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Cotton's Weekly

W. U. COTTON, S.A., S.O.L., Managing Editor
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This paper is not published for profit. It is published by co-operative effort as an advocate of the co-operative commonwealth. Last week we printed and posted the following number of copies:—

18,560

A HELLISH CONSPIRACY

(From the Labor Leader.)

We have many times exposed, in the Labor Leader, through our investigator, Mr. Walton Newbold, the machinations of the Armaments Ring. Few people realize, however, that this Ring, which actually armed the German and Austrian armies against Great Britain, this association will appear incredible. Even those who appreciate the lack of principle in characterizing modern business transactions as "hellish" can be betrayed so infamously. Well, we will state the facts in detail.

One of the five chief partners in the British Armaments Ring is the Nobel Dynamite Trust. It is closely linked with Vickers, Ltd., who have two directors in common with three of the companies within the Trust. It holds the entire share capital of Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., and is interested in a number of other British firms, including the Birmingham Small Arms Company and the Birmingham Metal and Munitions Co. But, it does not confine its interest to British firms.

"It may be added," said the Statist of May 17, 1913, "that a working alliance with powder-makers of Germany has been carried out for some years past, and still has to run until 1950."

The German firms in which the Nobel Dynamite Trust has an interest are:

Dynamit Actien-Gesellschaft, vormals Alfred Nobel and Co., Hamburg.
Rheinische Dynamitfabrik, Cologne.
Deutsche Sprengstoff Actien-Gesellschaft, Hamburg.
Dresdener Dynamitfabrik, Dresden.

Germany is well represented among the directors and shareholders also. Of the four directors, four are Germans. Of the shareholders living abroad, 76 are Germans, and, we may add, 22 are French. Among the banks holding shares are the Deutsche Bank, Deutsche Vereinbank, Frankfurt-on-Maine, Hannoversche Bank.

Names of officers of the British, German, and French armies are to be found side by side in the shareholders' list. They include:

OFFICERS OF THE BRITISH ARMY.
Brigadier-General Colin G. Donald, C.B.
Lieut.-Col. Neill Findlay.
Lieut.-Col. Chas. A. Logan.
Lieut.-Col. Lewis A. Irving.

OFFICERS OF THE GERMAN ARMY.
General von Muhlberg.
Col. Max Adrian.
Col. Ed. Adrian.
Major Freiherr F. von Fritsch.
Major Otto von Funetti.

OFFICERS OF THE FRENCH ARMY.
Lieut.-Col. Francois J. H. L. Lafargue.
Let us hope fate may not be so unkind as to cause any of these officers to be blown to bits by their own gunpowder.

The names of three other shareholders should be recorded:

Lord Glenconner (brother-in-law of Mr. Asquith, and an officer of the National Service League).
Harold J. Tennant, M.P. (Under-Secretary of the War Office, also a brother-in-law of Mr. Asquith).
Baron Ribblesdale (prominent Liberal Peer, a Director of the Trust).

DESTRUCTORS FOR AUSTRIA.

Great Britain is now at war with Austria, and before many days have passed the Austrian and British fleets will, no doubt, be engaged in battle in the Mediterranean.

Many of the destroyers in the Austrian fleet have been constructed and equipped by British armaments firms.

They have been built by Yarrow's, Ltd., and have been almost entirely equipped and boistered by this firm and I. J. Thorneycroft, and Co., Ltd.

More than that, many of the torpedoes which the Austrian fleet will attempt to sting British Dreadnoughts have been manufactured at the torpedo factory at Fiume, owned by Henry Whitehead and Co., Ltd., whose shares are chiefly in the hands of Vickers, Ltd., a second of the five chief partners in the British Armaments Ring.

The shareholders of Vickers, Ltd., include: Lewis Harcourt (Colonial Secretary).
Lord Strathclyde (Right Hon. Alex. Ure).
H. J. Tennant (Under Secretary of the War Office).
Baron Sandhurst (Lord High Chamberlain of England).
Bishop of Newcastle.
Bishop of Chester.
Dean Inge, of St. Paul's.
Duke of Sutherland.
Baron Kinnaird (President of the Young Men's Christian Association).
The Right Hon. J. W. Lowther (Speaker of the House of Commons).
Lord H. Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P.
Hon. H. L. W. Lawson, M.P.
S. Roberts, M.P.
Stuart Wortley, M.P. (Deputy Trustee).
G. Younger, M.P.
Vice-Admiral May (Commander-in-Chief at Plymouth).

In addition to the above, there are 21 peers of the realm in the shareholders' list, and other distinguished persons, including officials of Germany.

WHAT OF ITALY?

Italy has so far remained neutral in the European conflict, but Italy is a member of the Triple Alliance, and the armaments firms which have been equipping her fleet no doubt shared the general surprise when she announced that she did not intend to intervene. De facto, however, that Italy was likely to be an enemy of Great Britain. British armaments firms have built practically every vessel in her navy.

Vickers, Ltd., have large interests in three Italian armaments firms in Italy:

Messrs. Vickers-Terni, Ltd. (Ironworks and Armour-plate Manufacturers).
Messrs. Odero, of Genova (Shipbuilders).
Messrs. Orlando, of Leghorn (Shipbuilders).

Through these subsidiary firms Vickers had built up to last year two Dreadnoughts, four cruisers, and 26 torpedo craft for Italy.

Messrs. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd., another of the chief partners in the British Armaments Ring, are also naval contractors to the Italian government. They have an arsenal at Pozzoli, which, we are told, "furnishes the chief supply of war-material to the Italian navy." Messrs. Armstrong, Whitworth and Co. are also closely connected with Messrs. Ansaldo, Armstrong and Co., of

Geneva. Between them these two firms had supplied Italy up to last year with two Dreadnoughts, two cruisers, and 25 torpedo craft.

The shareholders of Armstrong, Whitworth and Co. include:

Right Hon. C. E. Hobhouse, M.P. (Postmaster General).
Earl Grey (Debutante Trustee).
Dean Inge, of St. Paul's.
Viscount Churchill.
Baron Armstrong.
Earl of Durham.
Sir J. B. Lonsdale, M.P.

INTERNATIONAL RING.

So recently as 1912 there was quite openly an international ring with which the principal firms of Great Britain, Germany, France, Italy, and the United States were connected. It was known as the Harvey United Steel Co., Ltd., and its purpose was "to amalgamate or control four other companies holding the rights of the Harvey patents for treating steel." The managing director was Mr. Albert Vickers, chairman of Vickers, Ltd., and Armstrong, Whitworth and Co., Wm. Beardmore and Co., John Brown and Co., and the Coventry Ordnance Co., together with their numerous subsidiary firms, were represented on the board of directors.

Three of the principal firms in Germany were also represented:

Actien Gesellschaft der Dillinger Huttwerke.
Essen.
Friedrich Krupp.

Similarly, Italian, French, and American firms were represented, and many of the banks of the different countries held a large number of shares. The names of officers in the British and French armies also figured in the shareholders' lists.

To give a list of the distinguished British patriots who are shareholders of the firms which were connected, directly or indirectly, with this Ring would occupy too much space. A few, however, we cannot refrain from giving:

Baron Pirrie (Comptroller of the Household, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Debutante Trustee of John Brown and Co., etc.).
Baron Sherbrooke (Chairman of John Brown and Co., etc.).
Sir J. Compton Rickett, M.P. (Chairman of the Free Church Council, Shareholder in John Brown and Co.).
Lord Claud Hamilton, M.P. (Director of Hadfield Foundry Co.).
Col. Harrison-Broadley, M.P. (Shareholder in John Brown and Co.).
J. F. Hope, M.P. (Shareholder in John Brown and Co.).
Hon. H. D. MacLaren, M.P. (Shareholder of Palmer's Shipbuilding Co., Ltd.).
Sir Alfred Mond, M.P. (Chairman of the Mond Nickel Co., Ltd.).
Godfrey M. Palmer, M.P. (Shareholder of Palmer's Shipbuilding Co., Ltd.).
Right Hon. Sir C. E. Swann, M.P. (Shareholder of Cammell, Laird and Co.).

One fact further remains to be added. Armstrong, Whitworth and Co., and Vickers Ltd. have each contributed £2,500 towards the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund.

(All the names given above appeared in last year's shareholders' lists. It is possible that some of the gentlemen named hold shares in trust for other persons.)

Resolution against War

Box 120, Nanaimo, B.C., Sept. 5.

"Enclosed resolution has been sent by Nanaimo Local No. 11, Social Democratic Party of Canada, and our membership would feel greatly obliged if you would give same publication in the columns of your paper."—Yours very truly, Wm. Watson, Secretary.

Resolved, That we, the members of Nanaimo Local Social Democratic Party of Canada, reaffirm our allegiance to the International Socialist movement, and in accord with it raise our protest against war as a reversion to barbarism, and in protest of the sham and hypocrisy that underlies our so-called civilization. We charge that capitalism, as a result of its competition for markets, annexation of territory and lust for power, is a breeder of war.

We further protest that it is the members of the working class who at all times are the sufferers from war. They are slaughtered by thousands, their wives and children are made widows and orphans, while millions of other workers are made homeless and destitute. War, what insanity! Has the time not come to question the right of all this waste, destruction and human suffering at the behest of an idle few? Millions for war, while the masses are pinched and suffer from want of homes, clothing and food. Millions of strong men denied the right of self-support, while weak women and children are compelled to work. Militarism is supported and war approved by all the institutions of the modern state existing at any historical period determined the laws, politics, the religion and the social relations of that period. How otherwise can we explain the present anarchy and criminal acts and utterances of the representatives of the present irresponsible ruling class. A society such as the present built on economic injustice must be sustained by physical force, hence for its defence, both within and without, the growth of police, military and naval armaments, which, if continued, must end either in war, bankruptcy or social revolution. The workers in the growth of the Socialist movement have given evidence of their growing intelligence. The absurd plea that has so often been urged, that "the fighting was the best means of peace," has proven utterly fallacious. If it is wrong for one man to take the life of another, how much greater is the crime when a few men are the cause of hundreds of thousands being slaughtered?

Fellow workers! war offers only suffering and death for you and yours. We close with the exhortation of Karl Marx: "Workers of the world unite. You have nothing to lose but your chains, and a world to gain."

A worker in Edinburgh says that his brother, who is a civil service employee, has been told that he and other postal employees might be called upon to serve in the territories. Employers are dismissing their best men physically in order to compel them to enlist. The master class rule.

RUSSIAN SOCIALISTS AGAINST WAR

As the war in Europe progresses from day to day and foreign newspapers continue to reach these shores, the fact that the Socialist movement of the old world fought bitterly against embroiling the nations in the staggering conflict is daily brought more forcibly to light. This opposition was considered of little news value by the news agencies and it has been necessary to turn to the printed page to find the truth.

It is now well established that in Germany, France, England and Austria-Hungary, the Socialists stood firm in their opposition and refused to approve the war appropriation. They first demanded an amnesty for all Socialist political prisoners and a general policy of conciliation toward the oppressed nationalities. It was, most truly, this demand which was responsible for the recent action of the Russian government toward the Poles and Jews.

When a definite promise to grant these concessions was refused, Valentin Khaustoff, speaking in the name of the two Socialist groups in the Duma, August 8, read the following statement, amid the cheers of the left and the hisses of the right:

"A terrible and unprecedented calamity has befallen the peoples of the entire world. Millions of workers have been torn away from their labor, ruined and swept away by a bloody torrent. Millions of families have been delivered over to famine.

"War has already begun. While the governments of Europe were preparing for it, the proletariat of the entire world, with the German workers at the head, have unanimously protested.

"The hearts of the Russian workers are with the European proletariat. This war is provoked by the policy of expansion for which the ruling classes of all countries are responsible.

"The proletariat will defend the civilization of the world against this attack.

"The conscious proletariat of the belligerent countries has not been sufficiently powerful to prevent this war and the resulting return to barbarism.

"But we are convinced that the working class will aid in the international solidarity of the workers the means to force the conclusions of peace at an early date. The terms of that peace will be dictated by the peoples themselves and not by the diplomats.

"We are convinced that this war will finally open eyes to the great masses of Europe, and show them the real causes of all the oppression and violence that they endure, and that therefore this new explosion of barbarism will be the last.

"After reading this declaration the Social Democrats left the meeting hall. They were followed by the members of the Labor party. Neither of these parties shared in the vote of military credits nor the vote of confidence in the government.

"About five more years of bloody international warfare and spasmodic proletarian revolt following the military exhaustion of the bourgeoisie, is about the way the case shapes itself in my view. And do not imagine this is going to be a small-on today, or tomorrow. From a purely military point of view the present forces in the field can hardly attain equilibrium short of a long-drawn campaign, possibly twelve or eighteen months at the shortest computation. And then we may look confidently to an 'armed commune' in every country in Europe. The proletariat, rifle at back, is going to do a little campaigning of its own."—Edgcomb Pinchon.

THEY SEE IT COMING

By Carl D. Thompson.

The beginning of the end is at hand.

The capitalist scouts are every day reporting the rapid approach of socialism.

Chauncey M. Dopey, the famous after-dinner speaker, confidently to an "armed commune" in every country in Europe. The proletariat, rifle at back, is going to do a little campaigning of its own."—Edgcomb Pinchon.

The Springfield Republican, said to be one of the best-edited of the capitalist papers of today, makes an analysis of the war situation, considers the attitude of the Socialists, and gives the following conclusions:

"The war is a good look at the military maelstrom in Europe, throws up his hands and cries: 'This war will mean the greatest impulse for Socialism that history records.'

"But once Chauncey's eloquence sounds loud to us.

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"But once Chauncey's eloquence sounds loud to us.

"And for once we can heartily agree with a capitalist paper.

Even the great peace societies are beginning to recognize the part that Socialism and the Socialist movement are playing in the world-wide war upon war. Both the July and the August issues of the American Association for International Peace, published and circulated by this non-Socialist peace organization, is the message of Socialism and the Socialist party on the subject of war set forth without a reservation.

It is a great day for Socialism when its enemies begin to print and circulate its literature.

And everywhere today is a recognition of the great service the Socialist movement is rendering the world in this dread hour of human history.

A despatch from France recently declared that it is being seriously proposed to change the name of one of the prominent streets of Paris in order to name it in honor of the service rendered to humanity by Jean Jaures in his valiant struggle against the present war.

Verily, the times change.

Socialism is coming into its own.

THE REASON FOR CRISES

Mervyn Smith, Berlin, Ont.

Panics have occurred so frequently and regularly that the world's business has come to realize their permanence in our industrial system. In the past, all kinds of causes of periodical trade depressions were claimed, producing as many schemes and remedies. Even lately, a Canadian economist, Professor Jackson, of Toronto University, expressed the opinion that insurance acts, labor exchanges, reforestation and other means, were proving effective remedies for panics. But apart from those who are still trying to find these remedies, among a large section of the industrialists and their intellectual supporters, the feeling exists that no cure can be permanent, and that crises must be accepted as part of the natural course of events, and borne with as good grace and patience as circumstances and loss of profits permit.

In the "Monetary Times" of July 31, 1914, a writer presents this view of resignation, and even grasps the necessity for regular slumps in industry. In dealing with the subject "Depression and its Causes," he comes at times close to the centre of the whole problem, but just when one would think the proper conclusion would be drawn, he seems skillfully to avoid doing so, and ends finally, like the orthodox economist, by giving up analysis and presenting a lot of harmless statistics. It requires only an added word, here and there, to transform an article intended to soothe the capitalists in their predicament, into an indictment of the system they represent.

"We press forward feverishly, constructing and producing, oblivious to all else in the heat of it, the while prodigally expending credit, which is the vital economic force, until the economic machine flags and at last demands a rest and a period of abeyance. The equilibrium is restored, fresh energy is gathered, and the economic wheel speeds up until once more it resolves to the climactic exhaustion and another period of so-called depression sets in. Thus we get 'booms' and 'slumps' in cycles, timed and measured according to the amount of energy stored and the rate of its expenditure, and alternating as inevitably as day and night."

The statement reveals this writer's willingness to recognize the organic relation between cycles of "booms" and "slumps" and our economic life. There is to desire at all to find some cause of panics outside the field of economics. . . . Because of this activity some times the "economic machine flags" until "the equilibrium is restored when the process continues and another period of so-called depression sets in." This is indeed an admirable outline of the process, and if we do not forget it or cloud it with other ideas we may possibly draw from it some conclusions regarding the character of present productive methods.

"Throughout the world there is a constant creation of capital, i.e., savings, and of new labor in the shape of your adult humanity ever ripening for economic use."

Before following the writer further we will first consider this sentence because when rightly understood and analyzed it gives us the key to the whole problem. In the first place it is clear that whatever so-called capital is created, it can derive its existence in the shape of machinery, factories, gold, etc., only through labor expended upon the materials furnished by nature in a raw state. In other words practically everything for which we must give or exchange value other than labor, requires human effort to produce or produce. Therefore, when the writer speaks of "young adult humanity" as "ripening for economic use" he refers to the constant supply of new labor power appearing on the market to be used in producing commodities, machinery, gold, "capital." Of course it would not do for the workers to consume their total production. They receive enough to keep them in "economic use." Of what remains some "saved" to become "capital."

What is very nicely called "savings," is something, however, to which the workers have no claim whatever because of their very position as instruments of production receiving only enough to keep them in use. A large part of what they create passes into other hands, into the hands of those who own the means of production, the gold for buying labor power, and consequently the product created in the expenditure of this labor power by its possessor, the worker.

"Thus we see that part of the creation of the workers themselves becomes capital by passing out of their possession into that of the capitalists who use it as a means of further increasing their wealth by the continued exploitation of the laboring classes."

Now, the object with which labor power is bought is for the production of commodities. But the laborers as a whole do not receive all the product. Whatever wealth is invested in new machinery and other means of production the total available after wages paid have been paid is not completely absorbed. The mass of production is so great that it cannot be disposed of, and a period of overproduction sets in. "It is advocated and statistically and economically proved that even in normal times the tendency of production is to outrun consumption," our writer admits. And again he says: "We have agreed that excess of production over consumption is what promotes the symptoms of depression."

But depressions will not be prevented if they can possibly be prevented. Excess of the surplus production presents the only available remedy to the capitalists. The quest for new markets if the source of various policies of imperialism, the present international war being one of the results of the conflicting interests of large groups of capitalists. Yet, however, boundaries may be changed, whatever new markets may be opened up, and drawn into the circle of economic activity, expansion in the shape of time reach its limit, exports of surplus products must cease and the depressions must become more acute. The nations farthest developed industrially today are no longer sending simply manufactured commodities for direct consumption to the undeveloped countries. Today they are sending labor saving machinery, devices and means for the manufacture of commodities themselves. Thus, China, Japan and other countries are not remaining mere consumers of the goods of the circle of producers of commodities. Our industrial system completes its development. It is more and more

convulsed and shaken by the regularly occurring crises which are a necessary result of its method of production.

What then can be done? For the capitalists in their position nothing can be done. They are controlled by forces stronger than themselves, forces which they do not understand. Therefore they resign themselves, and must pretend to be satisfied with the situation. "Slumps are a necessity, and we should welcome rather than resent their recurrence. . . . Did we pause to reflect we should recognize that trade depression is a cardinal law of economics, and as big a factor in the world's industrial system as sleep in its natural life. None of us courts either consciously. We labor and take our rest without question; sleep comes unasked, except to insomnia victims, and any how we may we cannot dispute nature's authority."

This is intended to give assurance to capitalists, and to allay their fears by making crises appear as natural and even beneficial phenomena. But most unfortunately for the capitalists' peace of mind, crises are not after all of the same nature as a refreshing sleep; they are rather the ever recurring symptoms of a dread malady attacking the very foundations of our present society, and leaving them weaker and weaker after every onslaught. The capitalist system cannot, as our writer seems to think, recover completely after every period of stagnation and pass through its cycles of prosperity and depression indefinitely. Crises strike too deep into our economic institutions and with increasing productivity and great efficiency of labor and the consequent greater overproduction they come more rapidly year by year. Conditions of unemployment and wretchedness amongst the working classes and general dissatisfaction accompany the industrial breakdowns and grow as these increase in frequency. The workers themselves are aligned against the capitalist system.

Under this system the capitalists buy the labor power of the workers, paying in wages only what is necessary to sustain life. The surplus products the capitalists first try to sell in foreign markets, but foreign nations become and the consequent greater overproduction they come more rapidly year by year. Conditions of unemployment and wretchedness amongst the working classes and general dissatisfaction accompany the industrial breakdowns and grow as these increase in frequency. The workers themselves are aligned against the capitalist system.

The contradictory nature of the position of the worker as a purchaser of commodities and a seller of the commodity labor power, which reproduces not only its value in a given time but a surplus value in addition, lies as a basis for industrial panics. These panics may regard as inconvenient, though perhaps necessary, occurrences, which must be tolerated. It is the capitalist opinion that our present system of society, despite its shortcomings, is eternal. But in this system the worker can hope for very little except the necessities of life. It is to his interests to abolish capitalism; indeed the conditions of economic development compel him to do so. Not in foreign markets, but in the revolution, a natural phenomena, but in the revolutionary role of class conscious action for the abolition of the wages system, lies economic freedom and social well being for the human race.

NOTES FROM AN ONTARIO TOWN

The associated churches of an Ontario town held a meeting last month to organize for united effort and prevent overlapping in charity work for the coming winter. This meeting affords an opportunity for society women to get their names in the local newspapers, and incidentally air their ignorance on the unemployed problem.

One lady who has in her back yard seven well laden crab apple trees (which she cannot use) came to the meeting elated with what she considered an exceptionally bright idea, which came to her one afternoon as an inspiration as she was gazing out on those same crab apple trees and at the same time a resolution was being formed and giving a vote of thanks to the lady for her very generous self sacrificing offer, when one kindly, unsympathetic man present let the gas out of the soap bubble by remarking that owing to the business men of the town (of which her husband was one) having jumped up the price of sugar the needy poor would not have enough money to buy sugar to put up pumpkins or sweet apples for winter let alone sour crab apples, and the bright, inspired idea at once flattened out like unto a toad run over by a four ton road roller.

The tax paying property owners in this town know that the unemployed and their families will have to be provided for by the council, and that they will have to foot the bill, so they in common with the same class in other places are straining every nerve to get the unemployed in the town put out on the farmers for the winter, and thus save the cost of their keep. Then it will be so handy to get them again in the spring when business opens up, and there is a chance to make a profit out of them. It is quite likely that the emigration from Europe for the next year will be away below normal, as all able-bodied laborers who can shoulder a gun and do the goose step are being offered jobs at a shilling a day and board, and then a great rush to secure the jobs, for one of the inducements offered is the excitement of what Roosevelt has said is "that greatest of all sports, a man hunt," with no game laws to interfere. Should any of these European emigrants come here next summer the chances are that the most of them will be minus an arm or a leg, and the average employer knows that a man with the normal quantity of arms and legs is a more profitable slave than the one with a shortage of these adornments.

WHAT IS YOUR OWN

By Horace Traubel, in Chants Co. manual.
What is your own you will fight for. My heart says to you: Yes, fight for it. History says to you: Yes, fight for it. It is not difficult to get this far. But a more difficult problem precedes. What is your own? What does belong to you? Are you so clear just that? Before any other question is answered that question must be answered. Before you can fight for your own you must know your own. And that is where we stumble and fall. That is where we at least doubt and delay. For this very extraordinary decision is hard to make. The more you think of it the harder to make. To tell exactly what is your own. To separate your own from your own of from any one else's own. Almost anything harder is easy. Yet this is the decision you make all day. You are deceived by the great inherited and envied illusions. You are hypnotized by ancestral and current fancies. You fight first. Then you investigate. I ask you to reconsider. I ask you to investigate before you fight.

What is your own? When I ask you that you smile. Just as I asked you to repeat you a b c's. Well. Do you really know? I submit you to the mercuries of an honest inquiry. The deeper you get into that inquiry the more complicated it becomes. Why? Because it is unanswerable. Because the result you expect can never be reached. But you think I am wrong. Grant it. I do not ask you to believe I am right. I ask you to investigate. And when you have investigated you will see that I am right. Lots of men have started out on that journey. But they never reached its end. There was no end but the one end. Confession. I do not ask for a premature confession. I wait for your confession. I will give you plenty of time. What is your own? Where is the outer line upon which your pickets and my pickets salute? Can you divide the sunlight? Can you separate the particles of the sea? Can you divide the atoms of love? Can you reduce justice to ingredients? You will fight for your own. But what is your own? What will chemistry make you acquainted with your own? Can you and your own under the microscope? surveying the heavens? I think there is only one thing that will make you acquainted with your own. That one thing is love. And what love fails to tell you about you will never be told.

I have been happy. And I have let happiness search for what is my own. I have been despondent. And I have let despondency search for what is my own. And crowded the railroads with my messengers. And looked for redemption by telegraph. And I have crucified myself with a professor on my right and a priest on my left looking for my own. And have tall counsel of all sorts of learning stumped by dead wisdom. And of all centers of power weakened by tyranny. And when the prophets have come I have hurried to them. And when the poets came rhyming shadowy way through mazes of malice and pain have given their songs the full benefit of every doubt. Always looking for what is my own. Always defeated. Always victorious. Never just sure of my own. Yet always sure that something was my own. That something some day I would find my own. That we would meet and recognize and lose identity in each other. My own to be made flesh in me. I to be made flesh in my own.

I have questioned all the authorities. All the custodians of gospels. All the policemen. All the empires. All the voices that persuade and dissuade. All properties and poverities. All mastership and impotency. Nothing has gone past me unseen. No claims have been unheard. No threats have thundered and found me irrevocable or asleep. I have realized all that sight and sound could do to take me to what is my own. To bring what is my own to me. But I still stand here with empty hands. But there is just the trouble. What right have I to expect my hands to be full? There is another thing about me that is not empty. My heart. My hands are empty. My heart is so full. And now I begin to see what the search was all for. It was not for the hands at all. It was for the heart. For this search was not really a search for property and rights my own. It was for a brother my own. All brothers my own. All men for the brother my own. And the hands full may be against my brother. Yes, the more nearly full the more nearly against. But the heart full is always for my brother. Is that very brother himself realized in a foreground of practical faith. And I think that is what is my own. That nothing in this universe is my own but that brother. That if I miss that brother I have missed the universe. The universe ceases to exist.

You have the secret at last. After all the discoveries. After all the jealousies of possession. After all the quarrels about rights and duties. After all the successions of religions and dynasties of rulership. After wars and peace after wars. After books and prophets and martyrs. After sympathy and hate. After all these. Because of all these. The secret is out. That there is no thing your own after all. That there is no physical thing your own. That nothing in all the universe is your own. That life is just your own. That nothing is just not your own. That somehow the things your own that you have hungered and thirsted and fought for are not worth while. Would not be worth while if they were your own. Are doubly not worth while not being your own. That the only thing your own cannot be counted up or measured or put into words. That your brother is what is your own. Not a silver more or less. That everything else made your own is in the way. All the properties and powers. All individual prerogative. Dividends, discounts and debts. All in the way. That only one thing is your own anywhere. That love is your own. The love that finds you your brother. The love that sees all men for brothers. Not property and interests and rents for brothers. Only men. Men forever brothers. All men. Love is what is your own.

What is your own you will fight for? Yes. Long you went not knowing what was your own. You thought property was your own. That power was your own. That love was because you slept. You woke up. Then you passed from your individual nightmare into the glory of the average day. Then you knew what was your own. That only one thing was your own. That love was your own. And now I hear you saying better things of life. You no longer say that what is your own you will fight for. You have lived long enough to revise yourself. You say that what is your own you will love for. Think of it. Revised yourself. What is your own you will love for.

Thousands of feet of moving picture film from the European war are in New York city. These pictures are not allowed to be exhibited because of their gruesomeness. The owners are not allowed to let the slaves know the end of cannon fodder.

Armageddon, the Aftermath

F. J. Flatman.

Hell has been let loose in Europe, and this hell will function as an iconoclast that will destroy many capitalist images. Already we see the workers rushing blindly to and fro appealing to the governments to do what they, the workers, held was not the function of the governments a few weeks ago. Already we see the spectre of public ownership looming large upon the horizon. Already we see the governments commandeering food and provisions and acting as the distributor thereof. Already we see the dawn of the Socialist republic in the fact that there is not a nor never will be again sufficient gold in the world to again reconstruct the capitalist system upon its pre-war foundations. For the basis of credit has now passed from gold to the state as such.

In view of this we of the Socialist party have a great work to do.

The International Socialist movement justified its existence by its magnificent attempt to prevent the opening of the floodgates of this Armageddon.

We must now justify our existence by getting ready to assimilate the aftermath.

What will be the nature of that aftermath? Those of us who think and read know perfectly well the capitalist system had outgrown its own type of organization. International depression and unemployment with its necessary corollary—the inability to invest that which represented the results of unpaid labor which continued to flow into its coffers—demonstrates that fact.

According to capitalist ethics this war should serve as a tonic to palsied capitalism, as war has done several times before, first, by depleting the ranks of the unemployed (forces of potential revolution) and by ridding them of their surplus products.

The question is: Will it? Here again may be another capitalist theory that the war will be a tonic to capitalism. But to the point. What will be the nature of the aftermath?

Before the Franco-German war of 1870-71, Bismarck instructed (Mont Benedetti to call Napoleon III's attention to the fact that "Should war arise, it might be a war attended by a revolutionary crisis. In such a case the German dynasties are likely to prove more solid than that of the Emperor Napoleon. A prophetic statement. History may repeat itself. There is absolutely no doubt at all about the fact that this war will be attended by revolutionary crises. Hence a United States of Europe would be calculated to recapitulate the history of the fact that either England, Germany, France, etc., acting on their own behalf.

All the necessary forces and tendencies for potential revolution are at hand. I need not recapitulate the history of the fact that the undermost foundations of capitalist society will be shaken. When the smoke has rolled away the whole social fabric will need to be reconstructed. Capitalism is in travail. This war is the bloody midwife that will assist to bring forth a child.

We are, I believe, on the threshold of a new age.

Now is the time to lay the foundation of the future state in the heart and the mind of the worker.

Now is the time to give a new significance to the slogan of the French revolution—Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.

Now is the time to demonstrate the meaning of "La Internationale."

Now is the time to carry on a Dominion wide campaign that will have for its ultimate objective the demonstration of the fact that the powers that be that the working class of Canada will out-utter Ulster, and out-nationalize the Nationalists if necessary in order to prevent any interference by the armed forces of Canada to subvert any revolutionary uprising in any part of Europe at the conclusion of the war.

That is the task that lies ahead of the Canadian Socialists.

Contrasted how I would like to impress upon you the significance of the historic age in which you live.

Anything can happen during the next few years. Get together, then. Arise, educate and organize. Drop your sectarian catchwords and phrases. Each of you must do your share in the building of the coming Socialist republic. But you must work hard. Yes, comrades, harder than you have worked before, for you are about to achieve your destiny. Work on and hope. The Socialist republic is in the future. Each of you, yes, the very least of you, you are fashioning the part, you are preparing the materials for building the fabric. The builders are not yet ready to hand, I know, but the builders will materialize when the materials are ready. The builders may be already at work, though we know them not, and the work may be partly advanced though we know it not.

That the manufacture of revolutions is largely a silent and unobtrusive process. As with the building of Solomon's temple no sound of the hammer may be heard, men pass to and fro about their tasks, the grass grows green beneath their feet, and the sky is clear of portents. But beneath the placid surface of things a new order is preparing, a revolution is in the making. Stand steady. Have confidence and accliate, decide before, for you know not what is beyond the horizon.

The Socialist Democratic party of Germany voted the war credits. The decision to do so was far from being unanimous. And the party members were deceived as to the true nature of the facts. Germany declared war on August 1st. This news was known in Copenhagen the same night. The day previous, July 31st, martial law had been proclaimed in Germany, and the news that the German government had declared war was kept from the German people. On August 4th, Bethmann-Hollweg, the Chancellor, informed the Reichstag that both France and Russia had entered German territory and made it appear that the war was one of defence. Thus the Social Democrats were deceived by the lies of the government.

Signor del Buono, former Socialist deputy from the Florence, Italy, district, has been sentenced to two years imprisonment on the charge of slandering Senator Rolando Ricci. Del Buono, who is editor of La Dietsa, a fighting Socialist weekly, charged that Ricci, who is a prominent monarchist, acted as a lobbyist for the Army Trust in Italy. He charged that through his influence as senator he tried to get contracts from the Italian Army and Navy.

O for a united working class to stop the war!

This war will end the reign of capitalism. Capitalism is going out in blood. The glory of war does not exist.

BEATING OUT ITS BRAINS

By Charles Edward Russell.

London, Sept. 4 (By Mail).—Capitalism in a delirium is beating out its brains. Its huge machine of militarism, working for years at overpressure, is blowing up. The world will be strewn for a time with the wreckage. Then it will have to choose between more wreckage and a change in its social structure.

For their own purposes, capitalistic influences everywhere try to distort the real origin of this war.

On one side the men say it was caused by Prince's pistol, or by Russian barbarism, or by France thirsting for revenge.

On the other, they say it was caused by the Kaiser, ambitious to be a war lord in fact as well as in name; or by Austria, determined to dominate the Balkans.

Wrangling over these things, which are merely incidental, men forget to look beneath the surface of affairs, always deceitful.

Back of everything else as the real cause of the catastrophe that hangs over Europe was capital drunk with profits and come mad in the competitive struggle for more profits.

To get more colonies and more territories to exploit for more profits and more power over their competitors was the spring of the whole upheaval.

Profits and concentrated wealth constitute the greatest power in the world. It is greedy, insatiable, savage, remorseless and subtle. In the hands of the capitalist class it is used to the interest of the fortunate, nullifies laws, directs the press, builds Colorado Fuel and Iron companies and brings out troops to shoot down strikers. Elsewhere it fools people with false issues and high-priced tuition.

It fosters militarism, supports autocracy, spreads the crazy delusions of military glory and deliberately inflames against one another the peoples of the world.

The world can see now what this thing really is.

To come by walking a fearful path of fire and blood to a realization of this.

It is a lesson of high price, but it is a lesson learned will never be forgotten. Our arguments and appeals, if they could be multiplied ten million times, would be of small effect compared with this great object lesson.

Every day of this war adds \$50,000,000 to the debts of the nations. Every day that it lasts will add another \$50,000,000. To the debt-load under which industry starved before this cataclysm came upon us are now to be added incalculable other burdens.

From this truly terrifying prospect no man can think of one way out except a return of the Dark Ages or a total reconstruction of our social system.

Established civilization and Socialism annihilated. The world, when this red day ends, must take its choice.

Do you think of it as it may, should the present system continue, that ending will only produce other wars. From that fact again is absolutely no escape. If Germany wins, the remainder of the world will combine against her. If she is defeated, Germany will be ruined. Louvain or ruined Versailles today and spread that scene of black horror over a continent and you will have but a faint image of what is in store for Europe.

Yes, capitalism, in a delirium, is beating out its brains. In spite of the untellable depression that must weigh upon every heart because of this war, the world is giving thanks that the end is near of a thing so baleful. Instead of capitalism, which makes enemies of men, we shall have Socialism, which makes them friends. Peace will come, not by the way that we had hoped and believed, by appeals to reason and by the power of persuasion. But it will come and come to endure, provided only that we that know the truth take advantage of this unequalled opportunity.

Do you hate war? Now is the time to put war forever out of the world by abolishing forever the sole cause of war.

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SMASHING THE KAISER

When the Limited Monarchy of Great Britain, the Republic of France, Autocratic Russia and little Belgium all pitch on to the German empire, there must be some common economic motive cause actuating these countries.

The reason is published in all the capitalist papers. It is thundered from the pulpits. The popular writers put it in excellent language.

The cause is the militarism of Germany. Prussia dominates Germany, and Prussia has a three class electorate. The powerful rule. The common people have little chance of self-expression politically.

Prussia has never thrown off the rule of the military caste. It never rid itself of a large part of feudal rule. In Great Britain the military was put under the rule of the capitalist class many years ago. France overthrew feudalism in 1789. Russia is rising into capitalism. Her progress in industrial development is rapid. Democratic institutions are being born. The tenacious conflict, however, between militarism and capitalism has not yet come to a head in that country. It will some day, and then, if Socialism has not yet come, the western nations of Europe will administer the medicine they are now giving Germany.

Germany has advanced economically, but the military class still predominates. German trade and economic advance is used to bolster militarism, and militarism is used to bolster trade (the mailed fist) in order that trade may be advanced so militarism and the military class may be glorified.

It is different in France and England. In these countries the bankers rule. They are timorous creatures, bankers are shy, deadly sinners weaving webs of slavery. In their eyes militarism should be subordinate. They want a certain number of soldiers to shoot down strikers, and to suppress rebellious small nations who feel like repudiating their national obligations, or interfering with the operation of traders who feed profit to the banking class. Beyond this, however, the military should be suppressed, and the military should be kept humble and tamed, a sort of civil service, murder police force.

Hence the international bankers oppose Germany. The capitalist class as a whole is opposed to Germany as a danger spot. She is not a peaceful trader; willing to exploit slaves and grow fat on plunder. She is an anarchism, a feudal lord dreaming medieval dreams of conquest and arms.

Militarism triumphant must be smashed. The preachers thunder about this being a war of liberation. The demon of war must be overthrown. Armaments must be checked, and so on ad nauseam.

This does not mean that the persons want freedom and brotherhood and justice. No. It means that they, as the agents of capitalist exploitation want to see the relics of the forms of medieval exploitation overthrown. The capitalist papers want the same.

Not a wage slave will be freed from his slavery by the shattering of German militarism. The cotton mills of Lancashire, the coal pits of Wales and the Department du Nord will still be operated by slaves.

The cry of freedom and liberation raised in this war is the old, old cry that the capitalists have ever raised when they wanted the proletarian to fight. This war of liberation fought by slaves left the masters liberated from the trammels of feudalism and the slaves in slavery to the lords of rent, interest and profit.

The war will bring no freedom to the working classes save such as they may wrest by organizing themselves against their capitalist taskmasters who are now shouting so loudly and hypocritically about freedom.

RESOLUTION BY DANISH SOCIALISTS

Immediately upon the outbreak of war the Executive Committee of the Social Democratic party of Denmark adopted the following resolution defending the attitude of that party to the war.

"The Danish Social Democracy expresses its regret at the gruesome war now raging in Europe, ruining lives and property.

"As for Denmark's part in the matter we unite with the Social Democratic group in the 'Rigsdagen' in its demand for neutrality to all sides and express the hope that with a sane and sensible policy Denmark will steer clear of all complications.

"The Social Democracy pledges its fullest support in the work for settlement of all differences by arbitration and does not hesitate to condemn the various governments and their diplomats for failing to heed the international demands of the Social Democrats of the world.

"This war condition of Europe has again established the fact that the capitalist society and its resulting military politics is pregnant with a terrible danger to the culture and welfare of the people of all countries.

"The Social Democracy of all countries have to the utmost sought to prevent this war, but thanks to the anti-Socialistic parties, attacks and persecutions, our party is as yet in a position of sufficient power and influence to stay the war dogs of capitalism.

"Socialism will destroy all forms of exploitation and social differences and therefore is the direct opposite to the present system and the only acceptable guarantee for peace.

"All who wish to assist in the world's peace, based on the peaceable co-operation of all people, must therefore arrive at the conclusion that the political action as advocated by the Social Democratic movement, its press and organizations, is the only means to the end that this movement may reach a steady developing influence in society and thereby power sufficient to reach the goal that will result in the removal of the crushing military burdens, the abolishment of wars and the establishment of the brotherhood of all nations."

S.D.P. AT TRANSCONA

Last Wednesday night an organization meeting was held in Oddfellows' Hall, Transcona, under the auspices of the provincial executive committee of the Social Democratic party. The meeting was addressed by Harry Wilson, the national organizer of the party, who dealt mostly on the importance of the workers joining a political party of their own, and met once to humiliate and inhuman treatment in order to learn how to kill and murder.—The Revolutionary Almanac.

Europe is a madhouse with the homicidal maniac in control.

Capitalism in its death throes plunges Europe into war.

There is many a king will lose his throne over this war.

No one knows the outcome of the terrible war.

Five million dollars a day is being wasted to kill people in Europe.

Revolution hounds the plunderers of Europe.

SOCIALIST DIRECTORY

ALBERTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE S.D.P. of C. meets every first and third Thursday evening at 7.30 o'clock in Moore Hall, Fraser Ave., Edmonton. Comrades desiring admission to the meetings please write Sec. C. Spencer, 55 Clara St., Edmonton, Alta.—22.

BRITISH COLUMBIA Executive S.D.P. of C. meets in Finnish Hall, 2088 Pender St. East, Vancouver, on the first and third Sunday of every month, at 2.30 p.m. General Business Meeting on third Sunday, E. Finch, Prov. Sec., City Heights P. O., Vancouver, B.C.—23.

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Socialist Democratic Party of Canada meets every first and third Monday night of the month at the month at 8 King Street East, H. Martin, sec., 41 Weber St., East, Berlin, Ont.—24.

MANITOBA Executive Committee S.D.P. of C. meets every 1st Monday night of the month at Headquarters Hall, 184 Main St. For information and literature, write to Prov. Sec., H. Reuther, 25 Manitoba Ave., Winnipeg, Man.—25.

ONTARIO Provincial Executive S.D.P. of C. meets every 1st Monday night of the month at each month, 415 p.m. Labor Temple, 1000 Huron St., Toronto. Secretary, P. C. Young, 1000 Huron St., Toronto.—26.

AMHERST, N.S., Local No. 1, S.D.P. of C. English, meets every Thursday evening at 7.30 p.m. on Sundays at 2.30 p.m. in the old school, 210 Weber St., East, Berlin, Ont.—27.

BERLIN LOCAL No. 4, S.D.P. of C. meets every Sunday evening at 7.30 p.m. at the old school, 210 Weber St., East, Berlin, Ont.—28.

COBALT LOCAL No. 2, S.D.P. of C. holds business and propaganda meetings every Sunday evening at 7.30 p.m. at the old school, 210 Weber St., East, Berlin, Ont.—29.

FINNISH SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION OF CANADA, The Secretary, W. A. Alquist, 21 Alcorn Ave., Toronto, Ont.—30.

LOCAL—VANCOUVER, No. 12, meets every Thursday at 8 p.m. for business and propaganda meetings. Sundays at 2.30 p.m. at Wharf St. Hall, William Watson, Sec. 120, Nanaimo, B.C.—31.

NANAIMO LOCAL No. 11, S.D.P. of C. Business meeting, Tuesdays at 7.30 p.m. Propaganda meetings, Sundays at 2.30 p.m. at Wharf St. Hall, William Watson, Sec. 120, Nanaimo, B.C.—32.

ONE ARTHUR Local S.D.P. meets in Labor Temple, Bay St., second and fourth Wednesdays at 8 p.m. for business, and first and third Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m. interest to every worker. Workers unite and run Port Arthur for the benefit of the workers. Herbert Barker, 23 Rutland St., Sec. 306.

TORONTO Christian Socialist Fellowship, Local No. 1, meets every Sunday evening at 7.30 p.m. in the old school, 210 Weber St., East, Berlin, Ont.—33.

COTTON'S WEEKLY is published in the interests of Socialism by Cotton, P. Q. W. U. Cotton, 1000 Huron St., Toronto, Ont.—34.

WHY CANADIANS ENLIST?

The following letter, written by a New York lad in search of adventure in the Canadian Northwest to his mother at home, discloses in what a plight the average workingman in Canada finds himself today.

Unemployment and hard times with their accompanying long reaches of poverty and hunger, have been greatly multiplied by the war, and most of the men who depended on finding work in the States in the late summer harvest find themselves in the strange predicament of being refused permission to cross the international boundary line.

The letter is dated Kilam, Alberta, September 7, and is reprinted, in part, by permission of the mother, Mrs. Kate Dobromy, a Socialist, of New York.

"During the last ten months I've been working here and there in the railroad camps and lumber mills, occasionally on a farm. Wages have dropped right along, until now a man is lucky if he can earn enough to buy his clothes with.

"The crops in the western provinces were spoiled in at least places by a lack of rain. Around this section the crops are the best I have seen, and the government has granted free fare here to farmers whose crops have been ruined in order that they may earn enough to keep their families in grub until next harvest. So great was the influx of men that wages dropped from \$3.50 a day to \$1.50, and may go lower. Teams and men are everywhere looking for work.

"Many are enlisting as volunteers in order to live, while others speak of going to jail. In Winnipeg and Edmonton the city lamps are overcrowded with those working for their board, while a charity meal ticket consisting of a box of soup is at a premium.

"I don't know why so many factories are being shut down, but it is a cinch that unless the railroads start their engines on construction pretty soon a lot of bellies will go hungry.

"The minute war broke out all railroad construction stopped, and the result is that thousands of men of all nationalities were thrown out of work.

"When it not for your teachings I would be at the front now.

"To make things worse, many men who wanted to cross the line to work in the Dakotas and other farm states were refused admission."—New York Call.

STARVED ON \$1.35 A WEEK

Another indictment of the system a majority of the workers support comes from Schenectady, N. Y. It is a story of privation, destitution, misery and death almost unbelievable.

George Zdeb is a laboring man employed at the Schenectady plant of the American Locomotive Company. His wages is \$1.35 a day and for many weeks he has been working but one day a week. On this pitiful sum Mrs. Zdeb, her husband and two children, a boy four years old and a girl of six, have been slowly starving to death. A few days ago the mother was found dead. The coroner's investigation brought out the facts. That death was due to starvation was the coroner's verdict.

Congress promptly came to the rescue of the stranded American tourists with millions. Congress appropriated a billion dollars to help the poor bankers, starving for more profits. What matters it if women and children starve as long as the private owners of the banks get their eight per cent? How long, how long, Mr. Worker, are you going to continue to vote for billions for bankers and starvation for your own wife and children? Get wise. Don't be a fool all your life. If you get started right now may be your wife will live long enough to forgive you all the years of neglect.—Appeal.

Why should the working class of Canada enlist to go shoot German workers? Do they want to be food for vultures to swell the purses of cynical financiers?

British rulers are wanting more militarism. After the wage slaves have killed enough Germans, no doubt the intention is to set them to work killing Russians.

Let the Socialist locals choose their candidates now for the next election.

Billions of dollars for war and death is what capitalism gives us.

The national debt of Canada is a fraud upon the producing class.

ORGANISER'S REPORT
