

Watch for
Red Week
Plans
Next Issue

THE CANADIAN FORWARD

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A Defender of the Rights of Small Nations Reviewed By the Light of History

Another Conscription Policy in Australia

The war, we are told, must not stop yet, as we have no guarantees against German attacks on liberty of nations in the future. The English people are, then, asked to go on surrendering their lives and liberty to the State, on the understanding that the triumph of British militarism means perpetual peace and the safety of small nations—that such is the inevitable and the sole end for which we are to sacrifice most of what we have hitherto held dear.

Surely, Surely, if we are to settle down for a further spell of civilized warfare, we may be pardoned if we enquire for a moment into the reputation of our ruling classes, to convince ourselves that it really is Peace and Free Nationality that our rulers have at heart. Let us see how they have striven for those noble ends for the last 100 years.

In 1816, having defeated Napoleon in a war to end war, we began to enjoy the perpetual tranquillity which Napoleon's downfall was to herald by bombarding Algiers, perhaps by way of a firework celebration of universal peace. In 1817, no doubt against our will, we found ourselves saddled with the White Man's Burden, and had a war with the Pindaris, in India. By 1818 the Burden was well upon us, and we conquered Holkar and annexed the Peishwas dominions. In 1819 the British Army had an engagement nearer home, and defeated a mob of somewhat hungry Lancashire people at "Peterloo."

For four years the millennium was expected, and was just about to arrive, when in 1824 the Burmese War was "forced upon us," and lasted until '26, which also saw the Ashantee War. In 1827 we destroyed the Turkish Navy at Navarino, with the help of France and Russia.

Civilizing the Heathen

For seven years, the people lolled in luxurious inactivity—or were they too hungry to fight?—and in 1834 we annexed Coorg. In '35 we began to civilize the heathen blacks in South Africa, and in our ardour killed several. In that year we also, with the utmost politeness, sent an expedition to Spain to help the Queen teach her subjects how to behave; this course of Education lasted until 1857. From 1838 to 1842 we were fighting in Afghanistan, in the meantime annexing Aden, in 1839.

From 1840 to 1842 we were also occupied, in a spirit of love, with bestowing upon China the inestimable benefits of opium, which the Chinese were ungrateful enough to try and keep out, with weapons as old-fashioned as their ideas. The years '43, '44, and '45 were occupied with the Gwalior War, '45 with the 1st Sikh War, '46 and '47 with a Kaffir War, and '48 and '49 with another Sikh War.

During the 'fifties we were guaranteeing perpetual peace and the freedom of small nations on three Continents. The years of grace '50-1-2 and 3 marked the duration of another Kaffir War, and

'51 and '52 a second Burmese War. In 1854 "we didn't want to fight, but by jingo" we did, and between then and '56 lost 20,000 men in preventing Russia from having Constantinople. That might have been over sooner, but that we were fighting Persia and China and conquering the Santhals in India at the same time. In 1857 came the horrible Indian Mutiny, at which, conscious of their love for subject races the Press and Government of the time was surprised. This lasted until 1859, and Canning was unpopular for refusing to take revenge. Fighting still continued in China, until 1860.

Bible Rule in India

In 1860 we were still bestowing on the Indians the blessings of that rule which Queen Victoria told them was founded on the Bible, and fighting against Sikhism. In that year, also, our gospel of perpetual peace flew on white wings (which never grew weary) across the sea to Australasia, and we fought the Maoris until 1861. A remarkable year then followed, 1862. There was no war; so a pigeon-shooting club was started in London. True, we took part with France and Spain in an armed expedition against Mexico, but honour was satisfied without bloodshed. In 1863, honour or something called us to New Zealand, where we stayed killing people for their own good until 1866. India still being enveloped in heathen darkness, we let in some more light at Umbeyla in '63, dispelled the gloom of Ashantee from '63 to '66, and flooded Bhootan with Christian radiance in '64 and '65. The national aspirations of the Abyssinians claiming the sympathy of a Christian people, we fought them, more in sorrow than in anger, in '67 and '68, and repulsed a Fenian raid on Canada. In '68 we suppressed the Bazotees; the writer cannot for the moment recall their identity, but has no doubt that they were the enemies of the human race, and were threatening the foundations of civilization. In 1869, Shere Ali having the sense to accept the protection of an alliance with England without much fuss, a strange, shy figure, carrying an olive branch and apologizing profusely for her intrusion, wearily presented herself at the threshold of the British Empire, and asked if she might sit down.

Dismemberment of Persia

In 1870, with great magnanimity, we left the main task of civilization to France and Germany, and contented ourselves with fighting Fenians in Canada. In '71 and '72 we continued the good work with the Looshai War, and in '73 and '74 again turned our attention and our guns towards the Ashantees; '75 and '76 were dull years in the business of culture-spreading, only a few Malaysians being killed, but in '77 and '78 we carried the gospel and a number of explosives to Jowaki, and with the sanction of Providence suc-

ceeded in smashing Zulu militarism. In '79 we again fought the Afghans, who respected neither the sanctity of treaties nor the rules of war.

Throughout the whole of the ten years from 1890 to 1900, we were converting the Dervishes, Arabs, and Egyptians in Egypt and the Soudan to belief in the gospel of modern weapons. From 1899 to 1902 was the South African War, about which enough has been said by most decent people. In 1903 and 4 we were blowing the Matabeles to pieces for the good of their heathen souls, and in 1904 our "peaceful mission" to Taibet cost the Tibetans hundreds of lives.

And what of the period immediately preceding the war? The "Daily News" of January 10th, 1912, says: "The same day brings news of the dismemberment of two ancient Empires—China and Persia. Russia announces formally to China that she will occupy outer Mongolia. . . . Russia has settled things in advance with Japan, and, if the Russian Press be well informed, with Sir Edward Grey. The partition of Persia is announced as informally as possible. A cable from India . . . told those whose eye it caught that Sir Edward Grey was contemplating the annexation by Russia and England of their respective spheres of interest in Persia, and the erection of a neutral belt into a new Persian kingdom. . . . China and Persia have one feature in common . . . the independence and the integrity of both have been solemnly guaranteed by us. . . . Never before has the British nation . . . crusaded so consistently against the liberties of struggling peoples."

On the whole, we think the guarantees of perpetual peace and the freedom of small nations will not be entirely secured by the smashing of the Huns.

WHERE ARE THEY.

The man who had made a huge fortune was speaking a few words to a number of students at a business class. Of course, the main theme of his address was himself.

"All my success in life, all my tremendous financial prestige," he said proudly, "I owe to one thing alone—pluck, pluck, pluck!"

He made an impressive pause here but the effect was ruined by one student, who asked impressively:

"Yes, sir; but how are we to find the right people to pluck?"

STILL USEFUL WORK.

The New Curate—Is your husband in, Mrs. Jones?

Cottager—No, zur, 'E be gone drill-in'.

Curate—Ah, I'm glad to hear that. Home Guard, I presume?

Cottager—No, zur. Turnips.

The Conscription Junta has at last fixed on a plan to force compulsory enlistment for overseas service on the Australian people. The plan is a double-headed toss. Should it fail, the slave promoters lose nothing; should it succeed, they win everything.

Eighteen members of the Senate must go to the country before June next. Of the present House 19 are Laborites and 17 Conscriptionists. Eight of the former and ten of the latter are due to retire. That leaves as the basis of the new Senate seven Conscriptionists and eleven opposed to conscription.

Three states—Victoria, Tasmania and West Australia—voted a majority in favor of compulsory enlistment. The Junta believe that vote will be repeated, and thus give them nine Conscriptionists to add to the seven not obliged to face the elections. The Junta further believes that the immense personal pull of Senators Milten and Gould in New South Wales give them a good chance of being returned. That will mean 18 in the new Senate to vote for conscription when the House meets.

But the Junta also hopes that, in view of the small majority against conscription in Queensland, one, or perhaps two, of its followers might creep in. More particularly as already up north the sectarian monster has spread his slimy tail across the path of liberty. Yes, the Junta has expectations of Queensland swinging over.

In South Australia a weak Labor selection may result in a compulsionist sneaking it. It is very clear that the Senate is in serious danger of being captured by the Hughes-Irvine-Lynch conspirators.

Granted that the scheme succeeds thus far, a bill will then go through both chambers almost immediately. Simultaneously an address will be agreed to requesting Lloyd George and the Imperial Government to extend the life of the Federal Parliament until the end of the war. The House of Representatives will not then be dissolved, and Australia will be down and out.

The reason no formal coalition is being agreed to now is because Australia hates fusions. Hughes and Cook will fight the Senate campaign as separate leaders, supporting each other's candidates, but they will deny the contention they are the one party. Once there is a compulsionist majority in the Senate, however, all pretence will be cast aside. To change the personnel of the Ministry now would perhaps involve the possible opposition of the men who would lose the jobs given them as reward for their labor treachery. So no risks are being taken that way. Afterwards they go on the scrap heap equally with the democracy they have betrayed. The Government will be described as a National Government, and it will rule by regulation and coercion.

This paper prays that the people will take time by the forelock, and make ready by agitation, education and organization to retain in the Senate a majority of members definitely pledged to no-conscription of life and labor, and the due observance of the verdict given last October.—Melbourne Socialist.

WARTIME METHODS IN GERMANY

(Continued from Last Issue)

The case of Editor Oerter of Brunswick is similar. On August 22 he was arrested and thrown into preventive prison; he has been there more than two months, and with him Genzer, a syndicate functionary. He has not been told why he was arrested. In the beginning he was accused of having taken part in the publication of a manifesto; of that there was not the slightest proof; absolutely nothing has been proved that could incriminate him in any way. No preliminary hearing has been given him, though the prisoner has asked for one, and though he has demanded, ceaselessly but vainly, to be brought before the common court.

These men have been imprisoned on the strength of a miserable, lying denunciation; it is evidently the intention to punish them—as it is in all the cases I have cited—because of their political convictions, which are those of the opposition.

The Prison or the Trenches.

It is true that the Minister of War published, on the 22nd of this month, a decree calling for a more liberal policy; but I cite in opposition a decree of the Military Government at Dantzic issued Sept. 12, which recommends the preventive prison as an effective means for getting rid of the Social Democratic orators who speak against the food monopoly. In this decree, which my colleague Wurn cited during the discussion of the potato question, there is the following characteristic phrase: "The principal chiefs and leaders will be put in preventive prison or called under arms. Good results have been obtained in two regions with this ruling, and we recommend that it be imitated in others."

I am going to show you a striking example of the fact that the authorities are working on the recipe of "preventive prison or the trenches." The case is that of a syndicate secretary, Sauerbrey of Elberfeld-Barmen, who is represented by our colleague Ebert. On June 20 manifestos were pasted up on the public bulletin boards of that place, and on the same day three persons were accused of having helped to spread these notices. On June 27 the syndicate secretary Sauerbrey was arrested. In the police headquarters at Elberfeld he was at once cross-examined in the most detailed fashion, but it was established beyond possible doubt that he had not taken the least part in the distribution of the manifestos; in spite of this fact, however, because he belonged to the opposition which has sprung up in the heart of the Social Democratic party, he was thrown into "preventive" prison. They let him write letters to his family, but the letters were not mailed. After three weeks he demanded to be heard, protested against a situation contrary to right and law, and threatened to let himself die of hunger if he were not brought before the ordinary judge.

For two whole days he refused food. This produced the first effect. He was taken to the Court House and accused of treason and incitement to revolt, but this accusation soon evaporated. Sauerbrey made an appeal which was admitted by the superior court of the empire with the approval of the Attorney-General.

Great care was taken after that not to set him at liberty; on the contrary, he was again taken to the police station. The next day he had to go before a council of revision, and was assigned to the army. Before that he had been declared unfit, because he had lost several finger joints of his right hand. It is a typical example of the Dantzic recipe, "preventive prison or

army service." He was called to the service immediately, with only one hour's grace, and with a soldier accompanying him during that hour; when he visited his home he had not even time to see his children again after his long imprisonment. Now he is under instruction at the barracks preparatory to being sent to the front.

This affair provoked measureless indignation in the labor world of Elberfeld-Barmen. Sauerbrey had filled the place of a syndicate secretary for a year past, and had given free aid to innumerable persons who had come to consult him, especially of families of soldiers at the front. After his call to service it was necessary to withdraw the benefits of these consultations from all those who did not belong to a labor organization. The blow aimed at him therefore strikes most severely many poor people who need aid. Yet the military government of Munster is astonished that in all the valley of the Wupper the people are more and more discontented, and is hatching new measures to make itself master of the unrest. One might imagine the whole thing to be a madhouse drama, but it is in reality a "state of siege."

Other Typical Instances.

This is no isolated case. I could cite many more. Let me recall that of Weinberg. Weinberg was present when an orderly came to announce to the physician who was to examine him that the recruiting bureau was well aware that Weinberg was unfit for service, and that, nevertheless, he ought not to be liberated.

Ever since the beginning of the war there has been in preventive prison at Elberfeld a workman named Albrecht, who can be reproached for nothing unless it be for holding opinions that are frowned upon by the military. Four men arrested with him have already been sent to the army. In general, in the Seventh District, political undesirables are very frequently sent into the army. Army headquarters receive notice from the general government of Munster that a certain man has been called and assigned to the corps, and his private record follows; this record naturally contains all sorts of secret entries from police spies. In the region of the Rhine a great number of these cases are known and have created an immense animosity.

Many interdictions were also issued more than a year ago forbidding members of our party to speak on pain of imprisonment, because they had signed an address to the committee of the Social Democratic party demanding a change of policy during the war. At Dusseldorf a workman was forbidden to speak because at a public meeting he had uttered a very justifiable criticism of the food furnished by the war kitchen. Such are the rigorous measures which the authorities are using to render impossible all criticism of our internal situation. The arbitrary power of our rulers under the "state of siege" no longer recognizes any limits.

For all these persecutions of inoffensive citizens it has been necessary to create an army of police spies and functionaries of all sorts, which is daily growing larger. All these gentry would no longer need to be paid out of the public treasury if the persecutions were stopped. A great proportion of these agents and functionaries would immediately become available for useful work in the army. Their present positions are, for the most part, hiding places where they seek to escape military service, and they cling to these with all their strength, seeking to prove daily that they are indispensable through their discoveries of all sorts of misdeeds; because they themselves do not wish to go into the trenches, they send others to prison. Thus it is that they keep up the appearance of work and assume to wear the halo of saviors of the state. It is the duty of the people's representatives to clean out these Augean stables and

to remove the basis of such a military reign of terror. Vote, then, for our motion demanding the suppression of siege measures, and thus help us to put an end to a situation that is a shame and disgrace to the German name.

THE FIRST CANADIAN COLLECTIVIST.

By J. McArthur Conner.

When the Liberals and Tories at Confederation joined hands together, thus making a national government of that day, George Brown found his views more advanced than that of the government, with the result that he again became the political opponent of Sir John A. Macdonald, whilst many of his influential supporters accepted portfolios in the new coalition cabinet and called themselves Liberal-Conservatives. In the election of 1867 George Brown was defeated and Alexander Mackenzie who I will describe as the first Canadian Socialist, became leader of an active group of radicals in the Dominion House of Commons.

Alexander Mackenzie, as his name indicates, was Scotch. A quarter of a century before he had left his native country, crossed the Atlantic, and as a young emigrant had worked as a stonemason on the fortifications then being erected at the head of the St. Lawrence River. Natural ability, force of character, strict integrity and love for the common people, soon pushed him into prominence in this young country, and finally his election to the Parliament of Upper and Lower Canada a few years before Confederation became an accomplished fact. Mackenzie was an ardent advocate of nationalisation in his day, and while we in our day see a great mass of public opinion favorably disposed to nationalization of railways, etc., we must remember to give credit to the men who risked their all in their advocacy of collectivism and went down to a smashing political defeat rather than bow to the wishes of a privileged class.

When Sir Hugh Allan entered into secret negotiations with Sir John A. Macdonald for an arrangement to construct the Canadian Pacific Railway, Sir John, who was about to appeal to the electorate, was promised by Sir Hugh that if a bill was passed in the House of Commons, giving Sir Hugh and his friends the charter for the construction of the line a subscription of \$100,000 would be given to the party funds. Later on, Mackenzie's group brought to light this agreement, with the result that on appealing to the country, the Mackenzieites defeated the coalition by an overwhelming majority in 1873.

When Mackenzie took office, Donald A. Smith (Lord Strathcona) made known his views to the First Minister that he thought it desirable that the railway should be constructed by a private company, to which Mackenzie replied in his fine Gaelic accent: "I will leave the Pacific Railway as a hostage to my adopted country," and in his address to the Commons when he intimated to the full attendance of members and the crowded public galleries that "the policy of the government was to construct and maintain the Pacific Railway as a government enterprise and to proceed with the completion of the work as quickly as the resources of the country would allow." Then Donald A. Smith realized that nothing could turn this ardent collectivist (who was fired with an enthusiasm for the common people) from the purpose he had in view. But he set about in another way to get rid of this great advocate of nationalism. By intrigue Mackenzie was finally driven from power, and the coalition party (a combination of Liberals and Conservatives) which was favorable towards a private company owning the Pacific Railway was put in power. We Social Democrats who advocate the collective

ownership of the means of life, honor this pioneer of collectivism in Canada.

CLASS-CONSCIOUS COMMENTS.

By Phillips Thompson, Oakville.

Many a man who fancies himself a Socialist is merely a sentimentalist or a sorehead.

"Public opinion" is simply the ignorance, prejudice, and intolerance of the average damned fool, exploited by the intellectual heebers of capitalism and multiplied by several million.

It makes me tired to hear twaddle about the "rights" of labor. Labor has no rights. Nobody has any rights other than those they can take and hold by the strong arm or the cunning brain. But labor has something a great deal better than rights if it knew enough to exercise its power.

That the course of Police Magistrate Denison in the Ness case should have aroused much indignation is only natural, but it need not occasion any surprise. Denison is absolutely incapable of doing justice even if he wanted to, which he doesn't. Why should he? Like the rest of the judges and magistrates, he was not appointed to do justice but to promote the interests of the predatory class. And he fills the bill admirably.

If the age limit for military service were raised to 65 years, and the physical standard of fitness considerably lowered, there would be mighty few advocates of conscription. It's the stiff-jointed, pot-bellied stay-at-homes that are doing the talking.

N. W. Rowell is being praised for his "patriotism" in being the first man to suggest that Canada should send 500,000 men overseas. Why isn't Rowell in khaki himself? There are many older men in the trenches. Oh, these heroes-by-proxy!

Orangeism is nothing but a machine for boosting mighty small men into big positions. Examples—Hon. Dr. Pyne, Hocken, and Tommy Church, the joke mayor.

What will happen after the war is a good deal like the much-discussed question of what will happen after death—one man's guess is as good as another's.

What a consoling thought it must be to the soldier who falls by a German bullet that owing to his sacrifice it will be the profit-mongers of Birmingham and Manchester, instead of those of Germany, who will supply the natives of Africa with rotten cotton goods, poisonous gin and cheap firearms.

DIFFERENT WAYS OF PUTTING IT.

Editor Citizen:

Socialist Lecturer—"King George is a puppet" (sentenced to two months in jail).

Imperialist Orator—"King George is a thoroughly constitutional monarch. He invariably acts in strict accordance with the advice of his ministers." (Sentenced to the Senate for life).

PHILLIPS THOMPSON, Oakville, Ottawa Citizen.

A TRAVESTY OF LAW.

A conscientious objector recently found himself incarcerated in a prison cell next door to a man who was "doing time" for attempting to kill a man with whom he had had a quarrel.

The conscientious objector was "doing time" because he refused to attempt to kill a man with whom he had no quarrel.

What foolery passes under the name of law!

The crest and crowning of all good, Life's final star, is Brotherhood.

A TRAGEDY OF WAR

By Rebecca Buhay.

Twilight has set in, and crude, menacing shadows are softly creeping into the narrow room. Each article of furniture finds its echo in a grotesque, ghostlike form; here the shadow is long and narrow, there short and broad; but each seems a harbinger of dark and sorrowful thoughts and deeds.

In the centre of the room is reflected a long thin shadow of a woman, which is every second changing its shape. She is seated by the table, the mother—a thin, frail little woman with silver grey hair. She seems so old in the twilight shadows, and yet did one but see her face, one would know that she was older in sorrow than in years.

There she sits—and every second her form is shaken with heartrending sobs. She is sister to the shadows, for they seem to follow her every moment. Sometimes she drops her head on to the table in front of her, sometimes she lifts up her hands to her temples. At moments the sobs cease and there is silence in the room. A little while she passes. She leaves her position from the table and walks over to the small window, where her face is made visible by the street lamp. Such a careworn face! The blue eyes are deeply planted in their sockets and deep shadows are visible underneath. The lips are thin and firmly set and hard lines have shaped themselves from the corners of the mouth. All is deathlike pallor and the hands belonging to the frail figure twitch nervously.

She leaves the window and takes something very much like a photograph from a nearby shelf. She clasps it with both hands and kisses it feverishly. The sobbing breaks out afresh, "My Tom; my Tom," she cries, between her sobs, "Oh, my God, why did you not take me instead of him; my only darling, gone—gone forever." She walks over to the table, places the picture in front of her, and every now and then maddening agonising exclamations burst from her. She beats her head with her hands. "Tom, Tom, come back; come back. They took you from me, your mother; they put a gun into your hand, they bade you shoot, and now you lie in an unknown grave, far from all who love you, slain; gone for ever." A tremor passes through her body; then there is silence again. She gazes long at the picture of the boy before her and a thousand memories come back to her of when he was a child—her eighteen-year-old lad, now dead!

Her Hopes Destroyed

She sees him running through the streets with the other boys, a little lad of six, a head of golden curls, a dimpled face with eyes sparkling with mischief. She remembers the care and ceaseless labor she spent on him from his birth—(his birth which had nearly cost her her life)—so that he should grow up strong, tender, and clean. The picture changes. He is now a boy of twelve, his father is dead, and the young mother struggles her hardest so that her boy may have bread and other good things in life. She sees him returning from school with his satchel strapped on his shoulder. "Mamma" he cries, "I'm first rank." The mother heart leaps with joy; she clasps her darling to her breast; she is so happy, and he dotes on her. . . . Time passes. He is working now, and his first thought is for his mother; she is proud of her big strapping boy; she trembles; he is growing older, and another will soon claim him, for is he not one of the gods born to be loved. Again the years pass, and over the whole land a giant monster is lying in wait. War has entered in to kill. Tyrants have planned to lay waste the land. The mother heart cries out. She does not understand; she is only a simple sweethearted mother, but she knows it is wrong; she knows it is cruel to sever mothers,

fathers, and sons, in order that men should kill other mother's sons. "They have never harmed us," she cries, when her Tom, roused by patriotic speeches, declares revenge on Germany. "My darling Tom, I'm only a plain woman. I don't pretend to understand, but how can it profit us to kill one another? Is not every German mother's son just the same as you?" But Tom does not understand his mother's reasoning—he believes all that is told him, the patriot in him is aroused, and he breaks his mother's heart and goes to meet his doom.

Dissillusion and Death

Dark was the day when Tom left for the slaughter-house of Europe. She knew he would never come back. How she had begged and begged him not to go. She remembered the scene by the train, when she kissed him her last good-bye; it was as if he had torn her heart out and left her a void, and when the train had passed, something within her cried, "Gone for ever!"

How anxiously she awaited his letters! They were always punctual and full of cheer. "Cheer up, ma, I'll soon be with you again," he wrote; or, "We are having a grand time; this is the life!"

But soon the tone of his letter changed. War did not seem to be so glorious after all. "How glad I'll be to get out of this hell," he told her, and, "When, oh, when will it end? I no longer want revenge." He once related how he had taken a German prisoner and he praised his captive up to the skies. "All the boys are tired of fighting," he cried. "We want peace!"

And at length he had got peace! There came a time when she received no more letters from him; she tried to think that he was negligent, but one day the news came he had fallen.

At first she could not believe it; it seemed incredible: her dear boy dead. Impossible! But then the truth dawned on her and she saw the ghostly scene as it had been pictured: a field of blood—and her boy lying torn into thousands of shreds in this red sea. Her hair became grey in a single night.

"The drums; the tinsel; the glitter!" she cried. She stood up. "Ever as a child he loved it, and that has killed him. . . . There is no God. I do no longer believe; there is only war and hell." She sat down again and turned the picture from her. She could not bear to look at it!

The shadows in the room grew darker. Night enveloped the chamber with her bleak mantle and swallowed up everything.

A perfect stillness! The next morning the mother was discovered, dead.

"Poor woman!" murmured the kindly neighbors.

NEWS OF THE MOVEMENT

Edmonton, Alta.—A comrade handed me a copy of your little paper, as I am very much interested in the movement. I am from the United States, but nevertheless we are all brothers. I thought I would do a little hustling for the Forward, for there is nothing we need more than a powerful Socialist press. Hoping that some more of your readers will do a little hustling for their own paper.

I am sending in six names for the Forward, and hope to send more in the future. W. H. DENNIS.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

This paper is published twice a month, and not weekly. As some of our subscribers are under the latter impression, we beg you to take notice that the Forward will be issued at the present rate until there is a change in prices of supplies.—Ed.

A great capitalist is nothing more than an individual who has become expert in taking rake-offs from labor.

A THING FOR COCKSURE PEOPLE TO REFLECT UPON.

"When the socialistic regime has regenerated the world, what will be its most marked manifestation?" said the Solid Citizen to my Socialistic friend. "Well," responded my friend, "I don't know that there will be any very marked manifestation; there will be a harmonious blend. But one of the component parts of the 'blend' will be that no one will ever be compelled to be an accessory to his own robbery." "Well, that is about the best yet. I suppose you'll have no trouble in making that plain."

"Maybe it will be a little difficult to make you understand, not having learned any of the rudiments of the theory, but I'll try. For instance, take that suit of clothes you are wearing. If it had not been for the tailor who made that suit you would not now be wearing that identical suit. Some other tailor might have made a suit resembling it, and it would not have been the suit that you have on. That suit that you have on is the result of the tailor's labor who made it. A suit made out of the same material, and in the same style, by some other tailor, would have been the result of that other tailor's labor. Do you get that?"

"Yes, but what has that got to do with the accessory part of it? I don't see the bearing."

"Of course you don't; maybe you never will; but I'm going to do my best to, try and make you see the connection. It is tailors who make suits, isn't it?"

"Why, of course."

"It is the total of all the suits that individual tailors make that constitutes the total of all the suits made, isn't it?"

"Sure!"

"So that no one can get away from the fact that the individual tailor, however obscure he may be, cuts a figure in the suit-making world?"

"I guess that is so—a small part."

"Without tailors there could not be any suits?"

"No; but that is absurd; we have 'em."

"Sometimes a negative proves a proposition. But we'll let that pass. But you are willing to concede that you would not now be wearing that identical suit if it had not been for the tailor who made it, are not you?"

"Yes."

"Now, do you suppose that that tailor got all that the boss charged you for just the making of it?"

"Why, of course not; he had to make a profit to keep in business."

"But why should he make that profit off the tailor, when that suit could not possibly have been, if it had not been for that identical tailor? Why should not the sole and only author of the suit's being have what it was worth to make it?"

"Well, ought not the boss to have any profit on the capital he has invested in the business?"

"But where could his capital have come from if it had not been for what he made off of tailors, and off what would have been valueless to him, without the tailor? Was not the tailor giving to him the only asset, or a part of the only asset he had, his labor, and making it possible for him to sell his material at a profit? And isn't the boss getting this for nothing? Isn't he getting something for nothing, just exactly what a robber gets when he pulls in the loot? Does not a robber get something for nothing?"

"Of course, a robber gets something for nothing."

"Now, as a result of getting the difference between what he pays the tailor for making his suit, and furnishing the material, the boss is getting something that he never in the world could have had if it had not been for the tailor, is he not?"

"Yes; but isn't a boss' time worth something?"

"Of course it is, but is it worth any more, or as much, as the fellows who make it possible for him to be worth anything?"

"Maybe it is; but how are you going to help it?"

"If all the tailors and all the bosses shared in the net profits—in profits it takes the labor of the tailor primarily to create, would not the tailors—the authors of the suits and the bosses being—have more and the bosses less?"

"Well, maybe they would."

"Well, that is what I meant when I said that one of the component parts of socialism's harmonious whole would be that no one would have to be an accessory to his own robbery. And when you come to think—think, I mean use—your God-given faculties of reasoning—is there anything criminal in any one's getting the full value of his labor?"

"Well, maybe not; but, as I said before, how are you going to make it any different?"

"That is not the question now to be so vitally interested in for people who think the present system is all right; the first and most necessary thing is to find out you are being robbed, and when enough of you find that out the remedy will be forthcoming."

TOM LOGIC.

CLIP AND COMMENT

Prophetic Insight.

A writer in the daily press presents this gratuitous information: The near approach of the British forces to the ancient City of Jerusalem, is an indication to God's chosen people that prophecy is being fulfilled. Britain is the lost tribe of Israel—Jacob will return to the city of his fathers and I will make of him a great nation as numberless as the sands in the desert whose children shall inhabit the four corners of the earth. The British Imperialists will be overjoyed at this delicious information, and will scarcely be able to sleep o' nights at the prospect of rich profits out of "Figs and Olives." No matter that the sacred precincts of the Temple be turned into a shambles or that Sampson-like, we beat the enemy with the "Jaw Bones of Asses."

A Novel Suggestion.

It has been suggested by a thriftless ink-spiller in order to increase production and present an exemplary character to the indolent that: Queen's Park, Toronto, should be turned into pasture for sheep. The question has been asked as to whether the production thus entailed would be utilized for feeding the goats who at present are domiciled in the building popularly known as the House of Parliament. We are informed, however, by one who knows—that the decision of the "Parks Committee" not to allow the grass to be used for this purpose have a better purpose in view, viz: That in view of the high cost of living it may be advisable in the not distant future to turn the 2-legged sheep indiscriminately loose into this rich pasture and send the gardeners to dig trenches. This would be quite in harmony with the slogan, "Government by Superior Brains."

The Social Democratic Labor Party of Russia has voted against sending delegates to the proposed conference of socialists in the ten Allied countries, as proposed by the French. The Russians say the conference proposition is advanced by anti-Socialists to split the International, and they will not assist in keeping the movement divided.

The price of eggs in England has gone up to the eggs-traordinary figure of six-pence each. A glaring eggs-ample of the eggs-tortion and eggs-actions of English eggs-ploiters.

R. A. Rigg, Socialist, on Anti-Registration

(Continued from Last Issue)

This, I think, will be conceded as obvious fact. But what is the popular attitude towards those two essential factors. The honorable Premier would conscript men, would conscript labor, both for industrial and for military purposes. But would he conscript capital? Has either he or any other recognized responsible authority suggested the conscription of capital? Labor must be conscripted, but, mark this, capital must be invited and protected by five per cent. interest. Labor must be compelled to give all that it has, life included, but capital must be permitted to acquire a mortgage stranglehold upon the producing capacity of the nation for hundreds of years to come.

Take the Victory Loan which is being raised in Great Britain at the present time. What is the attraction of the loan, the need of the nation? No, five per cent. interest. Likewise the Canadian War Loan. The Dominion Government debenture stock is offered to investors at par in sums of \$500 or multiples thereof, the principal repaid on October 1st, 1919, interest payable half-yearly at five per cent., the money to be applied for war purposes.

There you have the British and the Dominion Governments down on their knees supplicating capital to come to the aid of the Empire in its hour of extremity. The nation in the hour of its greatest need supplicated King Capital to generously come to its aid and promises to pay five per cent. interest.

Do you call that national service? It ought to be called exploiting the very lifeblood of the nation. I think that if Shakespeare had been alive today he would have discarded Shylock as the personification of insatiable greed and in his place he would have selected a five per cent. interest bearing war bond holding patriot.

The Winnipeg City Council, two weeks ago to-night, had before them a resolution seeking to approve of the national service registration scheme. An amendment was made that in addition to the registration of man power, and if there was to be any conscription of man power, that wealth should be registered and conscripted. Four Labor men voted for the amendment, all the rest of the members of the Council were in favor of the application of compulsion to man power, to conscript labor, and said "Keep your hands off the holy dollar."

If a Labor Government had been in power at this time and proceeded to conscript capital and offered special inducements to labor on a voluntary basis, what a howl of condemnation would be received from the ranks of the capitalists. My opinion, having looked in and out, all around and through this scheme, is that the national service registration scheme is a very subtle method, intended to manacle labor and to make labor more completely the abject slave of capital than it is now, in order that exploitation may be more efficient and complete.

WOULDN'T HAVE A CHANCE.

I heard of a very important official of one of our biggest employing corporations being at dinner the other day at the Fort Garry Hotel, and what I am going to say I say with the reservation of one who has been told, but with a considerable amount of confidence in the individual who gave me the information; that this important official of this big corporation in the

course of the conversation with his friends at the dinner table made reference to a demand that was being made upon his corporation to increase the wages of their employes, and he said: "The nerve of these men to come and ask for increased wages at this time.



If only we had this national service scheme in operation they wouldn't have a chance to do this." He evidently thinks that this bogus scheme of national service would help the capitalist class tremendously.

LABOR WON IN AUSTRALIA.

You know they submitted this question of conscription to a vote in Australia. You remember that in England registration preceded conscription, that in Australia registration preceded an attempt to foist conscription upon that country. In the Australian campaign every daily newspaper was on the side of conscription. Every newspaper of any character throughout the whole length and breadth of the continent, with the exception of a few Labor papers, were in favor of conscription, and yet in spite of these tremendous forces for controlling and forming public opinion, the vote went against conscription. But when it was seen that the majority opposed to conscription from the civilian vote was very small, the hopes of the conscriptionists rose strong in their breasts and they said, "Wait till we get the soldier vote," and when they got the soldier vote they found that it had gone more definitely against conscription than even the civilian vote had done.

GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND IS HEADED BY SOCIALIST.

If any nationality has reason to be glad about the downfall of Russian autocracy, the Finnish people certainly have. I am sure every Finlander, excluding those who were benefitted by the old regime, will feel a deep gratitude towards those who assisted the revolution.

According to the latest news despatches from Helsingfors, Finland also, it now has a new senate, which is Finland's supreme executive body. This was agreed on after prolonged negotiations by all political parties. The new senate consists of twelve members and is chosen according to party divisions in Parliament. Six of these twelve are Socialists, and the head of the government is a Socialist, Comrade M. Tokoi, some years past a miner in the United States and member of the Western Federation of Miners.

The Social-Democratic party is the largest party in Finland at present. It

now has a majority on the Diet and control of the senate. Other parties represented in the new government are: Old Finnish party, Young Finnish party, and Swedish Popular party. This cosmopolitan government has already organized a new judicial department, excluding the former reactionary officials, and appointing instead the country's best jurists in their place. And when we take in consideration that the new government in Russia has given constitutional autonomy to Finland, the new Finnish government will have a free hand to work. And they will work in the right direction, we can be sure of that.

For more than a hundred years Finland has been a part of the Russian empire, a grand duchy, so-called, and in the past twenty years the "Russianization" of Finland has proceeded relentlessly. And yet, in spite of this aggression, and especially during the most ruthless oppression Finland has taken her place as one of the most progressive nations in the whole world.

The world already knows that in Finland every man and woman has a voice, that they have proportional representation; women representation in the Diet, and many other radical measures. All these they got by fighting for them. They got them when conditions were most oppressive. What will they do now, when they have constitutional liberty?

During the Russian oppression, the working class in Finland had to fight against two enemies: the Finnish capitalist class and the Russian autocracy. Now when the latter is a thing of the past, they can concentrate their efforts more strongly against the capitalist class.

This revolution did not overthrow capitalism in Finland. No; capitalism is still there. But constitutional autonomy will give the working class freedom of speech, press and assemblage and to the nation as a whole wider self government. There is a world of difference, living in the constitutional state and in the autocratic state.

This newly gained freedom cost the blood, lives and liberties of hundreds and thousands of revolutionists in Russia and in Finland. Those daring souls began the agitation among the peasants and the working people, which resulted in the nation-wide revolutionary wave that swept the country like a prairie fire. Yorkers in these two countries worked hand in hand and dreamed of better days. Years ago the Socialists in Finland realized that the freedom of their country can only be gained by assisting the revolutionists in Russia to overthrow the tyrannical government. Now we see that they were correct.

Yes, indeed, we have a reason to be glad.—American Socialist.

Jingoism Up-to-Date.

(Old-Style, 19th Century.)

We don't want to fight, but, by Jingo! if we do,
We've got the men, we've got the ships,
we've got the money, too,
And the Russians shall not have Constantinople!

(New Style, 20th Century.)

You don't want to fight, but that's what you've got to do;
We'll take your sons, to fight the Huns,
we'll take your money, too!
For the Russians, they must have Constantinople!

POVERTY'S HANDICAP.

Prisoner (arrested for vagrancy)—
It's no crime to be poor.
Cell Mate—Maybe not; but you an' me can't afford to hire a lawyer to prove it ain't.

THE DEATH OF A PIONEER

James Lindala passed away, on March the 23rd, at his residence, 130 Peter Street, Toronto.

He had been in ill health for a considerable length of time, but his sudden collapse occasioned some surprise to his friends, as he had just recently recovered from an attack of "tumor of the stomach," which later resulted in his death.

Deceased had taken a prominent part in the movements that stood for the welfare of the workers (both industrial and political) and held a card in the Journeymen Tailors' Union, when he first landed in this country from Finland in 1887. The respect in which he was held was demonstrated by the large number of friends and sympathisers who followed the last remains to Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Comrade Lindala was not a spectacular individual, although he was sometimes called "The Finnish Lawyer," having seen the injustice meted out to his fellow-countrymen, who were sometimes imprisoned because of lack of legal defence, he made a study of the English language in order to better assist his fellow-workers by acting as their interpreter, in which capacity he figured in many Police Court proceedings.

He was better known to the English-speaking people by virtue of his prominence in the trade union of his craft, acting as their delegate to the A. F. of L. in 1910, and the part that he took in the formation of the Social Democratic Party of Canada. He became an active member of the Socialist party in Canada in 1905 and maintained his membership until such time as questions of policy became so pronounced that in the year 1911 he was elected one of the three delegates called to Port Arthur to consider the advisability of forming a new party. At a convention that was called later it was definitely decided that the Finnish Socialist Society and the Ontario Socialist Federation form a new party, the same to be called the Social Democratic Party of Canada, in which he took a deep interest and held many important positions in its administration.

The deceased was one of the first Finns to locate in Toronto, and with the exception of a brief time spent in the United States, he had resided in Toronto for 30 years, during the course of which he took a deep interest in civic government. He ran for Mayor in 1907, polling 8,277 votes. He also contested seats for alderman and Board of Education, but failed to make the grade.

The Finnish Socialist Band was in attendance, and the rendering of Finnish requiem music as the last remains of the warrior were being carried to the hearse, caused a deep impression on the vast crowd of onlookers. Many floral and oral tributes were presented by his kinsmen and comrades. The funeral was devoid of ostentation or ceremony, just a few plain simple words of commendation for a life of usefulness, and beneath the pain of parting words and the presence of sorrowing relatives, there was manifest a deep feeling of pride in the knowledge that he had kept the faith, and had fulfilled his obligations to his beloved wife and children, and proven true to himself and his class. The Finnish choir rendered the last chant in Finnish, and the fitting tribute of Comrade James Simpson, "He was a man," concludes to us the eventful career of one who during the whole course of his life demonstrated his oneness with a long suffering working class.

He leaves a widow and three children.

We tender to them our deepest sympathy.

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)—

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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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The saddest sight in all the world is not a grave of the dead, grievous as that might be, but it is a grave of the living—humanity sepulchred while yet alive.—Frances E. Willard.



The Double Meaning of Patriotism.

The roots of true patriotism are to be found in the tribal state of mankind that exists upon a communal basis. The recognition of common rights in land and property. The overthrow of communism by the coming of civilized slavery, whether it be in form Monarchical, Feudal, or Capitalist, is a denial of the first elementary principle of human life and labor, i.e., the right to land and the products of labor as applied to land. Truly did the poet say: "He who owns the means whereby I live, owns my life."

True patriotism is embodied in the declaration of the slaves, viz.: The world for the workers. This is in itself a declaration of war, by the workers, upon the predatory class of brigands who have usurped the rights of the people to the land in which they live. Between these two classes there can be no compromise. Patriotism, to the ruling class, is the declaration to protect the property of robbers—and to the working class the taking of capitalist property for the use of the common people, "the working class," the only necessary class in society. To all other interests we are traitors.

Conscription is Inevitable.

We can say now without much serious contradiction that conscription, both military and industrial, will be our lot in a few short weeks, and no serious opposition need be feared by the Government, as the poison has done its work. Our reasons for stating that the before-mentioned is inevitable, is because we know that the great shortage in foodstuffs necessitated by last year's low product and the shortage of labor at the present time, vieing, with the new conscript issue in Australia and the declaration of responsible Government officials in England, "that every available man will be needed in the firing line this summer," force us to accept this as the only inevitable solution if the Germans are to be fought to a standstill.

We have it on reliable authority that the registration cards are being used for military purposes at the present

time, notwithstanding the honorable word of our Cabinet Ministers that they would not be used for military purposes, and now they can say, Kitchener-like, we have got your names and the number on your doors "and if you don't come we will fetch you." And after that, the crucifixion, the prison and the firing squad. The situation is not entirely hopeless however. An intelligent man, armed, is a dangerous man to the capitalist vultures. Labor in Russia has overthrown the despotism of Czar Nicholas, and it may be our war before the deluge ceases. The situation is pregnant with possibilities. If the call comes we will rely on you to do your bit in true Marxian style, and determine that it shall not cease until the bulwarks of capitalism are for ever destroyed, and every gun is spiked as a herald of the coming day.

The Government of the United States Declares War on Germany.

Some time ago we took the opportunity to point out in these columns "That the position of the United States, as a neutral, had become untenable," in so far as she had been supplying the belligerents with munitions of war since the first shot was fired; whatever international law may mean. We are not so presumptuous as to attempt an explanation; it takes a diplomatist to do that. And if we are permitted to express an opinion—Diplomacy has led us into this war (secret diplomacy), and at the best it appears in so many different roles—to wit, all the countries now at war (are warring) ostensibly to uphold the rights of international law. Well did Ramsey Macdonald ask—"Has Europe gone mad?" Our interpretation of neutrality is, according to every day Police Court proceedings, i.e., To aid or abett the doing of a crime, is to be found guilty of criminal intent. The logic of this being, as applied to the present situation, that the United States Government has for long taken sides against the Entente powers, and we welcome the unmasking of their hypocritical pretensions to neutrality. President Falconer, of Toronto Uni-

versity, has just been telling us that the people of the United States want war. If they do, then it is right they should have war. But, we are led to ask, is it not a truth, "that President Wilson was elected to keep the States out of war." Of this we have no doubt. How comes it, then, that the President declares war without consulting the people to whom he is responsible? The reason is obvious. No Government ever declared war by a democratic vote of the people, consequently the munition vendors, seeing their trade dwindling because of the home production of the belligerents, must find some other means of boosting their profits. This can be done under two heads:

- (1) An army of 500,000 for Europe.
- (2) The Mexican troops are moving towards the United States frontier.

It is rather significant in this respect "That a banking corporation was at work six weeks before the ominous declaration to give to France \$100,000,000 to be expended in munitions manufactured in the States." The significance of these events cannot be underestimated, especially so, in conjunction with the incessant demand for 50,000 men for home defence in our own domain on the American frontier. Was Sir Sam Hughes bluffing when he said in the House of Commons "that the \$100,000 voted by the Toronto Board of Control at the injunction of General Lessard, was merely to benefit certain corporations." Or is there a real menace in Uncle Sam's war-like attitude.

NEWS OF THE MOVEMENT

Notice to Locals.—We shall be glad to publish each week beneath this heading reports of the doings and activities of any local. Copy sent in should be written clearly on one side of the paper only. Reports should be brief as possible.

CORRESPONDENCE

Edmonton, Alta.

Dear Editor,—I did not raise my boy to be a soldier.

When my boys watch soldiers march by, I teach them to see no glory in the spectacle, but pity for the delusions under which they are going to their doom.

Theodore Roosevelt declares that the old men should be the first to be killed. J. M. Work thinks those who want to make profits out of war should be the first. I agree with Mr. Work.

In 1898 the slogan in the United States was "Remember the Maine!" Years later it was admitted that the Spanish-American War was fought because American capitalists had investments in Cuba that would be more profitable under American control. In 1917 J. P. Morgan's and Chas. Schwab's millions are in danger, and the same "kept" press is urging American lives slaughtered to protect them, and Canadian mothers are urging conscription.

Only children and non-thinkers still believe that England and Russia are fighting for democracy and civilization, while Germany is fighting for militarism and barbarism.

England is fighting to keep control of the world's market, which it has had for over two hundred years; Russia is fighting for territory; France wants revenge; Italy wants to expand, and Germany wants its share of the world's trade.

If the Allies do win, J. P. Morgan and other capitalists will lose some of their ill-gotten wealth. Now, where does the working man of Canada come in? Why should he be forced to go to war to protect their profits?

If we must have conscription, let it be the food speculators, bondholders, and war-at-any-price capitalists; these people, according to Napoleon, should make good soldiers, for, he said, "the best soldiers started out as highway robbers."

AN EDMONTON MOTHER.

Y. P. S. C. JEWISH.

Toronto.

Dear Editor,—The Young Jewish Club is doing splendid auxiliary work in drawing the young folks together for the purpose of education and enjoyment. Their activities include physical culture, mental and moral development, as well as fulfilling a very useful purpose in collecting funds for the aid of strikers, and political campaigns in which the workers have direct representatives in the field. They collected a large sum of money to help the clothing workers of Montreal to win out in their big strike, and frequently organize lectures and debates.

(Meetings are held on Sundays at 194 Spadina Avenue, at 3 p.m.)

A. BLUGERMAN.

Hamilton, Ont.

Dear Editor,—The following most remarkable passage was written by Frederick Engels in the year 1892. It occurs in the course of an article in "Die Neue Zeit," discussing the probability of a general European war, just such as we are having now.

"No socialist of whatever nationality can wish the triumph of the present German Government in the war, nor that of the bourgeois French Republic, and, least of all, that of the Czar, which would be equivalent to the subjection of Europe, and therefore the socialists of all countries are for peace. But if it comes to war nevertheless, just one thing is certain—this war in which fifteen or twenty million armed men will slaughter one another, and all Europe will be laid to waste as never before—this war must either bring the immediate victory of socialism, or it must upset the old order of things from head to foot and leave such ruins behind that the old capitalistic society will be more impossible than ever, and the social revolution, though put off for ten or fifteen years later, will surely conquer after that time all the more rapidly and all the more thoroughly.

It was Engel's unrivalled knowledge of the laws governing social development which enabled him so correctly to predict this war, the question now is will this prophecy that socialism will be its outcome prove equally true. Let us sincerely hope so, for only socialism could compensate for the horrible suffering and sacrifice of this war.

J. ALEANDER.

Winnipeg, Man.

Editor of Forward.

I wish to call your attention to a couple of reports that have appeared in The Forward relative to Dixon and myself which have misrepresented the facts in a somewhat serious manner and which have conveyed erroneous impressions to readers. The last was printed in the issue of March 10th, and has reference to the action taken by myself in the Legislature regarding invitations extended to the members to attend a reception tendered by the Governor-General at Government House during his recent visit to this province. I do not know from what source you received your information relative to this matter, but I wish to call your attention to two features of the paragraph referred to.

The first is that the report represents me as lodging a bitter complaint against the insult offered to labor through Dixon and myself not being included in the invitation along with the other members of the House, and the other is that my speech was received by the members with jeers. Now, neither of these statements are true, or even approximately true. Taking the last first, I may say that, apart from a little interruption from the Speaker, who informed me that I could not criticize the Governor-General in the House, the speech was received with absolute silence. With regard to the other feature, it is quite untrue to say that I in any sense regarded the omission as an insult. I told

(Continued on Page 7.)

ITEMS OF NEWS FROM ALL PARTS

The Russian Revolution.

Toronto.—A huge mass meeting was held in Massey Hall on April 1st, under the auspices of a conference composed of Russian, Polish, Jewish, Finnish, Ukrainian and English Socialists, with speakers in the several languages represented.

The speeches were punctuated by rounds of applause. This was an extraordinary meeting. The constitutional aspect of the revolt was given secondary consideration; beautiful words of eulogy were expressed. Glowing terms of praise for the noble sacrifices that had been made for liberty and the deep spirit of fraternity and brotherhood that bonded the workers together with no trace of racial prejudice to becloud their vision. A feast for the gods. Hot and strong were the denunciations against a brutal ruling class, and the perfidy of hypocritical religious sycophants. The speeches pulsated with the fervor of a clear (class conscious) revolutionary sentiment, punctuated by the oft-recurring arbiter class (and cheers).

No words can picture the fervor of this throng. Every line, every word expressing the working class character of the movement, in harmony with the great spirit of revolt that (as the writer put it "this restless spirit cannot be cajoled or fooled, this great urge to become more will not only destroy despotic rule in Russia, but the elements of slavery in all countries under all conditions of class rule.

This is the spirit that makes for progress, and may yet spike every gun on every battlefield as a herald of the coming day of Socialism.

The coming of the constitutional regime was heralded as a landmark in social evolution, but only serving to set in relief "the wondrous power of a united working class for still greater achievements. And the endorsement of this accomplishment with totally different motives than those which prompted the congratulatory messages of the European governments, not befuddled by the debts of honor (national debts), responsibility, so common to the capitalist government's laudations.

Gloriously spontaneous in all its aspects, a breath of the new spirit of "international socialism" and synonymous with "social revolt."

The meeting commenced and closed with songs of the revolution (in Russia). A collection of \$317 was taken up, the balance, after expenses are paid, will be sent to Russia to aid in the propaganda of Socialism. A resolution was passed which will be cabled to the new administration. I. B.

THE LOW COST OF LIVING IN ARMENIA.

And the Relation of the Social Evil Thereto.

The eyes of the whole world have again, by recent events, been turned upon Armenia. The writer, while investigating the high cost of living in Detroit as compared with Toronto, where, sad to say, it is still higher, had the good fortune to meet a representative Armenian from Van, the city which—according to war reports—has recently fallen into Russian hands.

The opportunity of interviewing the Armenian gentleman as to social and industrial conditions in Van, was eagerly grasped, and the amazing information was furnished that laborers received a daily wage of but 8c. to 30c., those having trades were paid from 40c. to \$1.00.

To offset these low wages, prices so low prevailed that a family could be housed, fed, and clothed, and a far greater balance be left upon the right side of the sheet than under our much-

vaunted high wage system. Prices obtaining in Van are such that a man need labor but six months in order to keep his family and self comfortably for the entire year. Rent of one-storey houses, \$1 a year; three-storey houses, \$10 for the 12 months; butter, 3 pounds for 20c.; sugar, 3 pounds for 24c.; grapes, 3 pounds for 2c.; meat, from 2c. to 4c. per pound; apples, 36 pounds for 6c.; pears, 36 pounds, 8c. to 12c.; milk, 3 pounds for 4c.; wheat, 252 pounds for \$2.00 to \$2.50; vegetables, 36 pounds for 10c.; fish, 50 pounds, 5c. to 10c.; bread, 3 pounds, 3c. to 4c.; coffee, tea, wine, or whiskey, per drink, 1 cent; meals, 8c. to 10c.; suit of men's cloth, similar to our \$40 suits, \$8; shoes, "Oxford" style, 75c. to \$1.00; shave and haircut, 4c.; child's haircut, 1c.

The gentleman said that the individual system of industry was still in vogue, and that farming and other implements similar to those used in patriarchal days were still in common use.

When inquiry was made about the extent of public vice, he replied: "We have no houses of ill-repute in our land. Everybody has sufficient paying work, and consequently the men marry at an early age and the social evil is unknown."

What an uncivilized country, yet what a happy land!

Other nations only cause it trouble, left to itself, minus the blessings of civilized capitalism, it has "peace, perfect peace!"

R. B. ST. CLAIR.

ELIMINATING WASTE.

London, March 14.—A proposal for pooling retail trades during the war has been approved at Birmingham by the civil and military authorities. Under the scheme, bread will be produced at large centers and districts allotted to certain people for the purpose of delivery.

Milk will be distributed in the same way. Small one-man businesses will be worked together under a pooling scheme, and after the war restored to their original state. By this means it is hoped to release a large number of men for the army.

AGAINST LABOR CONSCRIPTION.

London, March 9.—A great public meeting of the labor organizations is to be held March 31st to start a nation-wide protest against industrial conscription, which labor now believes is imminent.

WHY ARE POTATOES DEAR?

Interesting statistics are available here, says an Ottawa dispatch, concerning Canadian potato production and exports for the year 1916, as compared with those for 1915. These figures fail to explain why potatoes to-day are nearly three times the price they were this time last year.

The figures of production show that the yield in 1916 was only 2.35 per cent. lower than for 1915. Export for the two years, considering the difference in prices, would seem to have been about equal, and when it is considered that there are about 200,000 men overseas to-day who were in the Dominion in 1915, it is hard to explain prevailing prices of potatoes in the Dominion.

When is Mr. Crothers going to get busy?

CONSCRIPTIONISTS EXPELLED FROM AUSTRALIAN PARTY.

"Official Labor's Super-Parliament," as the Interstate Labor Conference in Melbourne, Australia, in December has been designated, began its deliberations with 36 representatives of the six states. It ended its sittings without

three pro-conscription delegates from West Australia. By a vote of 29 to 4 the following expulsion motion was carried: "That as compulsory overseas military service is opposed to the principle embodied in the Australian Labor Party's platform, all Federal members who have supported compulsory military overseas service, or who have left the Parliamentary Labor Party and formed another political party, are hereby expelled from the Australian labor movement." The resolution disowns all Mr. Hughes' supporters, and emphasizes the final character of the split in the Labor Party.

Included in the resolutions of the conference were two expressing indignation at the "sentences imposed by court-martial on Australian soldiers," and urging that Australians serving abroad who are charged with an offence "be tried by court-martial composed of Australians and that at least half of the court should be composed of men of the same rank as that of the person charged."

Not only have twenty-six of their members in the National Parliament, including Premier Hughes, been thrown out of their organization by the Labor party for advocating conscription along with other parties, but 11 members of Cabinet, 14 Senators and 21 members of the House of Representatives in the several States have been made to understand by the Labor Party that these men are through politically when their present terms in office expire. None will be renominated by the Labor party, the old fusion Liberal-Conservative party doesn't want them, and few, if any, can hope to win if they stand as Independents. Here is an instance where leaders suffering from the big head have not been able to misconduct the rank and file into a period of reaction.—Melbourne Socialist.

THE WAR AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The effect of the great war upon the problems of public health has been to pile up difficulties for both present and future. These new difficulties must be understood by the public in order that, instead of being a source of discouragement with health measures in general, they may become a stimulus to increased activity, as has already been the case in England with reference to infant mortality.

A trained soldier is of great value to the nation, and he is carefully safeguarded from epidemic disease and looked after like a child, regularly fed, warmly clothed, given baths as frequently as possible, exercised as much as possible, and kept, as the saying is, "in the pink," and because of this very fact that he is in perfect physical condition a soldier is able to throw off to a large extent such germs of disease as may by chance be absorbed by him.

But the third factor involves very real and serious public health problems. Already about 2,000 soldiers have been invalided home to Toronto. As the number of these physically impaired persons rapidly increases, they will influence the death rate and sickness rates of the city. Many returning soldiers will bring with them communicable diseases contracted at the front, the most serious of which will be syphilis, gonorrhea and tuberculosis, and these men will become centres for the spread of infection among our population. Already between 100 and 200 men have been returned to the Toronto district with tuberculosis, and the hospital doctors indicate that the number of cases of syphilis is large. Anyone familiar with the many forms that these diseases take will understand the effect that they are likely to produce upon the registered death rates from many other diseases. Most serious problems of preventive medicine will arise from these diseases, and it is probable that the circumstances under which they arise will make possible their final solution.—Toronto Health Bulletin.

Germany to Be Republic.

George Ledebour, Social Democratic leader, said:

"If the German Emperor urgently advised Emperor Nicholas in 1905 to no longer oppose the justified demands of the people, why did not the chancellor venture to give the same advice to Emperor William. We regard a republic as a coming inevitable development in Germany. History is marching with seven-league boots. The German people, indeed, show incredible patience. The Reichstag must have the right to a voice in the conclusion of alliances, peace treaties and declarations of war. The Imperial Chancellor must be dismissed when the Reichstag demands it."

Shouts of "high treason!" interrupted Herr Ledebour, and the president called him to order.

London, April 1.—There were stormy scenes in the Reichstag Friday, according to a Reuter despatch from Amsterdam, when Socialist deputies foreshadowed the establishment of a republic and demanded that the Reichstag have larger powers in the foreign policy.

Dr. Edouard David, the Socialist leader, is quoted by the Cologne Gazette as saying:

"My party has addressed an appeal to foreign Socialists for peace without annexation. It has been rejected. The French want absolutely to annex Alsace-Lorraine."

He declared that the Imperial Chancellor's words directed to the new rulers of Russia had transgressed the military censorship, for the military authorities had instructed the press that nothing must be published appearing like approval of the Russian revolution. He asked for the creation of a constitutional democratic state.

Guelph, April 9.—Three hundred and fifty young men of Guelph who signed the National Service cards several months ago received letters from the military authorities to-day that their services were required for overseas service, and asking them to report at once to Lieut.-Col. Mutrie, chief recruiting officer for Wellington county.

The receipt of these letters, which made it very clear that this was the last call which would be made for voluntary service, caused many of these men to think seriously about the matter and a number of them have already presented themselves at the Armories to go before the Medical Board. Some in the list received had already enlisted, while others hold certificates stating that they are physically unfit. The majority of them, however, are able-bodied men, who could easily pass the Medical Board, and the action which they will take will be watched with interest.

Major Walker and the members of the 264th Battery will go carefully over the names, and a full and complete report will be made respecting every man. If his reasons for not enlisting are unsatisfactory to the authorities there is not much doubt but that he will be compelled to join the colors. The citizens of Guelph regard this action on the part of the military authorities as a move in the right direction.

The figures of the Australian soldiers' vote is given as follows: For conscription, 40,000; against, 106,000. No further comment is necessary.

...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.

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

WHAT OTHERS ARE THINKING

Bright Clippings from Wide-a-wake Contemporaries

SAYS SOCIALISM WILL GROW AFTER THE WAR.

Hyndman Sees Revival of International Sentiment Among Workers.

International Socialism, though broken down by the war, will be revived, and there will come a day when British and German Socialists will again sit at the table together, says H. M. Hyndman, the 75-year-old leader of British Socialists.

"The war's immediate effect upon Socialism is not apparent," he said, "but one thing is certain, and that is that the war has taught the workers more than they could have learned in a score of years of peace. The war has made them think politically. When the soldiers come back home they will not be willing to go back to the hopeless chaos. They will demand better working conditions. We see a great strengthening of Social democracy as a result of the war.

"When the war broke out the capitalist system found itself incapable of handling the community under circumstances which demanded great and continuous national effort. So the state stepped in and took the railroads, and has since been commandeering and controlling nearly everything.

"The result is a system of state Socialism, which, of course, is not true Socialism. But at least we have a near approach to one of the fundamentals of Socialism—public ownership of public utilities—and I see no reason why it shouldn't be continued after the war is over."

THE TERMS OF PEACE.

Let Pity and Compassion wholly frame
Such terms of Peace that all mankind
may bless;

O may they leave no legacy of shame,
No latent fear, no seeds of bitterness—

Such terms of Peace that Hope itself
may borrow

Something to cheer our journey on the
morrow. —R. H. L.

In New York, that city of great wealth and prosperity (so-called), we see that the wives of the workers are rioting and crying for bread. No, New York is not in Germany, but in the land of the free (to plunder) like Canada, where the speculator is allowed to gouge the people to the limit with the consent both of the people and governments.

"He who takes air from you asphyxiates you and commits murder, and he who takes from you any of the rights of free speech, free press and free assembly, murders your hope, tortures your aspirations, kills your ambitions, assassinates your thoughts and brings ruin and disgrace upon the whole community.

Labor must have, shall have, and will have, the constitutional rights of free speech, free press, and free assembly."
—The American Federationist.

Berlin, March 19.—Philipp Scheidemann, Socialist leader in the Reichstag, says in the Socialist newspaper, Vorwarts: "It does not require many words to explain why almost the whole world is arrayed against us. The answer is given quickly. The whole world sees among our enemies more or less developed forms of democracy, and in us it sees only Prussians.

"We have always answered by referring to the absolutism of Russia, but now Czarism has gone, and the Emperor's successor is to accept the throne only if the representatives are to be

electe on the basis of universal, equal, direct and secret suffrage.

WAR AND WALL STREET.

Perhaps some light is thrown on the extraordinary war fever which has seized the metropolitan press by the following "daily market letter" issued by a Wall Street broker, George Graham Rice. This letter does not discuss "rights" or "national duties," but its explanation of the responses of the stock market to the threat of war is blunt to a degree, and should be kept in mind; it is the key to the pressure now being steadily exerted upon the administration to plunge us into war. Pressure equal and opposite MUST be exerted. The letter follows:

"When on Saturday at 11.15 a.m. the news was flashed that Ambassador Bernstorff had been handed his passports, uncertainty changed to certainty, and the stock markets began a recovery. To-day the rise was continued.

The situation in a nutshell, as expressed by the highest banking authorities, is about like this:

"We are on the verge of war with several of the great nations of the world. These nations are 'cribbed, cabled and confined' by the navies and armies of such powerful governments as England, France and Italy. The American nation is, in fact, about to enter upon a national joyfest. This country, with its untold resources, richer than any other country in the world, is about to engage in war with nations of the first class, and enjoy all the thrills of war without being compelled to do any of the real fighting. We shall now place ourselves upon a war footing equal to that of any of the warring parties, and with only the remotest possibility of an invading army or an invading navy reaching our shores. To place ourselves in a proper position, we are about to spend \$2,400,000,000 or more of American money, and spend it at home.

"In fine, overnight, \$2,000,000,000 worth of new home buying has come into existence, and the buying power from abroad which recently has been looked upon as a pinchbeck, now becomes the genuine article. Unbounded prosperity is at hand. Practically everything that is needed for war purposes in this country can be supplied in this country, and the Government's treasure, which will be poured into the lap of producers and manufacturers will remain here.

"Posterity may pay the debt in increased taxation and prosperity may feel the burden, but at this time the country and its flourishing population are bound to feel the quick and full effect of the unloosening."

Which is just another way of saying: "After us the deluge!"
—American Socialist.

British workers are not satisfied with the industrial conscription schemes that have been foisted upon them. A call has been sent out by prominent labor men urging that the workers in London and other large cities assemble in mass meetings on March 31 for the purpose of considering the whole programme of conscription and so decide on what is to be done to preserve industrial freedom.

While it was thought that the two Socialists in the New York Legislature had locked the passage of the Slater Bill to enforce universal military training, the measure was later jammed through, and is now a law. All boys between the ages of 16 and 19—200,000 in number—must now prepare for war. New York State also has a conscription

law, and Governor Whitman threatens to enforce it immediately.

NEWS OF THE MOVEMENT

(Continued from Page 5).

the House that it was probably intended to be such, but that as a matter of fact I regarded it as the greatest compliment that could have been paid to me. I mentioned the incident of Keir Hardie being similarly treated by the late King Edward in respect of a garden party tendered to the members of the British House, and went on to say that if such distinction tended to place me in the same category as my friend the late Keir Hardie, I regarded the treatment as conveying to me the highest-honor that it was in the gift of the Crown to bestow.

The other occasion on which a very erroneous report was published in The Forward was some weeks ago, when you published a paragraph dated "Winnipeg," which stated that Dixon and myself had been called upon to resign our seats as a consequence of our attitude toward National Registration, and that we had refused to do so.

The truth is that Dixon promised to resign and re-contest his seat if sufficient signatures were attached to a recall petition showing him that 25 per cent. of the number of electors voting at the last election desired him to do so. They have been trying to secure these signatures for more than two months, and have not yet succeeded. As a matter of fact, the effort has become the subject of popular newspaper ridicule. In my case, I have never been asked to resign, nor have the fanatics who have been courting notoriety by boosting the Dixon petition ever tried to break into my constituency. One half of my constituency comprises Ward Seven of the City of Winnipeg. A few weeks ago we had a bye-election for the aldermanic seat in that Ward. We put a Labor candidate into the field. He was opposed by the secretary of the Commercial Travellers' Association, who had previously been a member of the City Council. In spite of his violent appeals to what it pleases him and his kind to call patriotism and his denunciations of the Labor forces of this city as traitors, Alex. Hume, our candidate, won out with a majority of over 100 in the largest vote ever cast in the history of the ward. I give you this information as a possible indication of, at least, one of the reasons why the so-called patriotic element have not deemed it advisable to challenge my seat in any way.

I wish you to understand that I am not writing you in any censorious spirit in connection with the above mistakes. I appreciate thoroughly your difficulties and only desire to warn you against the acceptance of reports which are liable to be colored to suit interests other than our own.

With best wishes, I am,
Yours very truly,

R. A. RIGG.

Note:—We deeply appreciate Comrade Rigg's defence of his attitude upon this, as upon all other questions in which he has been brought into open court. Suffice to say that the paragraphs referred to are both of the quotations from the Telegram, Toronto. We do not stand as sponsor for anything the Telegram may say and merely place them in our columns for the purpose of boosting. "Every knock is a boost." The first of these quotations comes under the head of "Clip and Comment" of our March 10th issue, and the second under the head of "What Others Are Thinking Of," Feb. 10th. Place these in contrast with Comrade Rigg's statement of the actual occurrence and you will be able to estimate capitalist press reports at their true value, and in so doing the purpose of these insertions will be fully attained.—Ed.

"We, the Social Democratic Party of Montreal, Local No. 4, strongly condemn the enforcement of the Militia Act or any form of conscription as highly undemocratic and a violation of the fundamental liberties of the people.

We furthermore hold that military compulsion cannot be separated from industrial compulsion and that this form of militarism endangers the whole standard of industrial conditions and places the men in the various shops and factories under military control, putting a powerful weapon into the hands of private employers working for their own profits and dividends.

We, the members of the above organization therefore pledge ourselves to offer strong opposition to any such proposals.

MONTREAL LOCAL No. 4,
M. Liphitz, Secretary.

Winnipeg, Man.—We held a meeting in the Labor Temple on Sunday last for propaganda purposes, when Alderman John Queen spoke on "Economic Waste Under the Capitalist System." He showed by statistics how the productivity of labor had enormously increased, and was still increasing under the industrial regime that the advent of machinery has produced, and pointed out the enormous economic waste that was taking place in Europe, where millions of men had been taken from the mills and factories, and were now engaged in wasting the products which were being made by their fellow workers in shop and factory, and in spite of this wasted economic effort, those who are not immediately working for war purposes were able to supply the requirements of society. A good discussion followed the lecture, those taking part were chiefly our friends from the S. D. P. of C. Next Sunday Com. Tiffin will lecture in the same hall, and we have arranged for further meetings. The Jewish comrades are holding a mass meeting to celebrate the revolution in Russia, particulars next week. Sold seventeen copies of the Forward at the last meeting; please send me another bundle of the most recent issue.
S. J. ROSE, Sec.

Greencourt, Alta.—The Greencourt comrades have been favored by a speech from Comrade H. Thomas. The address was delivered under the auspices of North-Paddle Local No. 62 to a well-attended and deeply appreciative audience of 21 ladies and 51 gentlemen.

Comrade Thomas is leaving this part of Saskatchewan for a few months, and the special opportunity presented to him on this occasion to address this social gathering on his popular subject, "Sociology," especially in its relation to Maxian economics was deeply appreciated by the audience.

Special reference was made to the war and its relation to economic conditions as applied to the bulk of those who are participating in it, and the inevitable aftermath which will come as a reward for services rendered. A dance followed, in which everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Valiant service was rendered to the cause by a distribution of literature, after which a fitting vote of thanks was passed to the speaker, and especially to the ladies, who had so generously contributed to the success of the social by the due care and attention that had been given to replenishing the inner man by way of refreshments, etc. A very enjoyable and profitable time was spent, followed by many hearty handshakes and farewell greeting to Comrade Thomas.

L. WOLTER, Sec.

While there is a lower class,
I am in it;
While there is a criminal class,
I am of it;
While there is a soul in prison,
I am not free.
—Eugene Debs.

"Bargain Day"

AT THE BOOK STORE

We have on hand a few hundred low priced books slightly soiled, and rather than have them lying idle as deteriorating capital, we have decided to sell them off at greatly reduced prices.

Books regularly sold at 5c. straight will go at a sacrifice in bundles of 20 for 40c. Bundles of 10 for 25c. Bundles can be procured with twenty different titles or a number of the same title.

Bundles of 100 can be procured for \$1.50.
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12. The Confessions of a Drone.
13. The Issue.
14. Liberty.
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WOMEN'S COLUMN

WHY WOMEN WANT PEACE.

By Jennie Scott Griffiths.

Women want peace because peace and progress are synonymous. During times of peace the problems of social and industrial evolution are of paramount importance. Child labor, sweated conditions of workers, poverty and injustice in all forms, are investigated, and co-operating efforts made to remedy these evils.

Peace means the cultivation of the beautiful—flowers, foliage, pictures, books, music, and the harmonies of love between nations.

Peace means production of food-stuffs, clothing, furniture, houses, boats, and all the comforts of civilization.

In peace time women can develop as individuals, with the rights of citizens in the community.

War means retrogression and destruction.

All workers for productive purposes become of secondary importance to the workers for destruction during the period of the war.

In war time, wages are forced down, the standards of living are lowered, and the sweated conditions for the workers flourish, while the prices of food and other necessities go soaring upward.

In war time women become either breeding machines or beasts of burden, and are important to the nation merely as the producers of more soldiers or as an available supply of helplessly cheap labor.

Peace is based on the everlasting good of love, and war on the unalterable evil of hate.

Women are the guardians of the life of the nation, and must want peace rather than war.

Women are non-combatants, and, therefore, form a great neutral nation within each nation, and when they exercise the power they possess as advocates of peace, WARS WILL CEASE.—Melbourne Socialist.

SOCIALIST WOMEN ACTIVE.

They Report Successful Social and Interesting Discussions at Recent Meetings.

The Toronto Women's Social-Democratic League are holding successful meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. On Wednesday evening, March 21st the league discussed the question, "Is Patriotism a Virtue?" which proved quite an interesting theme, and brought out many and varied new points.

Wednesday evening, April 18th, at the Labor Temple, the league will discuss the question, "Is Charity a Virtue?" All women readers of the Forward are invited to be present.

The final returns from the social giv-

PARTY

Announcements

THE NEXT BIG DRIVE

By JAS. SIMPSON

Local No. 71, Dovercourt, will hold a Lecture Social on

SATURDAY, APRIL 14th, 1917
at 7.45, in

SUMMERFELDT'S HALL,

Cor. Dovercourt and Van Horn St.

Come and learn about Socialism and yourselves.

A splendid selection of artists have been procured for this occasion.

C. F. HOLL, Chairman.

"There are two classes in society—One that labors, and owns nothing; and one that owns everything, and does not labor." Which class are you in?

en by the league last month was a success from every point of view. There was a large attendance, a first-class programme, consisting of music, recitations and speeches. The speech of the evening was made by ex-Controller Simpson, and mainly consisted of congratulating the women on their entering into full citizenship in the Province of Ontario.

G. MANCE, Secretary.

In view of the present high cost of living, the Ottawa Citizen wonders how "any government would dare offer a married returned soldier a position at \$41.66 per month." And yet it would appear that any government that is so recklessly devoted to the gospel of frightfulness as to persist in arming its soldiers with the Ross rifle might be relied upon to possess the effrontery to dare and do financially at least to the extent referred to. But surely no one would expect such a government to go much above that.

SUB - HUSTLERS

1. The Science of Sub-Hunting.

It is easy to get new subs., if you spread the net right. Let the slogan be, "Every Socialist" get five new subs. at once, then keep the ball rolling, by each new hustler getting another five, and the thing is did. "Simple." Nels Saehle.

2. Something for nothing in the sub. line.

Each subscriber send five dollars and get in return six dollars' worth of Sub. Cards. You can make money, and help the workers to see the light. The advantage of this kind of warfare is in its killing capacity or in the opportunity to kill a lie, and develop brains at the same time. Try it; it will develop your debating powers. It will make interesting reading in the columns of the Forward, and we have a number of headlines that will give it its mark in current history. Something like this:

- "How Henry Captured the Dub."
- "The Bullet That Saved a Soul from Hell."
- "The Tongue is Mightier Than the Sword."
- "The Story of a Captured Sub." etc.

3. Educate Yourself by Selling Subs.

Send five dollars for sub. cards, sell the same, and have the best educational magazine on the American continent sent free for one year. The International Review, and others, when the Apostle of Liberty (the censor) sees fit to remove the censorship on other desirable magazines.

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