

MILITARISM  
WILL DESTROY  
THE  
PEOPLE

# THE CANADIAN FORWARD

THE PEOPLE  
WILL  
DESTROY  
MILITARISM

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIAL - DEMOCRATIC PARTY

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May 24, 1917

## "COMPROMISE" AGAINST CONSCRIPTION

### RUMBLINGS OF REVOLUTION

Social - Democratic Party of Canada

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### MANIFESTO

RE CONSCRIPTION

#### Quebec

#### LAVERGNE TO ANSWER CALL.

But He Says All is Wrong—Speakers at a Liberal Meeting Air Views Which Are in Opposition to Conscription.

Montreal, May 21.—A despatch from Quebec to the Star says: "Being an officer in the militia, I shall be one of the first to be called out. I shall present myself without grumbling, and be a good soldier, for the Government will have spoken, and I shall obey. But the whole thing is wrong. Canada is already practically bankrupt through this war, and now she is taking another step toward ruin and annexation." Such was the comment made by Colonel Armand Lavergne regarding the conscription announcement.

"I believe in Canada first," he said. "If it came to a question of Canada's interest, I would let that little island which governs us go, just as she would let us go were the allies beaten by Germany and Canada demanded as a condition in the terms of peace."

"And assuming that you have Canada's interest at heart, regardless of the Empire as a whole, you do not believe it is to Canada's advantage to help the allies defeat the Germans."

"They should wait till the Germans come over here," he said.

#### Conscription Opposed.

"Borden is taking your sons by force and sending them away to be killed. We have done well by sending four hundred thousand soldiers to the front, all of whom have gone of their own good will, but for my part I do not want my sons sent to fight by a partizan government when England has a national Government in power," said Charles Query, at a meeting at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, called by the Young Men's Liberal Association of Montreal.

I. Vautrin, president of the association, said this was a free country, and the Government had no right to bring in conscription without authority from the people. "I for one," he declared, "have no confidence in conscription from such a cabinet as the one now in power."

#### National Government.

D. A. Lafortune, M.P., while expressing himself against conscription before the Government, was sure that the people willed it, said he had as yet received no intimation as to his leader's decision. He referred to the idea of a national Government, expressing the belief that it would be unwise for a partizan government like the one in power at Ottawa to impose enlistment by force.

Senator Choquette, of Quebec, says he will oppose conscription on the ground that the people should be consulted either by a referendum or a general election.

#### ANTI-CONSCRIPTION MEETING IN MONTREAL.

Montreal, May 23.—"Down with Conscription!" was the sentiment which pervaded a gathering in Park Lafontaine to-night, estimated at between 15,000 or 20,000, largely comprised of men whose ages ran from 15 to 30, the open air meeting having been called for the purpose of opposing conscription. Mr. M. Britton, who presided, said it was the duty of all men to "protest against this — conscription."

Further, he said, "Let us show the Government that the French-Canadians are not sheep." He considered that Canada had done her whole duty when she "sent 400,000 of our fellow-citizens to England."

Mr. Tancrede Marsill, proprietor of a local French daily, La Liberte, said he had received a letter from Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in which the Liberal chieftain had said he would oppose prolongation of Parliament and conscription. "I want to register this statement," said Mr. Marsill, "that before we have conscription we will have revolution."

Mr. Marsill said the French-Canadians were ready to do their duty as volunteers to defend the Empire, but they did not want conscription, especially conscription imposed by a Government which has had no mandate since September, 1916.

"We claim," said he, "general elections, so as to put an end to this Government."

The meeting was orderly, but was watched by a large force of policemen.

Mr. Ubald Paquin, a young newspaper man, said:

"Borden has come home here to murder some more thousands of citizens. This measure he proposes is organized murder."

Stating that General Hughes had said in Toronto that conscription was to be applied only to places where they had not done their duty, Mr. Paquin said:

"That means that they want to take men from the French-Canadian race, where the women are not afraid of having children."

He was in the midst of a sentence asking that protestations be made, and was saying: "If these means do not prevail—" when he was interrupted

In view of the Conscription Legislation foreshadowed by the Borden administration, we, the members of the Dominion Executive Committee of the Social-Democratic Party of Canada hereby place ourselves on record in relation to the proposed legislation.

**RESOLVED:**—That the first duty of a Democratic State is to refer to the people any proposed legislation which may vitally affect their welfare and civil liberty. In this regard we strongly condemn the suggested action of the Government for their announced intention of enacting compulsory military service without any such referendum being taken, thereby undermining the function of democratic Government—"Government by the people for the people."

**AND WHEREAS:**—We believe this is an attempt to coerce the people of this country into sustaining a proposal or policy which is alien to the wishes of the community (and akin to the military Junker system of Germany, which is a blight to the workers of that country), and in so far as the Borden administration is openly supporting this principle of militarism which is the greatest enemy of democracy; and has been so remiss in its duty to our people by permitting the profiteers and speculators to press down the said people to the lowest limits of human subsistence.

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**—that the first duty of the Government is to protect our own people from the enemy in our midst, by destroying the principle of Profit, Patronage, and Graft, and to forever put an end to the destructive power of vested interests by subordinating all the material resources of Canada to the general welfare of our people, and by granting security and protection to those least able to defend themselves, "the wealth producers," and the extension of this principle to the injured soldiers and the dependents of those who have fallen in the fight.

**AND WHEREAS:**—We have received no clear declaration of the Government's object in prosecuting the war, and so far as we are aware, has taken no action to bring about a lasting peace; and further, having on record the statement of a British Cabinet Minister, Lord Robert Cecil, "that the allies cannot consider terms of peace without territorial compensation and indemnity," we are forced by circumstances to conclude that the men who would come under the provisions of the proposed legislation would be engaged in a war of conquest—to which principle we have a distinct objection; and so far as we are concerned will not acquiesce in the sacrifice of Canadian manhood for such base material purposes.

We further declare our uncompromising hostility to all measures of "Industrial or Military Conscription," as a menace to the liberties and social aspirations of the Canadian people, and strictly adhere to the spirit of the "Basle Socialist Convention of 1913," declaring it to be our duty to bring the war to an end, and with all our energies to use the Political and Economic power at our disposal to hasten the fall of Capitalist dominion (which is the cause of war) by placing society upon a stable economic foundation which will bring as a natural corollary—The blessings of Universal Peace.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

I. BAINBRIDGE,  
Secretary.

363 Spadina Avenue,  
Toronto, May-22nd, 1917.

by cries of, "We will take other means."

Later a crowd which had followed Mr. Marsil down town smashed windows in the offices of La Presse and La Patrie.

#### ANTI-CONSCRIPTION FIGHT.

Begins in Quebec—League to Be Organized in Quebec City District—Montreal Council Asked to Go on Recess.

Montreal May 22.—A Quebec despatch says: "Ald. Dussault at last

night's meeting against conscription. He also announced the near creation of an anti-conscription league throughout the entire district."

Meetings against conscription were held last night in Montreal. The Club Letellier agreed to ask Mayor Martin to introduce a resolution in council against obligatory military overseas service. At a meeting on St. Lawrence Boulevard it was decided to organize a mass open air meeting in Parie Lafontaine on Wednesday evening against conscription.

A petition from a number of citizens

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## RUMBLINGS OF REVOLUTION

(Continued from Page One)

was filed at the city hall to-day demanding that the council go on record as protesting against conscription without a referendum.

Montreal May 24.—Montreal's principal streets to-night and in the early hours of the morning witnessed demonstrations on a scale not known of in this city for many years past. There were at least a dozen processions marching about the streets from St. Lawrence street east each gathering reinforcements of young men at various central corners while one procession clashed with the other, and the confusion was considerable.

There was one big meeting scheduled for the evening, at the corner of Logan and Champlain streets. To this point congregated crowd after crowd, marching there with blare of trumpets, and loud yells against conscription, and condemnation of the Government.

### Marsil Talks Revolution.

Tancrede Marsil was again prominent, and he told the audience again that before conscription was enforced by the present Government, there would be revolution, and that he was at the head

of the organization that would take the necessary means.

Emphasis on the growing disposition amongst a certain class of the younger men to cause trouble because of the pronouncement of Premier Borden on the conscription question was brought out this morning in connection with a parade of several thousand men that primarily was meant to be a protest from laboring men against the high cost of food, but which developed into an anti-conscription parade, and which was followed by a fight at Phillips Square between two soldiers and some civilians who had been parading. The parade itself was orderly.

### LABOR MAN OPPOSES CONSCRIPTION AT UNITY CONVENTION IN MONTREAL.

Mr. J. Taylor, Victoria, "put the fat in the fire" when he opposed anything which he claimed would involve conscription of man power or of industry. He declared that if it did he would have to withdraw as the representative of organized labor. A long and at times heated discussion followed, in which twenty persons took part, urging Mr. Taylor to reconsider.

## ONTARIO FALLS IN LINE

### SOCIALISTS SAY NO CONSCRIPTION.

#### Pass An Emphatic Resolution Against Measure at Labor Temple Meeting.

Toronto, May 28.—Shouting, cheering, whistling, approximately 1,000 men and women, representing at least seven different nationalities, recorded by a standing vote their protest against military conscription and disfranchisement of alien enemies in Canada at the conclusion of an enthusiastic meeting in the assembly room of the Labor Temple, Church Street, last night under the auspices of the Social Democrat party of Canada.

The vote endorsed the resolutions which placed the meeting on record as being "emphatically opposed to the compulsory military proposals of the government." It also stated that "believing as we do that militarism is absolutely opposed to any form of democratic government, we cannot acquiesce in the idea that this country should force its citizens to perform service which can only tend to bind still more firmly the chains of a military autocracy upon themselves. We therefore pledge ourselves to oppose any attempt to force such service upon us."

Regarding disfranchisement, the resolution expressed disapproval of the action of the city council in petitioning Parliament to take away for the duration of the war the franchise of all citizens hailing from alien countries who have been naturalized Canadians less than twenty-five years. It condemned the action as totally out of harmony with the spirit of the age, as ill-advised, because it was likely to accentuate racial discord and contrary to the best interests of the country. Copies of the resolution will be sent to Premier Borden and administration officials.

Speeches were delivered in English by I. Bainbridge, who presided, James Simpson, and Mrs. Hector Rentor; in Ukrainian by James Stefanisky; in Polish by M. Rotshild; in Russian by G. Mak; in Finnish by J. W. Alquist; in Yiddish by J. Brown, and in Italian by C. Marbis.

Time and again the speakers were interrupted by cheers and applause which came from every corner of the hall. The meeting was scheduled to begin at 7.30 o'clock but for an un-

known cause it was delayed an hour. By the time the speeches were started every seat in the auditorium and balcony was occupied, while standing room was at a premium. People were even sitting upon the platform at the feet of the speakers before the meeting closed. About twenty-five women were present, but the great majority of the audience were apparently men of eligible age for service under the proposed selective draft.

Chairman Bainbridge, in explaining the purpose of the meeting, prefaced his remarks by characterizing as a "gross fabrication" a recent interview attributed to him by an afternoon newspaper, in which he was quoted as an advocate of conscription. He declared that militarism in all countries was the greatest enemy of the working man. In reference to Canada's proposed action, he suggested that the motive forces behind the organization for conscription were similar to those employed in other countries for the purpose of defeating the aims of those who were seeking to elevate the working class. He knew that it would have the same result in the Dominion. He predicted that its adoption would prevent the working people from achieving progress in industrial and social development.

In commenting upon the unanimous applause which marked the adoption of the resolution at the close of the meeting, Mr. Bainbridge said: "The spirit of unity of this demonstration bodes ill for any party which seeks to pass any form of conscription in Canada. Despite the capitalistic press, which supports conscription, the united strength of the working class will become known and whatever the politicians wanted, it would ultimately be the workers who would settle the question, and suggested that many other things would have to go into the melting pot before any such measure could be enacted.

James Simpson reviewed and explained the action of Toronto's city council in the adoption of the resolution favoring disfranchisement of alien enemies, construing that action as "a piece of political trickery designed to add political prestige to those in the city council and to those who did not know the underlying principles of British citizenship."

"This country has reached more or less of a crisis as it affects the government," Mr. Simpson said. "It is not as much in favor of conscription as Premier Borden anticipated, and in-

stead of the government thinking it can introduce such legislation the officials are realizing that they cannot carry on without precipitating a crisis in the country's affairs.

"Premier Borden has the choice of a referendum of a dissolution of parliament," said the speaker, "and going to the people to see whether he is upheld. He is realizing that the next way of escape is to call the Liberals to form a coalition administration. The desire of the government is to keep its feet in the treasury for the advantages of patronage and power, at least another year."

The speaker then recalled that the premier had promised him and associate labor officials that conscription would not be introduced unless the country was in absolute danger of being destroyed. Mr. Simpson reminded his audience that since that promise was given the United States had joined the allies.

"He is not justified now," Mr. Simpson exclaimed, "if the government had been more concerned with the conscription of wealth it would be in a stronger position to enforce conscription of man power of Canada, and would be more deserving of the confidence of labor."

He quoted statistics to show how comparatively small with the war tax on profits, and then, after condemning the war profiteers, he said: "Do the officials believe we will willingly and submissively bend to a government which is trying to take a man without his permission, while these gamblers of commerce revel in their luxury? Unless the premier and the government justify the action of the reversal of the proper order of things I will not support conscription, and even if they do conscript wealth they will have to prove that the country is in jeopardy." In closing he argued that labor had the right to insist upon a greater influence in managing the affairs of the country and predicted a new birth for Socialism as a direct result of the war.

Mrs. Prentor said that conscription of wealth would stop the war. She declared that the majority of women were opposed to compulsory military service and expected the labor party to prevent Canada from being a "slave nation." It was the women and the workers who paid for the war, she said, and that if the profits were taken out of the business of war, armed conflict would cease.

Provision is being made to hold another meeting, and it is anticipated that a much larger audience will be in attendance.

### COPY OF RESOLUTION FORWARDED TO PREMIER BORDEN BY KITCHENER SOCIALISTS.

"The Socialists in the City of Kitchener have since the beginning of the war supported the attitude of Canadian Socialists and of all Socialist parties in the world which are in complete opposition to war.

"We are definitely opposed to any action by the Canadian Government which introduces conscription into Canada. The adoption of such measures for the avowed purpose of defeating militarism we regard as hypocritical. It is the task of the German people themselves to overthrow German militarism and no other people can do this for them. If the Canadian Government tied hand and foot to British Imperialism forces upon Canadian work men the same system it bids them go out and destroy then it becomes the duty of liberty-loving Canadians to fight militarism at home and to sweep from power the Government which imposes militarism upon us. The Canadian Government becomes as great a menace as the German Government.

"In view of our hostility to military service we demand that instead of the Premier and his associates forcing conscription measures through Parliament they shall ask the opinion of Canadians

of both sexes through referendum.

"In case the Canadian Government should seek to force this military measure upon us we the Socialists of Kitchener, declare that because of our principles of international working-class solidarity, we will not bow our heads to the yoke."

### TRADES CONGRESS EXECUTIVE AGAINST CONSCRIPTION.

Ottawa, May 22.—J. C. Watters, President of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, made the following statement to-night on the result of the Congress Executive meeting on conscription:

"After giving full consideration to the statement the Prime Minister made to the Executive of the Congress, the Executive sees no reason to change its position on conscription. The Executive has considered the matter carefully, and nothing has transpired to alter its stand of a year ago. The Executive will meet again on Monday, after the debate on the measure, and a fuller statement, going into the details of its stand, will be issued on Tuesday."

### AT THE MINES.

#### Strike Outlook Improves.

Cobalt, May 19.—It is the consensus of opinion among mining men that the selective conscription measure just announced will serve to mitigate to a very considerable extent the labor agitation throughout the mining camps of the district. It is believed and perhaps rightly so, that idle men are more likely to be called upon than are steady working men. The union officials recognize this fact and will probably be content to forego the pressing of any demands to the point of striking, in that to do so would place all the strikers in a more or less conspicuous position and thus make them subject to perhaps the first call. Whereas for some little time the precipitation of a strike has by many mining men been considered almost inevitable, the tables are now changed, and a strike would now appear to be a rather remote possibility.

### EFFECTS OF CONSCRIPTION IN ENGLAND

#### IMMUNE FROM ATTACK.

"So long as the British Navy is intact Britain is immune from attack; therefore there is no need for conscription in the British Isles."—Encyclopaedia Britannica.

#### A VOTARY OF PEACE.

Albert Taylor, "Peace negotiations candidate" for the Rossendale division of Lancashire, England, has been arrested. From the whole-hearted support he has been receiving from all sections of the community, irrespective of party political affiliations, it seems at the time of writing that the only thing that could prevent the defeat of the Government candidate was the intervention of the military service law. This, happily for the Government, has matured in Taylor's case. Another voice is lost to the cause of humanity, but the spirit of this undaunted comrade will speak for generations to come.

#### "WHERE ARE WE AT?"

#### From a Member of the Lords:

"Tell us for what we are fighting; tell us if we are victorious what will be the results of victory; tell us what recompense we may expect, except barren wreaths of glory, for a sacrifice of uncounted treasure and for mourning and misery in a hundred thousand English homes."—Lord Stanley, on the Crimean War.

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## EFFECT OF CONSCRIPTION IN ENGLAND

(Continued from page Two)

### From an ex-Tory MP:

"As in going to war so in coming to peace, it is a mistake to suppose that old men are prudent—on the contrary, they are always rash; for they have not time to wait. These vain old men have committed their silly selves to statements and requirements of their own of the terms of peace they will propose. . . . Will they have the courage and manliness now to face the wreck they have made; will they seek to salve it; or will they prolong the conflict for no other purpose than to save their wrinkled old faces?"—T. Gibson Bowles, in the *Candid Review*.

### From a War Correspondent:

"And the war goes on, and the wounded still steam back, and white men as well as dark men ask God to tell them what all this means, and can find no answer to the problem of the horror which has engulfed humanity and made a jungle of Europe in which we fight like beasts."—Philip Gibbs.

### From a Higher Educationist: . . . .

"The nations of Europe have fallen into a helpless slough of mutual destruction, so abominable, so ruinous, so preposterous, so devilish that any adjective we may apply to it shrivels in inadequacy. . . . And no man, great or small, sees any way out, of it short of absolute obliteration of the people behind one set of belligerents or the other. But this involves calamities as yet not dreamed of. Moreover, we have definite assurance that the rulers of nearly every nation concerned would welcome any escape which should give peace with a semblance of victory enough to save their royal or their ministerial face."—Professor David Starr Jordan, Stanford University.

Under the military domination free speech is a thing of the past. Meetings called by Union of Democratic Control in Memorial Hall for discussions of after-war problems, have been completely overrun, the government forging admission tickets and supplying them to soldiers, who were admitted and broke up the meeting. In defending this method in the House of Commons, Mr. Tennent said: "I had to back up the military, whom I hope I shall never desert in any matter of this kind when any allegation is brought against them." For venting anti-war sentiments in conversation at a military hospital, a Socialist member of the Sheffield Board of Guardians was sentenced (Aug. 6, 1915) to two months' imprisonment by the city bench.

This is the militarism that the jingo press of this country is trying to force upon the common people. Let us see to it that Prussianism shall not be enacted in this land.

### WITH MILITARISM SUPREME.

The world war has made severe inroads on the liberties and democratic institutions of most of the belligerent nations. This was to be expected, since it was simply rule by force—something quite beyond and above the law. Perhaps no country, with one exception, has suffered more from war despotism than England.

Not only has her prized freedom of the press been infringed by the censorship—only the Northcliffe papers can now say what they please—but such primitive rights as freedom of conscience and the prohibition of torture have been suspended. These were among the first rights secured by Englishmen of former days.

Long before even the idea of universal suffrage had dawned on the world,

Englishmen fought for these two rights. Archbishop Laud's use of torture against the dissenters of his day was among the wrongs which caused King Charles I. to lose his head at Whitehall in 1649. But so true is it that only eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, so easily are established rights lost when the martial spirit is rampant, that according to well substantiated reports torture is being practiced in England to-day for the purpose of coercing the consciences of native Englishmen.

There are now, it is stated, about 10,000 "conscientious objectors" in English prisons. These men are imprisoned because they consider it wrong to go to war. In order to force them to abandon their principles and bear arms, they have been subjected to most inhuman treatment.

In extremely cold weather they have been deprived of clothing and placed in cold cells in order to force them to put on the uniform. Old Archbishop Lauds methods were humane compared with this. One English officer boasted that by this means he had made soldiers of fifty "conscientious objectors." He does not state how many others who would not yield he also tortured. Verily a few more backward steps may bring Europe to the diabolical practices of the Spanish inquisition.

"Frightfulness" is not an incident of German submarine warfare alone. Even a humane people like the English may retrograde under the poison of the militaristic spirit. No man, no race of men, can be trusted when martial law takes the place of civil law. The savage may break loose when society no longer restrains him. Therefore, now is the time carefully to guard our own democracy.

### CONSCRIPTION WILL SMASH TRADE UNIONS.

"Some of them (the Conscriptionists) desire it as the only weapon against the growing power of trade unions."—Benjamin Kidd, *Daily News*, September 7, 1915.

"Arguing in favor of compulsory Cadet Corps, he (Lord Methuen) quotes the example of the South African Citizen Army, and he says: 'Little did we anticipate that within three years this force should (sic) have scotched a strike and quelled a rebellion.'"—*Daily News*, January 29, 1915.

"Not every man will be wanted as a soldier, but all will be 'fetched' to do what is wanted of them, whether in workshops or government departments or mines or merchant ships."—*Spectator*, August 28, 1915.

"It (conscription) is not only a question of raising a given number of recruits, but of getting accepted by all citizens, civilian workers as well as soldiers, the principle of public obligation."—*Saturday Review*, August 28, 1915.

"Compulsory service was necessary at this time when the people were getting out of hand."—Colonel Sir Augustus Fitzgeorge, son of the late Royal Duke of Cambridge, August 26, 1915.

"Trade unionism—that shelter for slinking shirkers—is imperilling our existence, and by its action a rot of our national soul has set in. One remedy, and one alone, can eradicate this state of rot—martial law will cure it."—Lt. Col. W. H. Maxwell, in the *Outlook*, September, 1915.

### WHAT IT IS ALL ABOUT.

While folks are haggling as to whether we are fighting to "save" Belgium or to "save" England, or in defence of "gallant little Serbia," or battling to preserve the neutrality of Greece, the *Financial Mail* (the paper your boss reads and you don't get hold of) on 15/7/16 calmly opens its mouth thus:

"The present war is being undertaken for a purely commercial purpose, it is of the utmost importance to the Allies that whatever peace may be made that peace shall destroy German commercial

supremacy—the Commercial Conference in Paris was called for this purpose. Mr. Hughes came over from Australia to further this one object."

It is interesting to have this exploiters' organ declare that the war is "purely commercial."

### THE COMING CRY FOR BREAD.

Fellow workers, famine is rapidly approaching in this country. What we stated in the *Call* months ago is now generally admitted in the capitalist press. We asked then what effective measures should be taken by the government to guarantee a continuation of supplies. We demanded that all the food in the country should be properly controlled and distributed. We made a number of recommendations which, if they had been immediately carried out, might have considerably eased the gravity of the situation. No notice was taken of those demands then or subsequently. The ruling class has permitted food manipulators, flour factors, profit-mongers of all descriptions to make millions in profits out of the people's necessities. It has made a number of ridiculous appeals to the workers for voluntary abstention from eating bread—bread being almost all you can get—but it has made no serious attempt to check the luxurious indulgence of the rich. Food dictators have been appointed—such dictators having, in some instances, made fortunes out of food-stuffs—and the net result of their activities has been to issue stupid menus to restaurants and to say how much sugar shall be used in pantries. The small group of "business men" and gentlemen with Byzantine ideas which the ruling class has appointed to run the country has been fooling for famine all the time. Now the sinister figure of Famine is rapping its grisly knuckles at your doors. And we ask: what are you going to do?

What are you going to do when your children cry for bread? What are you going to do when your wives point to the empty cupboards? What are you going to do when you feel hunger gnawing inside your stomachs? Hunger is not the kind of feeling which makes one pleasant or agreeable. When supplies run short with the bees they turn out the drones. But the drones in this country are on your backs. They will take care of themselves. What will you do?

The members of the ruling class—the drones—say the people—you—must endure all the evils of famine because the war must go on. The elusive "victory" which they said was to come in 1914, then in 1915, then in 1916, is still to be achieved. What that victory is, and what way that victory is to benefit you you have yet to find out. All the positive results you have to show from the war is increased misery and degradation, the loss of your trade union conditions and your civil liberties, and thousands of your class maimed and killed. And now famine. A little more of such "victory" pursuit and rag-and-bone men will merely have to collect you. But the drones are still talking glibly of the campaigns of 1918, of 1919, and of 1920.

Come, now, what are you going to do? In order that your children, whom you love, may live, they must have bread. In order that your wives may accomplish their household duties and feed your babies, they must have nourishment. The need of food is inexorable. It is the terrible logic of necessity. The best food dictators possible cannot produce food by waving a wand or issuing injunctions to hotel proprietors. It is impossible to provide food when there is none to provide. The supplies in the country are rapidly diminishing. The ruling class refuses even to make an equitable distribution of what supplies there are. The compulsory rationing, if we are to judge from past experience, when it comes, will have the usual advantages for the drones. Will you

agree to the starvation of your wives and little ones? Or will you join with us in insisting upon the proper distribution of such food as is available, in our struggle for peace, and in our efforts to overthrow the class which is responsible for all the chaos and misery?—The *Call*, England.

## CLIP AND COMMENT

### WANT MILITIA ACT APPLIED.

The *Toronto Star* on May 16th, 1917, gave particular prominence to this feature, pointing out that the act could be used for drafting men for overseas service. The insertion dealt at length with the classes of men who could be called up for active service under this heading, and suggested that other classes were exempt. Why is the *Star* so deeply concerned in withholding from the public information regarding the exempt classes? We venture to suggest that the non-publication of such information is an evidence of their class bias, the publication of which exemptions would have a very derogatory effect in familiarizing the public with this pernicious "class legislation" which in its application demands a greater sacrifice from the workers who have little property or leisure, than it does from the parsons and lawyers who, upon logical grounds, should be the first to be called, which honor should be conferred upon them as they are not necessary to the continuation of society, as they fulfil no useful function in wealth production.

### MR. BENNETT FOR DOMINION FRANCHISE.

Mr. R. B. Bennett, Calgary, vigorously championed the establishment of a Dominion franchise, and reiterated his caution that it should not be exercised toward people of alien birth. There were many men, both in Canada and the United States, who had taken the oath of allegiance, in whose veins the blood of race was so strong that in the midst of a great war they had shown no sympathy with nor support of the allies. They had demonstrated that naturalization in itself was not sufficient. The franchise was not a right, but a privilege.

Speaking in the House of Commons on May 16th, 1917, Mr. Bennett gave expression to a pungent remark which has been stated in these columns on several occasions, viz., "The franchise is not a right, but a privilege." No doubt the mind of Mr. Bennett was obsessed by the voting power of Canadian citizens of "Austro-German birth," and the possible effect it may have on his own political future. What concerns us is the true but startling fact thus given prominence by a cabinet minister, that a bunch of political junkers can, and may, take away the power of the people to select those who shall hold the destinies of the people in the hollow of their hand—and thus reduce the people affected to a position of abject slavery.

It is high time the working class of Canada concerned themselves with a charter for "Democracy," which will give them the inalienable right to control Parliament in their own interests, and whose power shall be prescribed by the sovereign will of the people.

### NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Many complaints are coming to hand of subscribers not receiving the *Forward* regularly. We beg to state that all copy is being sent out regularly twice a month, and request that in case of non-delivery that you will immediately communicate with this office, and also the postmaster of your district.

# WHAT THE PEACE NOTES SAY

## Should the Slaughter Continue?

Considerably over half a million British casualties have occurred since the commencement of the Grand Push last July.

An examination of the peace notes makes one wonder what such terrible slaughter is all about.

We have selected typical portions of the latest peace notes and set them side by side, and a comparison will show that for the diplomats this terrible holocaust is little more than a fishwives' quarrel.

### The German Note.

"The Central Powers have no reason to enter again into a controversy regarding the origin of the world war. History will judge on whom the blame falls. Its judgment will as little pass over the encircling policy of England, the revanche policy of France, and Russia's aspiration for Constantinople as over the provocation by Serbia, the Sarajevo murders, and the complete Russian mobilization, which meant war on Germany."

"Our enemies, in whose power it was to examine the real value of our offer, neither made any examination nor made counter proposals. Instead of that they declared that peace was impossible so long as the restoration of violated rights and liberties, the acknowledgment of the principle of nationalities and free existence of small states were not guaranteed. The sincerity which our enemies deny to the proposal of the four allied powers cannot be allowed by the world to these demands if it recalls the fate of the Irish people and the destruction of the freedom and independence of the Boer republics, the subjection of Northern Africa by England, France and Italy, the suppression of foreign nationalities in Russia, and finally the oppression of Greece, which is unexampled in history."

"The Imperial Government declares that it solely depended on the decision of our enemies whether the road to peace should be taken or not. The enemy governments have refused to take this road. On them falls the full responsibility for the continuation of bloodshed. But the four allied powers will prosecute the fight with calm trust and confidence in their good cause until a peace has been gained which guarantees to their own peoples honor, and gives all the powers of the Euro-

pean Continent the benefit of working, united in mutual esteem, at the solution of the great problems of civilization."—Daily News, January 13, 1917.

### "YOU'RE A WRONG 'UN."

### The Allies' Note.

"The allies cherish a desire as deep as that of the Government of the United States to see an end put as soon as possible to the war for which the Central Empires are responsible, and which reflects such cruel sufferings upon humanity."

"But in their judgment it is impossible to obtain at this moment such a peace as will not only secure to them the reparation, the restitution, and the guarantees justly due to them by reason of the act of aggression, the guilt of which is fixed upon the Central Powers, while the very principle from which it sprang was undermining the safety of Europe; and at the same time such a peace as will enable the future of European nations to be established upon a sure foundation. The allied nations are convinced that they are not fighting for selfish interests, but above all to provide safeguards for the independence of peoples, for law and for humanity."

"The chief aim of the allies is to assure peace on those principles of liberty, justice, and inviolable fidelity to international obligations."

"With this end in view the allied governments are each and all determined to put forth all their strength and to endure every sacrifice in order that they may press to a victorious close a conflict on which they are convinced depend not only their own safety and prosperity, but the very future of civilization."—Daily News, January 12, 1917.

### "YOU'RE ANOTHER."

## THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION AND FINLAND.

By George Halon

Editor Finnish Socialist Monthly Sakenia.

The Russian revolution realized the yearning hope of the working classes of all countries; it destroyed the intolerable, hideous and bloody sway of crazism, ushering the dawn of a new day to suffering Russia. The news of this joyous event brought the message that the beautiful spring days of liberty have arrived also in Finland. The dark powers of tyranny met the same fate in Finland as in Russia. According to the news despatches, the provisional government of new Russia had granted Finland autonomy, and the constitutional rights, denied by the old regime, were driven back. The Finnish Parliament (Diet) was called into session for the purpose of making a new constitution for Finland. The Finnish Senate, the supreme executive body of Finland, has been completely reorganized, and, according to the unofficial news, the new Senate consists of six Socialist and six Conservative members, at the head of which is a Socialist, Comrade O. Tokoi.

The coming events in Finland will be of the greatest importance, especially to the international Socialist and labor movement. Finland is the first and, so far, the only country in the world which has a Socialist majority in its legislative body. In spite of the difficulties that presented themselves in the agitation work on account of the odious restrictions on free speech and press, the Finnish workingmen elected into the Parliament last July 103 Socialists, the total number of representatives being 200. But during the old regime the Diet was not called into session, and even if it were, the chances are meagre that the acts of the Diet would have been tolerated or accepted by the Russian government.

When the Finnish Diet now assembles the Socialists of the world will cast their eyes on that small northern country, waiting with keen interest to see what their Finnish comrades will do. The interest will be so much greater because we know that the socialist movement in Finland has always been based on sound class consciousness and Marxism in the real meaning of that term.

In casting a glance at what the Socialists will do, we must first of all admit that their task is tremendous. These Socialists will have to overcome many profound difficulties which will arise when they touch the sacred body of the capitalist system in order to fulfil their work for the emancipation of the working class. The Finnish bourgeoisie is not going to give way an inch without resistance. With all its energy the exploiting class will oppose the measures taken by the Socialists, but the Finnish comrades would overcome these inner difficulties, were there not more extensive external complications in national affairs.

Finland is but a small nation, surrounded by big capitalist countries—even Russia, in spite of the recent revolution, will be a capitalist nation; in fact the revolution made possible the free development of the capitalist system of production, as the French revolution did in France about a hundred years ago. That means that, even if the autonomy granted to Finland were so extensive that Finland would have complete power to act in its internal affairs in accordance with its own desire, even then it could not become a complete Socialist state, free of all capitalist oppression.

The economic life of the world is so complicated and international that it is not possible for any nation to isolate itself from the other nations. Whether it be a big or a small nation, the consequences would be the same. Finland also will, in many respects, be dependent on foreign countries. And besides,

it would be too dangerous an experiment to the foreign capitalists to allow a real Socialist state to set an example to the workingmen of their countries.

It is not to be expected that the Finnish Socialists, in spite of the fact that they are now in power will be able to create a state which will correspond to all the expectations of a Socialist commonwealth. But nevertheless, the Finnish Socialists will solve many critical problems concerning the welfare of the working class.

The "Red Parliament" has to begin its working in shaping a new constitution. The old one may be traced back to the days of the middle ages, and, therefore, the alterations will be tremendous. The separation of state from church will be brought forth. Undoubtedly there will be created free schools and universities. The welfare of the working class will naturally be the primary consideration in legislative work; for example, a shorter working day, workingmen's insurance against accident, sickness, unemployment, old age, etc. The critical agrarian problem undoubtedly will be solved in the most satisfactory manner possible.

The Russian revolution compelled the Socialist movement of Finland to face a significant test, and we may be assured that it will succeed in carrying it out. Doesn't that prove that in spite of the most ruthless oppression the Finnish comrades made surprising progress, so that the Socialist party of Finland is the strongest relatively in the world!

On behalf of the Finnish Socialists we have no reason to be afraid. If they cannot fulfil their task, the reason will be that trouble has come from without. It may not be long before the Finnish Diet and the Russian Government are in conflict. First of all, the war question induces dangers. Heretofore the Finns have been excluded from military service, but the old Russian government compelled Finland to pay yearly war millions, and even without the consent of the Finnish Diet. Now of course this illegal act will be cancelled and the question will come up later in the Diet. The Finnish Socialists are uncompromisingly against the war, and will not support it. The new Russian government is continuing the war, and expects help from Finland, and that will lead to a conflict. But will the new government follow the example of czarism and in this respect force Finland to yield? Likely not, at least not in the near future. But the Russian capitalist class may later on intervene in the Finnish internal affairs on behalf of itself and the Finnish capitalists, and hinder the activities of the "red power."

But let the difficulties be tremendous and the problems ever so complicated, the Finnish comrades will do their work in such a manner that it will arouse astonishment throughout the world. And it will encourage the workers in other countries in their struggle

No one is objecting to the censorship by the government of purely military news regarding the disposal and movements of the country's military and naval forces that might be of use to a military enemy in time of war. But all lovers of liberty join in protesting against the censorship of free speech and free press in the matter of expressing one's opinion of the government's policy or of criticizing the acts of public officials. Open criticism and free expression of opinion are the rights of a democracy where the people elect their representatives and are therefore entitled to have the fullest knowledge of their acts and to voice their disapproval of these acts when they see fit.

Serving God is doing good to man, but praying is thought an easier service, and therefore more generally chosen.—Benjamin Franklin.

## HOW THE SHIPOWNER DOES HIS BIT

"The British shipowner is one of the few fortunate individuals to whom the war has proved an unmixed blessing."—Pamphlet issued by the British, Foreign and Colonial Corporation, Ltd., Investment Brokers, 57 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.

"The opportunities now open to British shipping are obvious. There are no more cut rates by subsidized German vessels. German ships being swept off the sea, we have now no serious competitors in the carrying trade of the world."—Journal of Commerce, November 27th, 1914.

"The net earnings in the shipping trade are estimated to have risen from 20 millions in 1913 to 250 millions in 1916. The profits are so great that a steamer is reported to pay her entire cost in two voyages."—London Daily Mail, February 5th, 1916.

"The longer the war lasts the longer is the present state of affairs in the shipping world likely to continue."—Circular issued by the British, Foreign and Colonial Corporation, Ltd., advising clients to invest in ships. Issued May 6th, 1915.

"To-day 2 1/2d. of the price of the 4-pound loaf is represented in freightage."—Mr. Goldstone, M.P., in the House of Commons. "Hansard," December 23rd, 1915.

"The report of the White Star Line shows that the profit for last year, after providing a very large sum for excess profit tax and other contingencies, amounted to the enormous figure of £1,968,285. Dividends amounting to 65 per cent. have already been paid."—Daily Chronicle, May 17th, 1916.

### Shipping Profits.

	£	41,357	£	64,464	£	94,388
British and African	154,828	225,267	328,127	23,890	25,034	137,446
Booth Line	1,187,831	1,286,948	1,579,170	92,866	302,897	325,928
Court	76,800	65,900	179,100	589,810	620,839	1,441,690
Cunard	41,779	74,841	295,220			
Eagle Oil Transport						
France, Fenwick						
Leyland (Frederick)						
Sutherland						

# 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.

Vol. 1, No. 14

TORONTO, CANADA

May 24, 1917



War is Hell,  
Those who want H—  
Can go to H—

Kirkpatrick.



## CONSCRIPTION.

### A Penalty for Slaves, Not the Service of Free Men.

The black cloud of "compulsory military service" hangs like a pall over the Dominion of Canada to-day, and whatever the motive forces that lie behind the move, we have had sufficient evidence to show that the wage workers of this country are prepared to let the great empirists and political jobbers of this country know that whether government by the people, etc., exists in actual fact or not, they are going to settle this question of military service and not the politicians.

Broadly speaking, there are three methods of disposing of the serious question, but it is questionable whether any one of these will achieve a satisfactory settlement, viz., (1) The passage of the act by the present administration; (2) the formation of a coalition government; (3) by referendum vote.

The first method may be disposed of at once, the government cannot carry the measure as their own forces are divided, and to-day we hear rumors of cabinet ministers being given notice to get out.

The second is more feasible, but extremely improbable at the present moment. A coalition government cannot rule the people on this important question. The elements are too uncompromising, and the Liberals would prefer a general election rather than responsibility without a mandate from the electorate.

The third is not only the most feasible solution, but also the most democratic. I do not mean to imply that even a referendum under present franchise privileges would be truly democratic or meet with any greater success in pacifying public opinion, than the former proposed resolutions.

The question of conscription is very complex, and its co-relation to other measures, similar in nature to the principle of conscription; necessitates that measures relating to the subordination of all the material resources of the

country shall take precedence to the conscription of man power.

We venture to suggest that the consummation of the latter provision would knock the bottom out of the war entirely so far as we are concerned except as a defensive measure, and would make overtures for peace immediately necessary.

Take away the incentive for territorial acquisition, conquest for mercenary gain, the possibility of making profits out of the business of war by a privileged section of the community, the root cause of all war receives its death blow.

The wealth producers of this country or of any other country do not want to continue the slaughter; their general attitude to the proposed measures of compulsory military service will be satisfactorily settled; only by a rigid application of the same measures to the subordination of all the material resources of the country to the welfare of the people, "the wealth producers."

### RESIST THE FOREIGN YOKE.

We are British citizens. No narrow patriotism, no imperial vanity need stir our hearts in saying we love our country dearly and cherish our national possession of freedom. Our freedom; yes, but our freedom is not for ourselves alone. We are British citizens, but we likewise are citizens of Europe and of the world, and the brighter the torch of freedom we bear, the brighter will be the common splendor of freedom that will fill the eyes and light the path of all the nations.

Prussian militarism thunders across the seas, and millions of our sons and brothers have volunteered their lives in defence of our land and liberty. Let us not by our feebleness render their sacrifice in vain. Let us see to it that while they are gone forth to beat back Prussian militarism from our shores, we do not allow a kindred breed of militarism (for indeed, all spring from the one stock) to lay hold upon our country. Conscription, whether it be of bare Prussian steel or of British steel padded with Northcliffe velvet, will load our wrists with iron all the same.

Not less freedom do we need now that the real struggle for democracy in our own land and in the world is at last begun. Not less but more must we win for ourselves and bequeath to those who come after us. We and they will require all we can wrest from the powers and dominions of blood and gold. For the real Armageddon yet lies before us—the struggle, not between the military autoeracy of one nation and another, or between the rival imperialisms for the possession of the earth, but the struggle between democracy and militarism in all lands, between the workers of the world and those who seek to keep the nations in bondage and fear.

Our readers, we hope, feel strongly on this question. I hope you share the feeling which Mr. Benjamin Kidd has expressed so nobly and so memorably in a letter to the press: "I believe I express the inner thoughts of thousands of my fellow countrymen when I say that there is no situation in British history in the past in which I feel I could have more willingly and cheerfully stood with my back to the wall to be shot in defence of a cause as I can feel myself to be willing to do now in defence of the case against conscription. I say this under the two strongest motives that can move a man—religious conviction and intellectual conviction."

These words recall the noblest traditions of British civicism. They appeal to us in spirit and in truth. Let them be a banner for us in defending our country from the yoke of conscription. Let us even amidst the appalling storm of war that is now shaking European States to their foundations, resist to the utmost the encroachments of militarism, which is alien to its freedom and progress, and let us help rather to rescue the nations from the oppression of armaments and let them with us to a higher civilization—the civilization of international Socialism, liberty and peace.

### A CALL FOR ACTION.

Comrades,

A new spirit is abroad amongst the workers. The deadly apathy which has held them in its thrall is passing away, and the long-awaited reaction against capitalist jingoism is coming swiftly. Everywhere there are evidences of a reawakened interest in Socialism and the Socialist movement. The sales of literature—especially sales of "The Forward"—are increasing. Old comrades who had become unattached and inactive, are entering again into the struggle with whole-hearted energy and enthusiasm. Branches are keenly anxious to begin the open-air campaign and new branches are being started.

Under these circumstances, comrades, we make an earnest appeal to you to put forth your greatest efforts during the coming months. A tremendous revolutionary urge is developing in the shadow of the war over the whole of Europe, and the unceasing and tireless efforts of all Socialists in this country will be required to infuse clear purpose and definite direction into our own working-class movement. No comrade can be spared. We must all strenuously carry on, with the utmost of our power and with the keenest intelligence and understanding the fight for the emancipation of our class.

Nowhere is reactionary capitalism so apparently triumphant as in this country. The trade union movement has been side-tracked and enchained. Civic liberty has been destroyed. The standard of living of the workers has been depressed and working conditions have been reduced lower than those of chattel slaves. Meanwhile the capitalist press continues to inflame the passions of race hatred. Surely the necessity of reaching the people with Social-Democratic agitation was never so imperative as it is now.

We ask you to rally round the Red Flag, and to demonstrate to the world

that the courage and determination of the Social-Democrats of this country equals that of our noble Russian comrades. We call you to ceaseless agitation, education and organization. Every unattached Socialist must join the S. D. P. Every member of the party must become a vigorous propagandist. New members must be enrolled. New branches must be started everywhere.

Sacrifices of time and money must be freely made. Give all you can to the party funds. Pass collecting sheets round the factories and workshops and send the moneys collected to the central office. If you but rise to the occasion now and lay firm the foundation of a great Social-Democracy, much effort and sacrifice will be saved in the future.

Comrades! The greatest cause in the annals of history calls upon each and all of you to give of your best.—Ed.

### DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN?

#### "Parson Boal."

Boal is a husky guy hailing from the north of Ireland. He is an ex-Orange man, and has a record so rotten that the Orange lodges in Belfast had to expel him from their movement. He introduced a credit system and defrauded many poor people in Ireland, one of whom was a widow from whom he took several pounds in the guise of religion.

He is noted as an anti-Socialist agitator having occasioned many arrests, and has the reputation of dividing the workers of Belfast on the religious ticket. He is one of the gutter-snipes of Big Business and an enemy of the workers. His own friends have turned him down as being totally unfit for intelligent human association.

Tell Boal we knew him and his gang in the Old Country, and that his life is too precious for him to hike back to Glasgow Green, his co-religionists in Scotland have threatened his life, and he is pretty rotten when his co-workers have seen the necessity of exposing his dirty tricks.

Mention my name to him; ask him if he knows Arthur True. More next week.

Your for the working class,

JACK CAREY,

Chicago.

### DESTROYING MILITARISM.

We can do many things, but we cannot end war. No peace can be a conclusive peace; it is beyond the wit of man to draw a treaty of peace which will make it impossible for war to recur between Britain and either her present enemies or her present allies. The destruction of militarism cannot be attained by a military triumph; war is the creator, the sustainer and the reason for existence of militarism.—Bernard Shaw.

### ...PARTY ANNOUNCEMENTS...

#### ALBERTA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

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

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

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

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

## Anti-Conscriptionists Roll Up In the United States

### BIG DEMONSTRATION IN CLEVELAND AGAINST WAR AND CONSCRIPTION.

**Crowd of Thousands Stands in Cold Rain and Cheers While Socialists Denounce War and the System that Produces It, and urge organization of Labor's Forces for Peace and Freedom.**

Cleveland, Ohio, May 9.—On Sunday, May 6, an audience of almost three thousand men stood for one hour and a half in a cold, drizzling rain on the Public Square while they were addressed by various speakers. Wave after wave of applause swept the audience, punctuating the remarks of the speakers when they brought home some telling point against the capitalist class or when they held the sophistry of the capitalist editors and the other lick-spittles of the capitalist class up to ridicule. Due credit was given to the Socialist Party for distributing its proclamation and war program throughout the entire day on Sunday morning, and with it advertising the afternoon meeting.

E. R. Markley, of Columbus, speaking under the auspices of the Workers International Industrial Union, addressed the audience first. He pointed out that the Socialists should not be confounded with the pacifists, as the Socialists have declared war on the war lords. The W. I. I. U., he said, is pro-working class while the pacifists are pro-capitalist class. He showed that we did not have to go to Europe for royalists: we have them right here in this country with Divine Right Baer of Pennsylvania. We have our own czars and kaisers right in this country, in the shape of our money and industrial kings. He told of how the war was brought about because of the clash for markets, and that the people would have to get rid of the capitalist system and its government and set up the Industrial Republic, if they wanted to be free from wars. The workers should make their voices heard and demand that they be consulted in anything affecting their welfare.

Tom Clifford, of Local Cleveland, Socialist Party, was the second speaker. He ridiculed the idea that the working class should not discuss the war. The Representatives and Senators discuss it, he said, but those who must go out and fight it are told they have no right to discuss it. It rested with the working class whether there should be war or not. If they refused to fight, the capitalists wouldn't have any war. The capitalists plundered the workers at home, and when their trade was interfered with they called upon the workers to shoulder a gun and protect their plunderbund. The Socialists were opposed to war of offense or a war of defense. Every nation claimed it was fighting a war of defense. The capitalists didn't go out and fight and kill one another; that was what the workers were for. The workers must organize just as class consciously as the capitalists, not as craftsmen, but as workingmen, with the aim and object of overthrowing capitalism.

The next speaker was Richard Koepel, of Section Cleveland, Socialist Labor Party. He said every one who attacks the war agitation of the capitalist class is called pro-German, or pro-Kaiser, by the scurvy, prostituted capitalist press. Well, he was pro-international working class of the world. Koepel then showed the billions of dollars of surplus value produced by the working class every year, and how the capitalist class had to find a foreign outlet for this surplus, and this led to wars. If conscription and war were put to a popular vote, and those who

voted for it would have to go to war, there would hardly be a baker's dozen that would vote for it. The capitalists knew they could not carry on the war without the workers. The railroad workers alone could put the kibosh on war, if they refused to run the trains. The imperative message of the day was organization. Organization would stop the war and prevent conscription.

The last speaker was C. E. Ruthenberg, of Local Cleveland, Socialist Party. He pointed out that the workers of Europe were heartily sick of war and were anxious for peace. He urged that the voice of the workers be heard from one end of the country to the other in protest against this country's being driven into war. The capitalists prepared large armies of men and fastened conscription on the working class, because they knew that sooner or later their international commerce would lead to war. Never in the history of the human race had it been found that one nation conquered another nation to bring democracy to that country. If Germany ever had a revolution and set up a political democracy, it would not be because we sent soldiers over there, but because the people of Germany rose up and overthrew the autocracy. The ruling class of this country knew it could not fasten militarism on the people in time of peace, so it used a war as a pretext to fasten militarism and conscription on the people.

In conclusion, Ruthenberg pointed out that if the monster audience he was addressing was against war, conscription, and capitalism itself, there would be a power that would sweep capitalism out of existence. He then gave the addresses and meeting nights part in this meeting and urged them to attend one of these meetings and join with them, so they could be an effective organized power against the machinations of capitalism. "Let us hold our banner of working-class freedom aloft," he cried, "in the face of all obstacles, and pledge ourselves once more to the principles of working-class internationalism and unalterable opposition to war."

Fifty policemen were furnished by the mayor to see that no trouble occurred in the audience. Nothing happened, and after the meeting was over the audience dispersed quietly.

The next day the Cleveland Leader said that "Enthusiasm was at a sheer minimum" at this meeting, which is a bare-faced lie; while the Cleveland Press, that yellow, gutter, holier-than-thou paper, reported that "several hundred stood two hours in the rain at a protest meeting Sunday." "Several hundred!" when there were several thousand!

This shows how the capitalist press doctors all its news, and how necessary it is for the working class to build up its own press. In after years, when this trouble is all over, what will you be able to point back to proudly and tell the younger Socialists what you did during the trying times of 1916 and 1917? Did you let the speakers and organizers do all the work or can you point back to these years and say you got one subscription to this paper? The working class is looking to you now. Wilson did not keep them out of the war. Ford, Bryan, and the rest of the pacifists have gone over to the side of the militarists, the only ones that have remained true to their colors are the revolutionary Socialists and Industrialists.—Weekly People.

The striking cigarmakers of Toronto have won out in their bid for higher wages.

It were better to have no opinion of God at all than such an opinion as is unworthy of Him.—Bacon.

### SOCIALIST CONGRESSMEN ON CONSCRIPTION AND WAR.

(From the New York Call's Washington Bureau.)

Washington April 26.—In the debate on the conscription act Socialist Congressman Meyer London took occasion to explain why he had not voted against the bond issue.

Said London: I voted against the war resolution. I would vote against it today in spite of the press and in spite of the whole world if my vote was the only vote; and I would vote to-day for the revocation of that resolution.

"I did not vote however against the bond issue for the simple reason that my sympathies are in the main with the cause of the Allies and I believe that we should render them every form of non-combatant aid. I do favor the loaning of billions of dollars if necessary to the allies but if you help them let your help be real and genuine."

#### United States to "Soak" Allies.

London charged that the allies were to be loaned money and that it was to be taken back from them in excessive profits in selling them service and supplies.

The Socialist Congressman showed how unpopular the war was by quoting the volunteer figures which showed that just one out of every 20000 of fighting age had enlisted and asked: "Is not an opportunity to volunteer a sort of referendum?"

London said that the President asks London said that the president "asks us to become revolutionists and organize a revolution in Germany, and then after calling upon the people of the United States to become revolutionists, asks the members of Congress to vote for a conscription act. Did you ever hear of conscripting a revolutionist? They tell us that conscription is a democratic institution. Yes, so is a cemetery. It is the democracy of the cemetery and the equality of the slaughter house."

#### Europe to Liberate Itself.

London told the House that the European peoples would be liberated not by an outside force but "by the force of the revolutionary elements of Europe. In every country of Europe the people will demand an accounting and an explanation and a reason the why and the wherefore of this war. The wave of rebellion is coming" he said.

James of Michigan interrupted London with a sneering remark directed at Socialists, and drew a hot retort from the Socialist congressman.

Flushed with indignation, London directed his remarks, not only at James, but seemingly at the entire House, and his high-pitched tones reached every portion of the chamber.

"The Socialists have been fighting for democracy while every corporation lawyer in the ranks of other parties has been serving the capitalists against the working people. We have been the fighters for liberty throughout the world. We have been the fighters for international peace. Our men and women have voluntarily gone to the jails, to exile, and to the scaffold, fighting for democracy, and it is cowardly on the part of any one to accuse the Socialists of lack of courage."

In closing London prophesied that the war in Europe would be over before America could organize an army, and that the awakened democratic forces in Europe would force a peace and make it a permanent one.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

Montreal, May 23, 1917.

Dear Secretary Editor:

Montreal comrades are greatly delighted at your splendid stand on the conscript proposals. We stand unitedly with you on any action you may deem worth of our great cause. We organized a giant mass meeting on the 22nd to protest against the proposed legislation. The meeting was held on the

Champs de Mars, and it was a wonderful success. There were over 6,000 people present, including the French, English and Jewish sections of the community.

This is the first of a series of protest meetings that we intend to hold, and the future meetings will be much larger in extent than the one before mentioned. If Montreal is a criteria of the Dominion of Canada on this question, the political jobbers in Ottawa have certainly got some big job on.

Our May Day parade and mass meeting was a wonderful success. We organized a ball for the purpose of liquidating our debts and cleared as a net result \$150. We have sent \$125 to the Russian Bund Fund, \$40 of which was collected at a bazaar we held for this purpose.

Accept our hearty congratulations on your release, and we sincerely hope notwithstanding the dangerous restrictions under which you are compelled to work that you may be long spared to carry on the battle for freedom and democracy.

Yours in the cause,  
REBECCA BUHAY.

### TELEGRAMS.

Winnipeg, May 21st, 1917.

Winnipeg organizing opposition to conscription. Go and do likewise. On behalf of the central committee.  
HEAPS, Secretary.

Vancouver, May 23rd, 1917.

Have notified all English locals on party stand re conscription. Get Ahlquist to notify Finnish locals in B. C. Imperative. Uphold Dominion Executive Committee.

PHIL R SMITH,  
Provincial Secretary.

Winnipeg, May 21, 1917.

Editor—We are just beginning to arrange for our attack upon the conscription policy of the Government. I expect to see Winnipeg stand foursquare in opposition. The central committee met last evening and decided to call a meeting for Wednesday and to invite representatives of the S. D. P. of C., the Single Taxers who are also opposed, and the executive of the Trades Council. There will be something doing soon.

R. A. RIGG, Secretary.

Kitchener, Ont.

Editor—We are doing our best to strengthen our courage and our numbers for the great fight. The women are with us, and have resolved to go to prison with the rest. We hope the whole movement is resolved to resist in the same spirit as Kitchener.

A. W. BOWLES, Secretary.

Guelph, Ont.

Com. Editor—Up with the line, comrades, resolved to resist to the last ounce of strength; the prison farm is in good shape just now anyways, and at least we shall be sure of a few murphies.

L. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary.

Toronto, May 27th, 1917.

To Editor—Toronto, the home of Conservatism and reaction is soon going to become aware that there is a Socialist movement in this city by the way the proposed Military Service Bill is being taken up. A great mass meeting was held on the 27th, and fitting resolutions were passed condemning the Borden administration and resolving to resist conscription.

A conference committee is in process of formation in order to unite all opposition forces. There will be no color, religious or party line drawn. The fiat has gone forth "resist."

L. MCGREGOR, Secretary,  
Central Committee.

War is the crime of crimes and the monumental shame of civilization.

# VOICES FROM THE GRAVE

## GERMANY THREE DEAD SOCIALISTS SPEAK.

By "Casey."

This week I wish to insert a few thoughts of three great thinkers—Liebknecht, Engels and Bebel. Their utterances seem prophetic to-day.

### Wilhelm Liebknecht.

Wilhelm Liebknecht was the father of a mighty son, Karl, who is now in a German prison for advocating international brotherhood, just as men are imprisoned in England in thousands to-day. At the International Socialist Congress, Brussels, 1891, Wilhelm Liebknecht made the following statement: "Reporting on the resolution prepared in committee in regard to the question of militarism, I beg to say that between the French delegate, M. Vaillant, and myself, complete agreement existed on this point. And if the press of our opponents stated that differences of opinion prevailed between the Germans and the French that is an error, and if it was further stated that the French are good Socialists, but have jingo feelings, and would never give up the thought of revenge, there is not one word of truth in it. The word revenge has never been mentioned in committee. On the contrary, the press which tried to produce discord by starting the question of Alsace-Lorraine has been deceived. The question of Alsace-Lorraine is indeed a burning question for the ruling classes, but it has not been mentioned in our committee at all; for the simple reason there is no Alsace-Lorraine question for us Socialists, neither for the French nor for the Germans. And how could such a question arise if our ideas are realized—if Germany is Socialistically organized?"

"The Alsace-Lorraine question is an artificial question arising out of the present corrupted society. A question was raised in committee to discuss the ways and means to be adopted by the working class in the event of war. For instance, strike of the men called to the colors, rising of the workers at the declaration of war, etc. But the delegates of those nations who are suffering most under military pressure declared at once such a proposal to be impossible to enforce.

"There is a peace league in existence which has all our sympathy, but the social positions of all these friends of peace prevent them recognizing the cause of militarism, and condemn all their well-meaning endeavors to impotence. The question of militarism is a social question, and without class struggle, without class contrast, a war-like state is simply impossible. And how could an emancipated working class have any reason to institute a national agitation for wars against other nations? To what high measure the question of militarism has become a social question is shown by the fact that the parties of the bourgeoisie who formerly on principle took a stand against militarism are now voting millions of money for it in France as well as in Germany. This is not the place to discuss the consistency of militarism or the consequences of the next war. In the next war millions of men will be under colors, Europe will be armed to the teeth, whole nations will be against one another, a war will be enacted the like of which in the world's history has never been heard of before, and in comparison with which the last Franco-German war will appear as child's play, throwing back our civilization a century.

"The proletariat who carry the banner of progress have to try and prevent this, and to counteract it before our common culture is buried in a great disaster. We must exert ourselves to the utmost in order to avert this disaster. Once the brute is awakened in

man then the voice of reason is silent, and humanity hides its face."

### Engel's Prophecy.

Now let us listen to Engels: "If it came to war again the Prussian-German army will undoubtedly have important advantages against opponents on account of its model organization; but never such advantages as in the last two wars—1866-1870. For instance, the unity of the chief command will hardly be as it was, thanks to fortunate circumstances at that time, and the corresponding absolute obedience of the seconds-in-command will not obtain. And the business relationship which now prevails between the agrarian and military nobility and stock jobbers may easily become fatal to the maintenance of the army on the field. Germany will have allies, but they will leave one another in the lurch at the first opportunity.

"And, lastly, there is no other war possible for Prussia-Germany but a world's war, and that a world's war of such extension and violence as never has been witnessed before. From eight to ten millions of soldiers will be eaten bare.

"The devastation wrought during the Thirty Years War will be compressed into a three or four years' war, spreading all over the Continent famine, epidemic diseases, general demoralization of the armies and masses of the people, brought about through acute distress, irrecoverable confusion of our elaborate machinery of commerce, industry, and credit, ending in general bankruptcy, breakdown of the old States with their traditional State wisdom, so that dozens of royal crowns will be rolling on the pavement with nobody to be found to pick them up, absolutely impossible to foresee how all will end, and who will come out of the conflict as victor. But one result is certain—general exhaustion, and the creation of conditions for the eventual victory of the working class.

"This is the prospect which at last will bear its inevitable fruit if the system of competition in war preparedness is carried to breaking point. That is where you, my sovereigns and statesmen, with your wisdom have brought the old Europe to.

"And if nothing is left for you but to begin the last great war dance—to us it will be all right.

"Perhaps the war may press us into the background for the moment, and we may lose some of our already gained positions, but when you have let loose the powers which you cannot subdue again, at the end of the tragedy you are ruined, and the victory of the proletariat will be won."—Friedrich Engels, London, December 15, 1887.

### August Bebel.

Enter August Bebel, one of the founders of International Socialism, the banner of which now trails in the dust because of the apostasy of a few Nationalists in each country.

Bebel is speaking on the "Present and Future," 1893. He says: "During the last twenty years Europe has become a vast military camp. The weapons have been improved, the fortifications perfected, and the armies and navies increased gigantically. Large armies armed with the most perfect weapons and sureness of aim have been created, as never have been seen before, and which would have been impossible to imagine ten years ago. The technical revolution of the last decade, which brought about the improvement in industry, transport, and agriculture, has also been seized, even to a higher degree, by the military science, bringing the art of wholesale slaughter to perfection. And yet the competition of manufacturing the most perfect instruments of destruction is still continued amongst the nations with the greatest exertions, absorbing the vital

energy of every nation. And these enormous exertions are being made in order to keep the peace, which, on the contrary, is threatened more than ever in consequence of these preparations. These war-like peace conditions are a heavy burden, and are bound to lead to such a disaster that will put everything that has happened previously into the shade. Because it must be remembered that about twenty million men will be enrolled in the armies of Europe.

"They will march against each other armed with more superior weapons than in previous wars. According to the present political situation nearly all Europe will be involved in the next war, and its effects can only now be guessed at, not clearly overlooked. War above all entails the stoppage of exports, the whole export trade is paralyzed, and hundreds of thousands of workers are thrown out. Reaction follows at once, and other industries and trades become involved. By mobilization millions are withdrawn from work.

Wholesale bankrupts, and a general fall in securities, especially stocks, are inevitable, and react once more on the power of consumption and production. Another factor is the extraordinary increase in the prices of food. At first the armies claim disproportionate requirements for their maintenance, then through the blockade of our coasts and the prohibition of exports, the importation of food is difficult or impossible. A chain of events follows which will shake society, and render its continuation questionable. The events of the theatres of war will produce a feeling highly unfavorable to the existing conditions. The wholesale slaughter being so appalling will strike the nations with terror and alarm, it will supply a multitude of dead and wounded, so that the number of dead will hardly be buried and the wounded provided for. The war will perish of its own monstrous apparatus and the perfection of murderous weapons. And if the next war is going to produce this effect then another one is not possible at all. Therefore, I say boldly, the next war is the last war.

"After that no second of the same kind will come. What it reveals to humanity; that cannot be offered a second time. With these facts the Governments and the ruling classes of Europe will have to reckon, and with that a great revolution in the political life of the nations will accomplish itself.

"The people will endeavor to form a league of nations, and will settle their disputes by arbitration.

"Standing armies will then become unnecessary, and all the intellect, material, physical efforts, and sacrifices which have been made in their interest will now be applied to the wellbeing of humanity.

"Unfortunately, there seems to be nothing else but to drink the bitter cup to the dregs, in order to open the eyes of suffering humanity. But the future belongs to Socialism.

"It will conquer the world much quicker than Christianity has done. Its aim is the abolition of Capitalism, the removal of class contrast between the rich and poor, between possessor and non-possessor, by transforming the means of production, land, mine, means of transport, machines, tools, etc., into Social property. Only in this way can the happiness of the human race be obtained."

Thus have the dead leaders spoken

## Class - Conscious Comments

By Phillips Thompson, Oakville.

How do Canadian workingmen like the prospect of a big rush of Hindoos

to Canada when the war is over? We can't exclude those who have fought for the Empire—England wouldn't let us if we wanted to.

Grit and Tory political campaigners try to make votes. Socialists should try to make Socialists and let vote-catching alone.

A Labor leader on a big salary is apt before long to acquire a capitalist mind.

The Toronto World urges every true patriot to hoist the flag every day. The Jacks for sale. Truly, as Cecil Rhodes said, "the flag is a great commercial World has a large number of Union asset."

The Greater Toronto Labor Party indignantly repudiates the idea that it is a Socialist organization. The more emphatically it does so the better. Its finish is easily foreseen. It will get a few pats on the back from capitalist organs, make a feeble and futile rally at the polls at election time, and then gradually fade away.

There may be, as our opponents say, 57 varieties of Socialism, but there is only one kind that capitalism fears, hates and penalizes—the class-conscious revolutionary kind—moreover, as somebody said, "There are many ways of going forward, but only one way of tanding still."

Believers in monarchy are hard put to it for arguments these days in favor of the maintenance of that discredited anachronism. N. W. Rowell the blatherskite leader of the Ontario Grits, who has recently achieved quite a reputation for patriotism from his persistency in urging increased enlistments, while he stays comfortably at home, says that the British monarchy forms a binding tie between the different parts of the Empire. And only a few years ago royal marriages were supposed to be a guarantee of peace among nations. But some how it doesn't seem to work that way.

Toronto has for long been a byword and a laughing stock throughout the continent by reason of the narrow-mindedness, intolerance and hypocrisy of its ruling class. The action of the City Council in urging the disfranchisement of naturalized citizens is quite in keeping with its reputation.

Free speech, a free press, respect for the rights of minorities, exemption from the curse of conscription, and free trade, were some of the things that liberal-minded Englishmen used to be justifiably proud. They are all gone now except free trade and that is going. What is there left of the once-boasted "British freedom" worth fighting for?

Hundreds of volumes have been issued about the cause of the war, which can be explained in two words—"Economic Determinism."

A farmer is an underpaid and hard-driven workingman who fancies himself a capitalist because he owns the tools of his trade.

Miss Laura Hughes has come so far already that she will probably go farther. It won't take such a brainy and progressive woman long to find out the futility of a so-called "Labor" movement that ignores Socialism.

Socialists can get up in the German Reichstag threaten the overthrow of the Kaiser and vote against war appropriations, without anything happening to them. But supposing any Canadian representative advocated a British republic and peace without indemnities or annexations at Ottawa!

## Conscription Policy Designed For Industrial Enslavement

### 'LOOKING BACKWARD' FORWARD

"They are not the most ominous signs of the times. No; by far the ugliest sign of the times is the fact that of late years two words which which have for half a century been tabooed in British politics are now, after some whisperings and stealthy hintings, beginning to be spoken trippingly on the tongue. These words are Protection and Conscription. They are words of abomination and desolation—words that should be resented by the people as an insult to their understanding and a threat to their liberty." Thus wrote Robert Blatchford, in an article entitled "The Wisdom of the Times," in the Clarion, as far back as 1902, when he dealt with the opposition of the Tories to the social reform movement. This opinion was not only held by Blatchford that Conscription was a threat to the liberty of the British people. The Duke of Wellington, one of the generals in the last European war, opposed conscription on similar grounds. He said:—

"It is quite clear that the British regular army cannot be raised by conscription or ballot. The right of a country to the services of all its subjects for defence can well be understood. It is on the principle of defence that the seafaring man is liable to be impressed for service in the King's ships, and that all the inhabitants of the country are liable to be balloted for to serve in the militia. But the force called the regular army, which is liable to be sent to any part of the world, not for the defence of the land of England, but of a colony or settlement, or for the conquest of any foreign territory, cannot be considered in the same light. Men cannot with justice be taken from their families and from ordinary occupations and pursuits for such objects. The recruits for the regular British army must be volunteers. Accordingly, there is no instance in which the system of raising men for the army by voluntary enlistment has been departed from, whatever may have been taken from time to time the wants of the service for men."

### "Terminological Inexactitudes," or— Lies?

Since the war has commenced Great Britain has adopted Conscription, with the result that militarism has become supreme and parliament is gradually becoming only a debating society with no power. Trade unions have lost nearly all their hard won rights, which it took nearly a hundred years of agitation to obtain, and laws passed by parliament regarding tribunals and conscientious objectors are ignored. In the introduction of the military service bill such men as Philip Snowden and J. Ramsey MacDonald protested and declared that such measures would lead to industrial conscription. This was denied by the rulers, but when the military service (No. 2) bill was before the House Mr. Asquith and Lloyd George made themselves plain enough to be understood.

Mr. Asquith said: "The worker who might happen, for any reason, to be obnoxious to his employer—if for instance he had taken an active part, as a trade unionist, in movements for the rise of wages, or for the improvement of the conditions of labor—the employer may take advantage of this or that pretext to dismiss him. Therefore, he loses his exemption certificate; unless he can get re-employment at once at a similar trade, he becomes, ipso facto, a soldier and subject to military law. . . . I am glad to say that I hope and I believe, at a time like this, and in conditions such as those under

which we live, cases of this kind would be rare.

David Lloyd George said: "What we want is not compulsion for the army, but for the workshop."

The act provides for the exemption of men who can demonstrate or prove their conscientious objection to war, yet such men as A. Fenner Brockway, Clifford Allen, C. H. Norman, are languishing in prison because of their conscientious objection to war. Militarism snapping its fingers at the law, knowing that it is now supreme!

Under conscription in England men are no longer free to go from one factory to another, where they may get higher wages for their labor power. That is not all. Here is part of a letter I have just received from a Socialist councillor in a mining district in Britain. He says: "Committees have to be formed at all the collieries represented by managers and men to try men who have not been working and fine them from \$1.00 to \$5.00; so you see that we have industrial conscription as well as military conscription."

Under the act the widow's only son and support was not to be called for service, but militarism defies the act and the widow's only son and support is conscripted and sent to the front. I have before me a letter which is dated December 14, 1916, from a widow's only son, who has been called to the colors. It is written on Y.M.C.A. paper and is as follows:—

### An Objector's Mess of Pottage.

"From the above address you would at once learn that I must be a soldier, and so I have been since the first day of May this year. I am in the Signal Service of the Royal Engineers. My training being now at an end, you see I am on draft for 'Somewhere.' So I am here awaiting final orders for a place called 'Mesopotamia.' It has been most trying to leave my dear mother all alone. More so, after the trying life she has had to come through. But mothers are indeed so wonderful and brave! She has stood the loneliness bravely. But now when I am expected to leave the country at any moment, she must be coming through a most trying time.

"But we are in God's keeping, and I shall hope to return when this struggle comes to an end, and find my dear mother waiting my return. I must not dwell on such thoughts, which only makes one feel miserable. So I do hope you will write my mother again. It is sure to cheer her up for a wee while.

"With all good wishes, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

"Sapper W.H.B.S."

### THE WRITING ON THE WALL.

The Government that enacts conscription and enforces conscription is more likely to subscribe to its own political death warrant than to sign a new lease of life.

Conscription may put Sir Robert Borden and his party on the road to political death. Conservatives should be content to have their party die so long as the remainder of the party's life in office be that remainder long or short, is adorned with the large fulfilment of national duty.—Toronto Telegram, May 23, 1917.

The sacrifice of short rations would be faced more cheerfully in Canada if the people did not know it was for the benefit of the manipulators of food corners.—Toronto Globe.

Germany must surely be feeling the pinch of hunger with food almost as dear in Berlin as in Toronto.—Mail and Empire.

### SECRETARIAL NOTES

Dominion Executive Committee motion re conscription:

Moved and seconded that in view of the government's effort to adopt a measure for "Compulsory military service," that the Dominion Executive Committee declares that it will endeavor by all legitimate means within its power to prevent the enactment of the suggested military service bill. But should such legislation be passed, we will refuse to abide by such a law. And that we recommend that all our locals and members take similar action, refusing to bear arms. And that, in order to demonstrate our unity of purpose, all members of the party are requested not to append their signatures to any registration form that may be circulated by the government, and to be fully prepared to go to prison as a demonstration of loyalty to the principles of international Socialism. And that the secretary wire instruction to all executive bodies. Carried unanimously.

Local No. 3, Jewish, Toronto, have appointed a delegate to the Jewish Socialist convention of America, to be held in New York on the 27th of this month. National and international problems of the first dimension will occupy the attention of this congress.

The Toronto Conference of Russian Socialists are doing good work in collecting funds to help their comrades in Russia. The Ukrainian local, No. 52, has elected a committee of fifty to assist the conference in this project, and they will immediately commence a house-to-house canvass for subscriptions.

### BAINBRIDGE DEFENCE FUND.

W. E. Carey, Windthorst, Sask. \$	1.00
J. W. Cutt, Dunvegan, Ont. . . . .	1.00
T. Skinner, Brantford, Ont. . . . .	2.50
T. G. Hughes, Asquith, Sask. . . . .	10.50
Mrs. Peterson, Malmö, Alta. . . . .	5.00
J. Lyons, Ottawa, Ont. . . . .	10.00
J. Conner, Toronto . . . . .	4.00
May Day Mass Mtg., Toronto. . . . .	18.18
H. Perkins, Toronto. . . . .	3.00
J. Simpson, Toronto . . . . .	1.00
Hamilton Ukrainian, in bulk. . . . .	16.50
Previously acknowledged . . . . .	141.78

Total . . . . . \$214.60

The International Socialists Picnic will be held by Ontario comrades at Grimsby Beach on July 14th, 1917. All locals take notice.

Owing to pressure of correspondence on the military service proposals, we are unable to give them all space, and have boiled them down considerably on this account.

### INFORMATION REQUIRED.

Dulcan Foley, one-time resident in Winnipeg, is requested to communicate at once with the associate editor at the "Irish Worker." Note address. Mr. J. Carney, 22 Tooker Place, near 863 N. Dearborne St., Chicago, Ill.

Comrade F. G. Hipping, of Winnipeg, Man., will commence his tour of Manitoba about June 20th. Locals and sympathizers who desire him to visit their locality are requested to write him at the address appended below. His executive has decided the route ahead as follows: Regina, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon and Brandon, in the order named. Towns intervening between these points may be visited if the matter is taken up with him at once. Write F. G. Tipping, 985 Corydon Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

I. BAINBRIDGE, Dom. Sec.

Capitalism has no religion. It is neither Protestant, nor Catholic, nor Jewish, nor Mohammedan. Capitalism exploits all religions for business purposes. No wonder so many churches permit the commercializing of religion and forget all about the Nazarene and his humanitarian teachings.—N. Y. Call.

### THE GOOD TIME COMING.

Come hither, lads, and hearken  
For a tale there is to tell,  
Of the wonderful days a-coming  
When all shall be better than well.

For that which the worker winneth  
Shall then be his indeed,  
Nor shall half be reaped for nothing  
By him that sowed no seed.

Then all mine and all thine shall be  
ours,  
And no more shall any man crave  
For riches that serve for nothing  
But to fetter a friend for a slave.

And what wealth then shall be left us  
When none shall gather gold  
To buy his friend in the market  
And pinch and pine the sold!

Nay, what save the lovely city  
And the little house on the hill,  
And the wastes and the woodland  
beauty  
And the happy fields we till.

And the painter's hand of wonder,  
And the marvelous fiddle bow,  
And the banded choirs of music,  
All those that do and know.

For these shall be our and all men's,  
Nor shall any lack a share  
Of the toil and the gain of living  
In the days when the world grows  
fair. —William Morris.

### SLAVES.

James Russell Lowell.

Men, whose boast it is that ye  
Come of fathers brave and free,  
If there breathe on earth a slave,  
Are ye truly free and brave?  
If ye do not feel the chain  
When it works a brother's pain,  
Are ye not base slaves indeed,  
Slaves unworthy to be freed?  
Is true freedom but to break  
Fetters for our own dear sake,  
And with leathern hearts forget  
That we owe mankind a debt?  
No; true freedom is to share  
All the chains our brothers wear,  
And with heart and hand, to be  
Earnest to make others free.  
They are slaves who fear to speak  
For the fallen and the weak;  
They are slaves who will not choose  
Hatred, scoffing, and abuse,  
Rather than in silence shrink  
From the truth they needs must think;  
They are slaves who dare not be  
In the right with two or three.

### WAR DEMANDS FREE PRESS.

"Of all times, in time of war the press should be free.

"That, of all occasions in human affairs, calls for a press vigilant and bold, independent and uncensored.

"The times of war corruption and venality, sordidness and greed are always active, always prevalent. It was so in the civil war, when the union seemed to be going to pieces. It was true—notoriously and brazenly true—during the Spanish-American war. Men were fed on diseased food that greed might riot in profits.

"I know of nothing more important to a free people in time of war, in time of great stress, than a free press."—Senator Borah in United States Senate.

### GENERAL SHERMAN ON WAR.

"I confess without shame that I am tired and sick of war. Its glory is all moonshine. Even success the most brilliant is over dead and mangled bodies the anguish and lamentations of distant families appealing to me for missing sons, husbands and fathers. It is only those who have not heard a shot no heard the shrieks and groans of wounded and lacerated that cry aloud for more blood, more vengeance, more desolation."—General Sherman.