoticed, you commit the absurdity to speak of the "abolition of the wage system" (it should read: "system of wage-labor") with the "iron law of wages." If I abolish wage-labor, I, of course, abolish also its laws, be they made of iron or of sponge. But Lassalle's warfare against wage-labor turns almost entirely around this so-called law. Hence, in order to prove the Lassallean sect has triumphed, the "wage-system"

must be abolished "with the iron law of wages," and not without it.

It is well known that of the "iron law of wages" nothing belongs to Lassalle but the word "iron," borrowed from Goethe's "eternal, iron, great laws." The word iron is the shibboleth by which the faithful recognize one another. But if I take the law with Lassalle's label, and therefore in his sense, I must also take it with his demonstration. And what is this? As Lange showed, shortly after Lassalle's death, it is the Malthusian theory of population (preached by Lange himself). But if this theory is correct, then I cannot abolish the law, even if I abolish wage-labor a hundred times, since in that case the law controls not only the system of wage-labor, but every social system whatsoever. Relying on this very law the economists have proven that the past fifty years and more that Socialism cannot abolish nature-imposed misery, but can only generalize it, distribute it simultaneously over the whole body of society!

But all this is not the main thing. Disregarding entirely the false Lassallean conception of the law, the truly revolting retrogression consists in this:

Since Lassalle's death the scientific knowledge has made way in our party that wages are not what they seem, namely, the value or price of labor, but only a disguised form for the value or price of labor-power. Thereby the whole capitalist theory of wages, hitherto prevailing, together with all the criticism hitherto directed against it, was once and for all overthrown, and the fact clearly established that the laborer is only permitted to work for his living, i.e., to live, so long as he works a certain time gratis for the capitalist (hence also for those who share the surplus-value with the latter); that the pivot around which the entire capitalist system of production turns, is to increase this unpaid labor either by lengthening the working day, or by developing the productive powers of labor, or by straining the laborer to more intense exertion, etc., etc.; that, therefore, the system of wage-labor is a system of slavery, and indeed slavery, which, moreover, grows harder in proportion to the productive powers of labor are developed in society, no matter whether the laborer's pay is better or worse. And now after this conception has become more and more accepted in our party, you turn back to the dogmas of Lassalle, although you must know that Lassalle did not know what wages were, but, following the capitalist economists, he took the appearance for the essence.

It is just as if among slaves who had at last penetrated the mystery of slavery, and had risen in rebellion, a slave, imbued with superannuated notions, inscribed on the program of the rebellion: "Slavery must be abolished, because under the system of slavery the slaves' food can never exceed a certain low maximum."

It is not the mere fact that the representatives of our party were capable of committing such a monstrous outrage against the correct understanding prevailing among the rank and file of the party, enough to show with what frivolity . . . they went at the drawing up this compromise program!

Instead of the vague phrase at the conclusion of the paragraph: "to remove all social and political inequality," it should have been said that with the abolition of class distinctions all social and political inequality springing from them will disappear of its own accord.

III.

The German Labor Party, in order to pave the way for the solution of the Social Question, demands the establishment of productive co-operative associations with State aid, under the democratic control of the

working population. The productive co-operative associations are to be called into existence in such proportions in industry and agriculture that from them will arise the Socialist organization of the totality of production.

After the Lassallean "iron law of wages" there follows the cure-all of the prophet. The path thereto is being broken in a worthy manner. In place of the existing class struggle a newspaper scribes phrase steps up: "The Social Question," toward the solution of which the path is being broken. Instead of arising from the revolutionary transforming processes of society, the "Socialist organization of the totality of production" arises from "the State aid" which the State gives to the productive co-operatives, and which it, not the worker, "calls into being." This is really worthy of the imagination of Lassalle, that one can build a new society with the aid of State loans as easily as one can build a new railroad.

For . . . shame's sake the "State aid" is placed—under the democratic control of the "working population."

First of all, "the working population" in Germany consists, in its majority, of peasants, and not of proletarians. Secondly, "democratic" in German means "rule of the people." But what is the meaning of "the popular control of the working population"? And this with a working population which, in making such demands upon the State, expresses its complete consciousness that it neither rules nor is ripe for rulership!

It is superfluous to enter upon a criticism here of the "prescription" written by Buchez, under Louis Philippe, in opposition to the French Socialists, and accepted by the reactionary workingmen of the "ateliers." Nor does the chief offense lie in the fact that the specific panacea was written into the program, but rather in that the standpoint of the class movement is abandoned and one goes back to that of a sectarian movement.

That the workingmen desire to create the conditions of co-operative production upon a social scale, and first of all, among themselves, upon a national scale, means only that they are working upon the transformation of the present conditions of production, and has nothing in common with the creation of co-operative societies by means of State aid. But so far as the present co-operative societies are concerned, they have value only in so far as they are independent creations of workingmen, fostered neither by governments nor by the bourgeoisie.

(To be continued.)

...PARTY ANNOUNCEMENTS...

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meets on the First Wednesday in each month, at 8 p.m., at Mrs. A. Martin's, 10528 98th Street, Edmonton, Alta.

Riverdale Local No. 87 (Toronto) meets at 82 Wroxeter Ave. (off Pape) every second and fourth Friday of the month, at 8 p.m. Everybody welcome. Address enquiries and communications to the Secretary, Charles M. Thompson, care 82 Wroxeter Ave., Toronto. (1)

The Dominion executive committee meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 363 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, secretary, I. Bainbridge.

The Ontario provincial executive committee meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at 363 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, secretary, I. Bainbridge.

Locals and Executive Bodies may have their Advt. in the Directory for the sum of \$3.00 per year.

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.

No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

All contributions intended for insertion, to be addressed to the address given below, and must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication.

Subscriptions (post free)—

Single copies, 5 cents; three months, 25 cents; six months, 50 cents; in clubs of six, \$2.50; twelve months, \$1.00; in clubs of six, \$5.00; United States, Great Britain and other countries, \$1.50 a year.

Advertising Rates—

Advertising in this paper is charged for at one standard rate, viz.: 8 cents peragate line (\$1.12 an inch). For rates on contract and agency commission, application should be made to the Business Manager. Locals and Executives desirous of advertising meetings are given a special rate.

Correspondence—

All correspondence should be addressed to Business Manager, or I. BAINBRIDGE, Dominion Secretary, The Forward Press, 361 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Canada.

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If laws are to be changed, then the people must do the changing.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.



"CONSCRIPTION OF MAN-POWER" NOT CONTINGENT UPON "CONSCRIPTION OF WEALTH."

Conscription of Man-Power cannot logically be made contingent upon conscription of material resources. There can be no true analogy between human life and the inanimate products of its own creation.

To take the affirmative is to barter a man's soul for something of considerably less value than itself. "What shall it profit a man if he gain the world and lose his soul," (his life).

No Equivalent Exchange Between the Laborer and His Inanimate Products.

To assume that there is an equivalent exchange value between inanimate things and the life of the human specie, serves only as a demonstration of mental depravity, and enslavement to a tradition that has long been out of harmony with the qualities that make for intelligent human association. **The Capitalist State and Wage-Worker.**

What then is the relative position of the worker to the present State?

The State, as we know it, is the State of "Wage Slavery," in which the producer is subordinate to the non-producer. It is not his State, but his masters, consequently he has no moral or material obligation in its maintenance. It makes little difference who owns it—or rules it, so long as the workers upon whom it depends do not. So long as this continues the relative position of such workers must inevitably remain antagonistic to the present order of things.

Morals Reflected From the Ownership of Property.

There is much to be said for conscription of wealth, on the ground that all moral qualities rest in the last analysis upon an economic foundation. And accepting the thesis that to him who owns, rests the moral responsi-

bility of the preservation of that ownership, even then conscription of the material resources of the country are not compatible with the conscription of the laborer.

A Conscription Fallacy, Not Rent, Interest, Profit.

This is based upon a popular misconception as to what conscription of wealth is, and implies. The passage of such an act does not imply the conscription of Rent, Interest, and Profit, the cause of our present social unrest. No; this can probably better be carried on with the suggested measure than without, in so far as it would centralize profit in Government by the same body of profiteers who exert such a baneful influence at the present time, and we have not the slightest doubt that it could be done more efficiently, and at less cost than under present conditions.

Government Ownership Based Upon Class Interests.

It has yet to be proven that the employees of the Government in the Post Office, or under the Hydro Electric Commission receive the full social value of their labor power. True, they may be relatively better off than their brothers in private or corporate owned industries, but the fact remains that they are being exploited by the Government; and those who receive the greatest benefit are the people who use these utilities most in getting cheap service, not the general public.

The conscription of wealth is necessary to the capitalist state, and only presages the coming of "Social Democracy"; not the arrival—but the means to that end. In the last analysis the effects of wealth conscription will be gauged, only by the degree of control exerted by the workers upon the administration of those things coming under State control. The benefits that would accrue to labor with the conscription of wealth under the Borden-Laurier administration would be similar to the soup kitchen philanthropy practiced by so many charlatans and social humbugs.

Conscription for Slaves, Not Free Men.

It might be inferred from my reference to moral responsibility (re ownership and conscription as presaging

the coming Social Democracy) that it is a contradiction to my preliminary thesis "There can be no true analogy between human life and its inanimate products." This is not so, however, for with my economic foundation theory is implied a great deal more than conscription of wealth. It implies the social ownership of wealth, the abolition of rent, etc.

With this an accomplished fact conscription of man-power dies a natural death. The venue of this war, and its design in the master mind ceases to exist. Once you destroy the incentive to steal, or to preserve stolen property, the continuation of this struggle would be the depth of criminal folly.

And for possible future wars (admitting the possibility) conscription of man-power would not be necessary; the people would respond spontaneously; they would rise to defend their glorious heritage without coercion or threats. Many do voluntary fight today for interests not their own. Under Socialism all will have equal rights and obligations, consequently all would stand in defence of those material conditions which guarantee the liberty of all, and the slavery of none.

Usurpers.

The Government has no mandate from the people for either the conscription of man-power or wealth. They are guilty of gross perfidy. They are despots—not representatives. Democratic government is government by the people for the people. Now is the time to lay the foundation of a true democracy.

A REPLY TO MR. DOUGLAS

(Continued from page Two)

complete the full-dress suit of fulsome-ness. The other parades in technical terms sealed by the stamp of assumed authority and is very religiously inclined to "joint stock company ethics." Both are concepts of the grossest selfishness, cultivated to a fine art. Both are intangible, yet the immaculate potency of each is as vast as ignorance with the great majority of toilers, and the callous arrogance of the educated, because they are the privileged minority. Hence, the need to analyze every phase of our established institutions; but I don't see how that can be done even with the use of plain English without logic.

May I ask, is capital really a manufactured article, and does it wear out? It is not a manufactured article. "Capital" is an historically produced "product of production," and by mere assumption enters into all forms of commodity values, and yet, this assumed immaculate potency is absolute impotency in all its concrete embodiments apart from the magic touch of intelligently applied "labor power." This ghostly omnipresence has no existence apart from applied "labor power." We may look through the eye of popular political economy and see this historically produced "product of production" called "capital," in its immaculate function, incarnating discarnating all concrete, yet unlike forms of exchange values, which are created by socialized labor based on social necessity. But the sum total of capital, much less the sum total of wealth that embodies the virtue of labor done, is indeed a small per cent. compared with even the sum total of capital and wealth assumed to exist, and the much doubted fact is, that all beyond the above-mentioned per cent. is deceit, fraud, and slavery, scientifically applied.

Owners of capital are not essential to the common weal. A socialized faith based on the necessities of social life is simple and understandable and could discharge every obligation to labor socially necessary. But this faith equity hoped for, for labor done, has nothing in common with Capitalism. Obviously the atonement as-

sumed in the private ownership of capital embodies all essentials to manufacture slaves. The ownership of wealth, that is, credit for labor done, would never get lost or wear out in the manifold and multiforms of exchange values, and would automatically adjust themselves if shorn of the privilege to assume a personality and dictate the mode of production.

In conclusion, I would ask what economy can be found in talking about the eternal values of land, which, apart from labor power, has no meaning. Capital applied in selling "fire water" to the Redmen for skins in the early colonial days, is no doubt, very active in Canadian finance to-day, but where are the pelts?—perished. Mr. Douglas knows that the history of finance proves the phoenix-like expansion of capital, that is, selfish desire plus authority with materially increased liabilities of the banks to the public. And there is no gain-saying the fact that the financial machine of this capitalistic system had reached the precipice of self-destruction in 1913, and then (oh hell) the vicarious sacrifice of useful life and labor, for the vicarious ownership of capital staggering in drunkenness with the success of its own audacity—to wake up. I hope the common-weal. Even now, all capitalist institutions are flourishing, while labor is being cheated and done to death. So let us call a halt. Let useful necessary labor speak—it will remove competition and conflict, over what ownership of the earth and capital (want) but do not need.

"Thus saith a voice from the fog."

THE STOLEN GOD.

By Gerald J. Lively, Islay, Alta.
They took him and clothed him in purple and gold,
Setting him high on a throne.
Deck't him with jewels, and gave him a sword
And called him a god of their own.
Then they wrapped him around with fable and myth,
With magic and mystery;
Gave him a cross that was jewels and gold—
They knew not the rough wooden tree.
They fashioned a god who would do as they bid,
Set him on high to obey.
When they wished peace he was high prince of peace.
War—and their god echoed slay.
Then brought they the image to where I was bound,
Fettered—a slave—to the sod,
Bidding me worship the thing they had made,
My masters' most dutiful god.
But, oh, I grew sick of the purple and gold,
Sick of a symbol and name,
For though they have taken the sign of my woe
They left me with all of its shame.
And oh I grew tired of the cold god they brought,
Tired of the promise to save,
When I saw through the trapping of lies and old time
The form of a Crucified Slave.
The night of the Pit settled down on my soul
Blotting the light from the day,
For I saw they had murdered a promise of life,
And stolen a Saviour away.
But whispers came down from the Greater Outside,
Sang through the gratings and bars,
Filling my soul with the Doubt of the gods,
Hunger, and Hope, and the Stars.

PRUSSIANISM IN UNITED STATES.

Street meetings broken up. Speech suppressed. Man thrown into prison and refused bail. American Socialist, Appeal to Reason, and other advocates of the truth suppressed.
This is "D. Mockracy," as she is spoke in Uncle Sam's domain.

ITEMS OF NEWS FROM ALL PARTS

MIGHT TAKE MEXICO TO SECURE HER OIL.

Astonishing Suggestion Made to a Senate Committee in Washington.

(From The Toronto Globe.)

Washington, June 24.—"Don't you think that if the United States needed oil from Mexico in this war we'd get it, even if we had to take Mexico to do it?" abruptly asked Commander James O. Richardson, oil expert of the navy, at a hearing yesterday before the Senate Public Lands Committee on pending legislation to authorize Government control of the country's oil facilities and for fixing oil prices for war uses.

Commander Richardson had expressed positive ideas on the urgency of developing all the oil resources of the country for war requirements. He added that the country ought not to overlook the oil supply in Mexico.

Senator Kellogg wanted to know if the country would be able to depend on Mexico for oil.

"Does anyone believe that if it depended on getting oil from Mexico we would not get it?" returned Commander Richardson.

"Well, I don't know," replied Senator Kellogg. "I understand there's been some doubt about that, owing to the machinations of the Germans."

"In Mexico there are wells we can get control of that will produce 1,000,000 barrels of oil a day," replied Commander Richardson. "All we need do is protect the wells and pump the oil out."

"Yes, but there are difficulties in the way of that," answered Senator Kellogg. "I understand for one thing, that there are no pipes, and under the circumstances it would be extremely difficult to lay them."

"We could lay them under protection, just as we could operate the oil wells," persisted Commander Richardson.

"But the oil interests will not invest in Mexico, owing to the uncertainty of things down there," suggested Senator Walsh. "They are threatened by the Mexican Government with confiscation of their oil fields."

UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA.

(Official Circular No. 9.)

The realization that something is fundamentally wrong with our social institutions is growing stronger every day. People are searching diligently for a philosopher who will guide them in the solutions of the problems confronting them. They are saying "Lo: here is the great leader," or "Lo: there he is." Carl Marx has a host of followers; Henry George perhaps has more. Jesus has great multitudes of followers who believe in Him as the true Teacher of Individualism, but those who believe He is all sufficient to solve all the great problems of a confused and perplexed civilization are few; fortunately this number is growing larger daily.

These problems can never be solved by individualism alone. Their solution must be forced by the co-operative strength of mobilization.

SUPPRESS ST. LOUIS LABOR FOR QUOTING THE CONSTITUTION.

By William M. Brandt, Secretary St. Louis Socialist Party.

"St. Louis Labor," our weekly, this week suppressed and confiscated by postmaster because of article containing quotation from constitution of our country on right of people to petition Government for redress of grievances. Future issues will not go to the post office.

American Socialist.

WHY HON. MR. OLIVER OPPOSES THE BILL.

(From The Toronto Globe.)

Hamilton, June 24.—Hon. Frank Oliver, in a letter to the Great War Veterans' Association, sent in response to a resolution in favor of conscription passed by the association and forwarded to him, says in part:

"If I believed that the military service bill was framed for or intended for the purpose of reinforcing the Canadian lines in France, I would support it.

"I do not read in its terms, nor do I conclude from the record of the Government, that in introducing it this is its purpose. If the purpose of the bill were to equalize the burden of necessary military service upon all sections of the country, and all citizens in those sections, it would say so. That was the fundamental principle of the militia act, and is the foundation principle of the conscription bill of the United States.

"The militia service bill makes express provisions against the principle of equality of service, and the arguments put forward in its support indicate that it is not intended to reinforce the firing line so much as to reinforce the munitions plants or other establishments of private profits.

"I am for the conscription of manpower for military service; I am against the conscription of manpower for industrial service for private profits, which is, I understand, the principle purpose of the bill."

EDITOR OF "THE WORKERS WORD" CHARGED WITH SEDITION.

John Stefaneky, editor of a Toronto Ukrainian paper, has been served with a summons to appear before Judge Kingsford on July 16, 1917, on a charge of sedition.

It is advisable to take time by the forelock, and without specifying the ground upon which the charge is based, we take the opportunity of informing all comrades and sympathizers that a defence fund has been opened. Make all remittances payable to:

I BAINBRIDGE,
363 Spadina Ave.,
Toronto.

MAY INCLUDE N. E. C. IN GRAND RAPIDS INDICTMENT.

According to information received from Grand Rapids, Mich., there will be no hearing Monday, June 25th on the demurrer to the indictment brought against Adolph Germer, national secretary of the Socialist Party, and 12 others. It is understood also that there will be no trial on this indictment.

Instead it is declared the Grand Jury will be recalled to amend the indictment, with the possibility that new parties may be included. Whether this means that the national executive committee of the party is also to be indicted cannot be learned.

A BIG DAY IN TORONTO.

Great Success Attends the Picnic.

The picnic arranged by the Toronto Central Committee for Dominion Day was a huge success; the weather, the location, and all things together conspired for our benefit.

Over a thousand of our comrades of all sections gathered in High Park and passed a hearty day fraternizing, playing games and getting generally to know one another.

The finances, we are told, will show a very healthy state, somewhere in the neighborhood of \$50 being turned into the Central Committee funds as a result of the day's activities.

The success of Dominion Day picnic gives us great encouragement to go ahead with the arrangements for the International outing to Grimsby Beach on the 14th inst., when we expect to have at least as many Toronto comrades, and we hope to see a large representation from our locals throughout Ontario.

If you haven't got your tickets by this time, hurry up and get them as the boat accommodation is limited. See that your delegate has the tickets at your local meeting, and be sure to be there yourself.

MILITARISM THE FOE OF WOMEN'S PROGRESS.

It is the spirit of militarism, the glorification of brute force, and this alone, that has kept woman in political, legal and economic bondage throughout the ages; and there is still enough of it remaining in our enlightened twentieth century to make the idea of woman's participation in public office and public life a thing to be scoffed at by the majority, ridiculed and opposed.

It was not any manifestation of superiority of the masculine mind that first threw the chains of political serfdom around one half of humanity; it was merely the fact that in the dark ages of the world's history brute force—that is, militarism in one or another form—reigned supreme. When brute force was lord, woman with her differently constituted muscular development was considered an inferior being simply because she did not bear arms.

What is it that has made the American woman the admiration of all civilized nations, the envy of her sisters elsewhere? She was not sent down fresh from heaven in her present state, nor did she spring full grown from the head of Jove. She was the daughter of mothers born in the military-ridden states of Europe. But now she is the product of several generations of freedom from the military idea. This, and this alone, has given her a measure of freedom beyond that attained by women anywhere else.

Let American women think seriously on this matter of war and peace, on this question of imperialism and militarism. If our nation should by any unfortunate but highly improbable combination of circumstances take her place amid the army-ridden world powers, it would mean much more to the American woman than a succession of wars that would bereave her of her loved ones, or send them back to her crippled or afflicted with loathsome disease. It would mean for American woman as a sex the loss of much she has gained by her happier circumstances of the past two centuries, and it would place the goal of perfect political and legal equality she still desires far, far out of reach.

GRACE ISABEL COLBRON.

WHAT IS WAR?

Is Christianity a Dream?

(Ontario Reader, Fourth Book.)

What is war? I believe that half the people that talk about war have not the slightest idea what it is. In a short sentence it may be summed up to be the combination and concentration of all the horrors, atrocities, crimes, and sufferings of which human nature on this globe is capable.

If you go into war now, you will have more banners to decorate your cathedrals and churches. Englishmen will fight now as well as they ever did; and there is ample power to back them if the country can be but sufficiently excited and deluded. You may raise up great generals. You may have another Wellington, and another Nelson, too; for this country can grow men capable of every enterprise. Then there may be titles, and pensions, and marble monuments to eternalize the men who have thus become great;—but

what becomes of you, and your country, and your children?

You profess to be a Christian nation. You make it your boast even—though boasting is somewhat out of place in such questions—you make it your boast that you are a Christian people, and that you draw your rule of doctrine and practice, as from a well pure and undefiled, from the lively oracles of God, and from the direct revelation of the Omnipotent. You have even conceived the magnificent project of illuminating the whole earth, even to its remotest and darkest recesses, by the dissemination of the volume of the New Testament, in whose every page are written for ever the words of peace. Within the limits of this island alone, every Sabbath-day, twenty thousand, yes, far more than twenty thousand temples are thrown open, in which devout men and women assemble to worship Him who is the "Prince of Peace."

Is this a reality? or is your Christianity a romance, and your profession a dream? No; I am sure that your Christianity is not a romance, and I am equally sure that your profession is not a dream. It is because I believe this that I appeal to you with confidence, and that I have hope and faith in the future. I believe that we shall see, and at no very distant time, sound economic principles spreading much more widely amongst the people; a sense of justice growing up in a soil which hitherto has been deemed unfruitful; and—which will be better than all—the churches of the United Kingdom, the churches of Britain, awakening as it were from their slumbers, and girding up their loins to more glorious work, when they shall not only accept and believe in the prophecy, but labor earnestly for its fulfilment, that there shall come a time—a blessed time—a time which shall last for ever—when "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

JOHN BRIGHT.

SOUTH WELLINGTON MINERS STILL ACTIVE.

Nanaimo Coal Company's Philanthropy Gets a Sever Jolt.

(By Walter Head)

South Wellington, V. I., June 19.—The aggregation of socialists, anarchists, pro-Germ-huns and general no-goods, locally known as Local 872, U. M. W. of A., met again on Sunday, June 17, at that salubrious health resort known as South Wellington, and transacted business left over from last week. The reason for giving the above high-sounding titles is to save some of our friends of the daily capitalist press from hunting up their dictionaries to find epithets to hurl at us.

B. C. F. of L. Referendum.

The next order of business was the B. C. F. of L. referendum on the "down tools" proposition, and a great deal of discussion took place dealing with the question; also of the absence from the meeting of so many of the younger members. It is sad to relate, but large numbers of the younger men, who will be first affected by conscription, were conspicuous by their absence. The meeting was well attended by the older men, many of whom are unlikely to be affected by conscription, and yet they were all, with one exception, opposed to the inauguration of Prussian militarism in Canada.

Mass-Meeting at Nanaimo.

During the discussion, an invitation to attend an anti-conscription meeting in Nanaimo was read. The young bloods came in for a certain amount of condemnation, but we must remember that this is the time when the young man's thoughts lightly turn to love, and other contagious diseases. It

(Continued on Page 7).

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THE INTERNATIONAL

THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN BOHEMIA.

(Slav Press Bureau.)

New York City—According to the London Economist, an account has reached the Paris Temps from Prague by way of Zurich which represents the suffering in the Bohemian capital as very grave indeed. The brewing industry in Bohemia and Moravia had an annual output before the war of 14,000,000 hectoliters; now it has practically ceased to exist. The textile industries are at a standstill for lack of material; clothing is unobtainable; so is leather, and boots which cost 20 kronen (\$4.08) three years ago have now advanced in price five or sixfold. In some Bohemian towns there are twice as many deaths as births; half of them are from tuberculosis—intensified, no doubt, by the lack of fuel, fats, and nourishing food. Coal is very scarce, and lighting is reduced to the barest minimum.

The Russian revolution was the outcome of a food famine, and in Bohemia the famine is even worse. The governing classes in Vienna are therefore apprehensive either of a revolution or of a national collapse. During the first half of April, twenty new annual contingents of recruits were called up—the product of the fourth revision of lists of men available for service—and a statement was published (on the authority of the Minister of Public Works) that unless their advent enabled Austria-Hungary to strike a speedy and decisive blow against her enemies, a separate peace is unavoidable.

Meanwhile, attempts are being made to propitiate the Czechs by the suggestion that the Emperor may be crowned at Prague—which would mean the revival of the ancient kingdom of Bohemia, and the establishment of that "Trialism" which was so nearly achieved in 1871. But the Czechs are unresponsive and have refused to make a declaration of loyalty to the Crown—partly because the overtures to them have been accompanied by preparation for another political trial, this time of fourteen Czech political leaders, of whom one is a woman. Czech feeling has been further exasperated by the death of two released political prisoners, which is ascribed to their sufferings in prison. Throughout the war the treatment of the Czechs has been exceptionally severe, and they are now reaching the limit of their endurance.

ARE READY TO CLOSE MINES IN EVENT OF CONSCRIPTION.

Nanaimo Coal Miners Will Stand for Self Government in Canada.

Nanaimo, June 19.—At a mass meeting here Tuesday at which there were fully 600 present, about a hundred formed an anti-conscription league. Speakers were very outspoken against the conscription proposals from Ottawa. The meeting was unanimous against conscription and it was the consensus of opinion that should the Conscription Bill pass, workmen of the district would lay down their tools. And, as the daily press says, "This would mean labor troubles of a considerable magnitude, the effects of which would be widely felt."

Socialist Delegate to Duma and President of Russian Workmen's and Soldiers' Council.

(From the New York Tribune.)

There is no more powerful organization in Russia than the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Deputies. It is the only body that absolutely controls the confidence of the masses, and is the only stable Governmental insti-

tution produced by the revolution. The Petrograd council operates through an extensive network of local councils existing throughout the country and in the army. At the head of this gigantic system stands N. S. Tscheidze, Socialist Deputy of the Duma.

The London Daily Chronicle prints a sketch and an interview with this remarkable man, a Russian of Georgian extraction. He is a highly educated lawyer, pacifist, an internationalist, a passionate speaker and a democrat of democrats. Next to Kerensky, Tscheidze is the most popular leader in Russia. What he has to say about the aims of the new Russia will be read with especial interest, as the Allies and Russia have not yet come to an understanding on the "no annexations and no indemnities" policy. This policy was formulated by the Council of Workmen and Soldiers, of which Tscheidze is president. The Daily Chronicle writer proceeds as follows:

M. Tscheidze, in appearance, is our own John Burns in duodecimo. He challenges the whole world by the carriage of his head. He squares up to mankind, in general. He wears the same full mustache and clipped beard as the old Lion of Tower Hill. And he affects a double-breasted, blue serge coat, a turn-down collar, and a bow tie. Nature has done badly by him in the matter of inches, but his soul is as pugilistic as you could wish. He is rather Jewish in features, with an almost disconcerting directness of eye. His eyelids tend to draw back while he is devouring you with his stare. All his movements are quick and vigorous, and so also is his speech. There were times in our conversation when I thought he would never stop. While we talked together in one of the apartments of his workman's flat, in the next room his very beautiful daughter, who had opened the door to me, sang an old Russian love song, picking at the strings of a balalaika. It was an odd experience, coming out of a sleigh and a snowstorm, to hear economic theories to a subdued obligato of that eternal desire of the heart for tenderness which is like to survive all systems of government.

After courtesies, this brisk little gentleman, sitting sideways on an upright chair, with both hands clasped on the back of it, announced that while with all the will in the world he would answer any question about Russian Socialism which I cared to put to him, he would first of all be greatly obliged if I would allow him to address a few questions to me on a matter of very first rate importance. His question did not at that time seem to me of very first rate importance. I now realize how important they were—nay, how important they are still. Indeed, the future of our relations with democratic Russia may turn upon the answers which Britain makes by her policy to these questions of M. Tscheidze.

Briefly, his questions come to this: Is it not true that the war has destroyed English Liberalism? Is it not a fact that we have surrendered all those liberties for which we profess ourselves to be fighting? What has happened to our right of public meeting, our free speech, our liberty of the press, even to our right of trial by jury? In a word, has not this war forced us to abandon the democratic principle of government which has been Britain's glory for so many years and obliged us to adopt the Prussian system of a military dictatorship, which we denounce?

Very earnestly did I seek to persuade M. Tscheidze that there is all the difference in the world between democracy's deliberate choice of a certain curtailment of its liberties, in

its own general interests, and an absolutist system of government holding in its iron grip a nation which has never been free to decide under what form of government it will live.

He saw what I meant, but was not convinced.

His point was that Britain's action had acted as a check to the democratic movement all over the world; that it had tended to discredit the democratic principle, and that those men who were fighting for freedom in other nations felt themselves depressed by Britain's submission to a virtual dictatorship.

"Is it not true," he demanded, "that your soldiers decide what shall be printed and what not?"

"Only in the interests of our strategy," I replied, believing at the time that what I said was true.

"Is it not true," he demanded "that your soldiers decide what meetings should be held and what suppressed?"

I made a like answer. "Is it not true that your soldiers seize people and lock them up in prison without trial?"

I flatly denied this, not knowing at the time, that Miss Howston, for one, had been so treated—she has now been nineteen months in prison without legal advice and without a trial.

M. Tscheidze then held forth to me on the general question. War, he declared, is the most dangerous enemy of freedom. Rights are surrendered which may never be regained. The man of thought is displaced by the man of action. Reason gives way to force. The destinies of the human race are taken out of the hands of the thinker and intrusted to the soldier. With the soldier in power no one knows what may happen—no one is permitted even to discuss what ought to happen. The soldier thinks only in slaughter and destruction. He has no political instincts, no sense of statesmanship. His one business is to kill. He kills, and keeps on killing till there is nothing more to kill. It is not safe to trust the world to such a man. The thinkers must continue to think. Discussion must be free, so that truth may emerge.

Now this point of view is important. If we want to be friends with free Russia we must endeavor to understand it. It is a dangerous policy to dismiss the Russian Socialist as a dreamer, or to lament, as is done in some quarters here, that the people of Russia have fallen victims to the sentimental idealism of Tolstoy.

We must be very careful how we speak to these Russian Socialists. Do not let us in our natural annoyance say one word which will make the Russian Socialist think that we are Prussian-minded. He is likely to be the firmest ally in the future of all those who desire the lasting peace of the world. Let us at least try to perceive that it is a virtue in him that he should desire to achieve by conference that which others believe can be achieved only by slaughter. Rightly or wrongly (who shall say?) he trusts German democracy. He believes that the Germans themselves will destroy kaiserism. He is not, believe me, false to our ideals in this war. The trouble that he causes springs only from the fact that he hungers and thirsts with all the force of his idealism to get what we want by reason and not by force. We may think him wrong. But do not let us cease to admire him.

SASKATCHEWAN ELECTION RESULTS.

The Martin (Liberal) Government has again triumphed in Saskatchewan. Out of a house of 59 seats no less than 50 go to the Liberals. All the labor, independent and non-partisan league candidates fell by the wayside.

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

ITEMS OF NEWS

From All Parts

(Continued from Page 6).

would have been better had the men attended the meeting in full force, because if they will not attend to their own interests they will be forced into slavery, and love's young dream will be o'er. In other words, their names will be mud. The meeting was composed mostly of English-speaking men, a number of whom are classified under the classes above the sixth, according to the proposed conscription measure. The spirit of the meeting which represents the spirit of the whole community, was strongly opposed to conscription. However, the meeting decided that in order to prevent a false impression being sent out, it would be advisable to take a holiday on Tuesday, June 19, for the purpose of taking the vote on the "down tools" proposition. A small minority was in favor of taking the vote right away, but the majority thought that in view of the fact of there being an anti-conscription meeting on that day in Nanaimo, it would give every man an opportunity to attend that meeting.

B. C. Federationist.

PRESIDENT OF TRADES CONGRESS ISSUES A WARNING.

I consider it my duty to sound a note of warning to the organized workers not to permit themselves to be shackled with the chains of conscription. In the event of its being established, any effort on the part of the workers to ameliorate conditions can be frustrated by simply calling them to the colors and placing them under military discipline, when orders must be obeyed on pain of punishment meted out by courtmartial. The experience of the railway workers in France should be an object lesson in that regard. The appeal to sentiment and the specious arguments advanced require careful analysis and it is imperative that the future welfare and cherished interests of the members of organized labor be safeguarded by our refusing to be moved by emotion, convinced by sophistry or impressed by unsupported statements; that clear-seeing, calm reasoning and sound judgment be brought to bear in the solution of the problem with which we are confronted. It is imperative also that organized labor should be untouched by the wave of hysteria which is passing over the country if the power to reason is not to be destroyed.

J. C. Watters.

WHEN HE COMETH.

Jesus Christ came to Nampa, Idaho, the other day on a peace mission. Hooting jingoes spat and stamped upon him, finally driving him out of town.

He didn't come in person, of course. But his picture, on a huge banner, was carried into the midst of a mass meeting of jingoes. Beneath the picture was inscribed the words, "Thou Shalt Not Kill."

The standard-bearer was a daring Baptist minister, who received no protection from the Baptist minister who happened to be addressing the jingoes when his brother entered.

The banner bearer was driven into the street, the standard taken from him and knocked into the mud, while the more extreme among the jingoes took peculiar delight in stamping the likeness of the Saviour into the dirty ooze of the highway.

The local jingo organ reports gleefully that the peace-loving clergyman was driven out of town and at the hour of going to press had not returned. This same sheet denounces the carrying of this standard as being "Socialistic" and "seditious" and denounces the clergyman for hiding behind "a supposed religious belief."

Now He will know what to expect "When He Cometh."

TH, 1917.

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Page 7).

PEN PUNCHES BY THE LOCALS

Swan River, Man., June 25, 1917.
Dear Editor,—I enclose a year's subscription to the Forward. You are very brave; please go on. Who knows what may be done by true-hearted effort?
Yours in haste,

G. Richardson.

Vanguard, June 11, 1917.
Dear Editor,—Received copy of Forward and am glad to know that things are beginning to "Hum," at least your paper will make things hum. Best wishes for success.

Geo. Landry.
Windthorst, Sask., June 19, 1917.

How I Captured a Sub.

Dear Editor,—He was holding forth on the wisdom of the Government, who instead of putting all the burden on us for permanent improvements charged to capital account and so allowed posterity to assume their share. He got a "think" when I told him that in every so many years we were digging up the original in interest and the principal was still there. He is a brainy lawyer but he hadn't seen that point in the course of his education. Kindly let a little more light in his system and send me four sub cards for which I enclose \$5.00. Truly your,

W. E. Carey.

CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE IN VANGUARD PULVERIZED BY THE REDS.

Vanguard, June 20, 1917.

A conservative meeting was held in Vanguard on June 18th. The old party candidates are always very attentive to the wants of the people just before election. Mr. House, candidate on the conservative ticket for M.P.P. in this constituency, made excuse that he was no speaker, and introduced a Mr. Anderson who has been M.P.P. for four years. His address was confined to showing up the rottenness of the liberal party here in Sask. A number of Socialists were present and as the speaker asked anyone who desired to question him at any point in his address to do so, a number of the Reds took the opportunity of doing so.

When asked if he stood for freedom of speech and of the press, the speaker answered: Freedom of speech, yes; freedom of the press, no. Later on in his address he denied that he said he was not in favor of a free press, but he made the statement alright. When cornered on the point he remarked that there was no free press anyway, as they were all "bought up" and that one could not believe what he read in the papers. (Socialists will agree with him on this point.)

At one point in his address he said that he believed that any person who did not obey the law should go to jail. Previous to this, remark he had spent about 45 minutes telling about the corrupt laws, dishonesty, and political depravity of our present Government here in Saskatchewan.

One of the audience called his attention to some of his previous statements regarding the rotten laws and Government, which were no doubt true as he guaranteed to back all his statements, and said, Now, Mr. Speaker, these things being true, do you think a person should obey these bad laws which this corrupt Government has passed? The speaker answered that you don't have to obey them—to which the questioner replied: No; we can go to jail. He then tried to make it appear that it was the people's fault if we had bad laws and a bad Government, but he had already said that the Liberal Government took the ballot

boxes into the northern part of the Province, set them on muskrat houses, and stuffed them with fictitious names, brought them back to Regina and declared themselves elected. In this case I cannot see how the people have anything to do with who the Government shall consist of or what laws the Government makes, and yet our worthy speaker thinks one should obey the laws that these paragons of purity (as he called the Liberal Government) passes, or go to jail.

Later in the evening, when asked by one of the audience how the Conservative Government stood on conscription, he stamped his feet and gave him to understand that the Conservative Government would see to it that the slackers were taken care of in case they were in power.

One man asked to read an article from the "Forward." It was the one with a "Re-printed from 'The Financial Mail,'" showing that Big Biz understands this war to be a commercial war.

This so enraged the speaker that he shook his finger at the man and said: "You should be interned."

Several threats were made by a man who had two sons in the war that the Socialists who had questioned the speaker would be taken care of on the following morning. They are at present allowed to enjoy their freedom. I think the accusation that we had insulted the flag was the result of a vivid imagination.

F. G. Wetzel.

SECRETARIAL NOTES

The D. E. C. have, at the request of many comrades, decided to send out a referendum call for a Dominion Convention to be held in the latter part of the year, or early in the spring. The votes will be cast on individual ballots in order to get a fuller expression of opinion by our party members upon this important matter. A circular letter will be sent to all locals explaining in detail the circumstances and conditions that demand attention in this particular regard, and feel sure that the nature of the referendum will receive your earnest consideration.

ANTI-CONSCRIPTION LEAGUE.

Any person or organization desiring to assist the Anti-Conscription League in the campaign against the proposed measure, are requested to write I. Bainbridge, Dominion Secretary, 363 Spadina Ave., Toronto.

CANADIAN FREEDOM LEAGUE.

We have received a number of platforms of the above stated organization, and will make insertion in next issue. A nominal charge for membership is scheduled at 25c.

ESPERANTO.

The need for an easy method of intercommunication between the peoples of the various countries will be increased rather than lessened after the war. A number of Toronto comrades, believing that Esperanto offers such a means, intend to take up the study of this language in the fall, and any interested are requested to communicate with H. Perkins at the office of this paper, who will inform them of any arrangements which may be made.

INFORMATION WANTED

The address of Max Schaab, Rosen-

GREAT INTERNATIONAL
P I C - N I C

SATURDAY, JULY 14th, 1917

Grimsby Beach

All Ontario Locals are expected to be there in force. Special invitation to our Foreign Comrades.

Special arrangements have been made with shipping company.

Return Fare from Toronto, 75c.

burg, Man., would be of great assistance to the Dominion Secretary, as he wishes to convey important information.

Will A. E. Medley, of Harris, Sask., please communicate with the Dominion Secretary, as we have lost track of him, and communications sent to Harris, and Saskatoon have been returned.

BAINBRIDGE DEFENCE FUND.

J. Seigard, Bradenburg, Sask. \$ 1.00
J. Mariancz, Louke, Alta. 1.00
Previously acknowledged ... 279.35

\$281.35

NOTICE—This Defence Fund is now closed.

LOCALS RE-ORGANIZED.

South Porcupine, No. 32, is again in active working condition, with seven new members. W. J. Bates, Box 300, Timmins, Ont., Secretary.

Toronto No., 1 has also been re-organized with the assistance of Comrade Mance as organizer. This is greatly encouraging, as Local No. 1 was the first chartered local of the S.D.P. in Ontario. Many of the old members are joining up.

KITCHENER-GUELPH PICNIC.

The Guelph and Kitchener Socialists held their annual picnic on July 2, at Bridgeport, a village two miles from Kitchener. About 200 were present.

After the mid-day lunch the Kitchener Giants defeated the Guelph Reds in a baseball match, 16 to 4. No decision was reached in the tug-of-war because the Kitchener boys pulled so hard that the rope broke. After the races and contests a prize drawing was held. In addition to very valuable prizes, some of the Comrades held tickets for assorted articles. Cunningham received a tooth brush in preparation for his third set; Jim Smith, the famous barber, may have his hair restored with an article made in Kitchener; Quimbach can mind his ways with the aid of a Testament; M. Smith will be perpetually reminded of a blanketing incident in Guelph through the receipt of a miniature blanket; and Pope, who won a baby's bib, was made conscious of days that were and might again be.

The day's fun was brought to a close with games and a few short speeches.

Local No. 4, Kitchener, Ont., is experiencing phenomenal success in getting new members, having twenty-five to their credit during the last three months, thus heralding the dawn of consciousness in that locality.

Comrade F. G. Tipping has been delayed in commencing his organization tour of Manitoba and Saskatchewan on account of ill-health, but hopes are entertained that he will be in a fit condition in two weeks' time, or otherwise provide a substitute. Locals, write F. G. Tipping, 985 Cory-

don Ave., Winnipeg, for information and dates.

POLICE FORCE "OPPRESSION."

(Continued from Page 3)

that the law does not give His Worship the Mayor permission to authorize the holding of such a meeting as contemplated in the foregoing application. Your obedient servant,

W. A. Littlejohn,
City Clerk.

A Matter of Interpretation.

The legal difficulty in the way of holding meetings in the parks had apparently no application when the G.W.V.A. made a similar request which was granted by the said Board.

Chief Constable's Office,
Toronto.

Mr. I. Bainbridge,

Secretary Anti-Conscription League,
363 Spadina Ave., Toronto.
Re. proposed meeting in Queen's Park, June 30.

Sir,—Replying to your letter of the 25th inst., respecting the above, I would say that under present conditions, no permit to hold the meeting will be issued, and the Police will have instructions not to allow the meeting to be held in the parks or on the streets. Yours truly,

H. J. Grasset,
Chief Constable.

The reply of Chief Grasset is a forceful admission of authority, and in comparison to the vacillating policy of the Board of Control, is to be commended—if only for its brutal frankness. "No permit will be issued." "The police will not allow."—reminds us of "Bill Hun" and "Nick Romanoff." Whatever shortcomings the latter may be guilty of, we can assure them that so far as "Democracy" is concerned they have nothing on H. J. Grasset. "Might is right," the philosophy of Nietzsche, has many converts, but some of them apparently don't know it.

His policy apparently, is (shut up) or (be beat up).

TORONTO STREET RAILWAY MEN SEND ULTIMATUM TO BOSSES.

Toronto, July 11.

Toronto street car men struck work at midnight. This effects 1830 men. They are demanding ten cents per hour advance in wages. The bosses have offered two cents increase, probably with a view of demonstrating how thrifty the magnates are when it comes to horse-fodder. What will they think when we come to demand 100 per cent. as in Russia. And by the way, did anyone say "Pro German." (Scat!)

You can fool some people all the time. Some people some of the time. But you can't fool all the people all the time.—Abraham Lincoln.