

101 - RB

24, 1917.

that it
similar to
right dea-
but he
n if the
with the
would
mselves,
his check
ing up-
ple have
gh bitter
they will

gallant
dted with
o invade
cracy, it
they have
g for, but
he wall,"
o quench
ing, but
vrywhere
Rus-
r mean a
workers,
n of ex-
d to enter
d a true

the peace
orge last
the con-
unity of
ng Germ-
and driv-
enough to
e them to
tated that
the terms
terms not
kers, the
of Austria
ctly what
heirs.

know by
of Turkey
ope. They
uries, and
democratic
common
ences, and
ng an in-
tution just
y murder-
ne French
Reign of
their work-
mune; did
Jews and
children on
the soldiers
ir strikers
and of the
nerous oc-
atrocities—
er. Truly,
ss houses
In Japan
eing Social-
they have
women and
ase of the

remember
a history as
we remem-
s and views
t their mas-
subjected to

Pittsburgh
ion" and it
necessary to
and estab-
or circulat-
proved so
generation
basis of the
ia.

ch try men's
th while to

J. Curry.

dotate to the
press is to
nt of things,
subscribe for

Labor Produces
All Wealth
Unto Labor. It
Should Belong

THE CANADIAN FORWARD

'WORKERS OF
WORLD UNITE'
YOU HAVE NOTHING
TO LOOSE BUT
CHAINS, AND A
WORLD TO GAIN.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIAL - DEMOCRATIC PARTY

New Series, Vol. 1, No. 19

TORONTO, CANADA

August 10, 1917

Why Must The War Go On

By Arthur Ponsonby, M.P.

(This remarkable document by Mr. Ponsonby, the distinguished diplomatist and Member of Parliament, was written just prior to the German peace note of December 12. It was presented to the American Neutral Conference Committee in New York under circumstances almost as dramatic as those attending the Bertram Russell letter.)

The policy of the aggressive German militarist party has been completely defeated. Germany is crippled and bankrupt. Millions of the best lives in Europe have been lost. Millions of men have been disabled and maimed. Millions of homes have been destroyed. Vast territories have been devastated. We are paying six millions a day, and financial ruin stares Europe in the face.

If we are fighting for our own safety do you think the country is in any danger from Germany now?

If we are fighting for France are we quite sure that the Germans would not evacuate all the territory of France they have occupied during the war?

If we are fighting for Belgium are we quite sure the Germans are not prepared to agree to the evacuation of Belgium and to restore to her complete sovereignty and independence? If so, would not this be a better way than the further destruction of Belgian homes and cities?

If we are fighting for Serbia and a free Poland are we quite sure that the Austrians would not agree to a settlement of the Serbian question—which is part of a much larger question—on the lines of nationality? And that Germany and Austria would not consent to the reconstitution of a Polish kingdom?

Do You Expect a Decisive Military Victory?

Is such a complete victory probable in modern warfare? And, if it could be achieved, would not the sacrifice be out of all proportion to the advantage gained? Moreover, is it a decisive military victory that will bring a lasting peace to Europe? A dictated peace has always meant a vindictive peace. There can be no permanent settlement with such a peace as that. But, if a decisive victory is not probable, then the vast sacrifices which the continuance of the war must entail will be wasted. Is a gamble for a possible temporary triumph of arms—a triumph which cannot in itself provide a guarantee of permanent peace—worth such a terrible price in human life and suffering?

Do You Want to Punish Germany?

You cannot punish a nation. You cannot even reach those who are responsible. You cannot, by punishment inflicted upon all sections of the people, convince a nation which believes in the justice of its cause that its belief is wrong. Should we believe that we were in the wrong if Germany punished us? Of course, we should not. Punishing a nation means massacring the people and allowing

your own people to be massacred at the same time. This process has been going on for over two years and still continues. The German people are being punished severely, and so are the French people, so are the Belgian people, the Russian people and other peoples. But no government is being punished.

Do You Want to Starve Germany Into Submission?

This may take years and will cost millions of pounds, and hundreds of thousands of lives. You will starve the British prisoners, then the poor, women and children as well as the men; you won't reach the army for a long time, and you won't reach the rich and the governing classes at all. And when you have done it, and reduced our own country and our Allies to a condition of exhaustion and paralysis, you will feel that Great Britain has been the great upholder of civilization, will you feel that you have laid a sure foundation for a new and peaceful Europe? If you want revolution this is a straight road to it.

Are you sure the war is not going on because of secret agreements we have made with Russia, with Italy, with France? What are these agreements? Ought we to go on fighting without knowing what we are fighting for?

The only powers that can stop this war are Great Britain and Germany. The Allies depend on us. Our financial strength gives us a predominant position. Would it be weakness on our part deliberately to take the lead and bring Europe back to peace? It is a

far greater weakness to go drifting on just for the sake of what is called "winning the war," not knowing what winning may cost us, only knowing how little permanent gain ever comes from the mere triumph of force.

Force and violence cannot bring any government to reason, but only to temporary submission. Force and violence cannot bring contentment to any people. Force and violence cannot create a peaceful Europe. Surely it is better for Great Britain to come forward as the champion of civilization than to continue to be a participant in the most hideous barbarism the world has ever seen.

Do You Want the War to Go On?

Liberty and justice are not in the gift of any existing government. Militarism and oppression are characteristic in varying degrees of them all. What has been the effect of our attempting to crush German militarism by force of arms?

We have established militarism at home. We have deprived men of their liberty, punished men for their consciences, censored opinion and suppressed free speech. Militarism can only be crushed by the people themselves in a country where a free democracy exists. We cannot free the German people by warfare, but we can enslave our own.

The war for liberty and justice has yet to come. It will be the war of united democracy against the state traditions of discredited governments—not a war of peoples against peoples. It will be a war against bad conditions, against poverty, misery and ignorance. The real enemy is established inside every country. It is the spirit of tyranny, greed, materialism, intolerance and militarism. It is the unfair distribution of wealth, the neglect of education, the idolization of riches. The victims of that enemy are to be

found in slums, in workhouses, in asylums and in prisons. Why not make ready to fight the enemy instead of wasting life and treasure in the slaughtering of men who are as anxious as you are to turn their attention to the real evils that surround them?

The longer you continue this European conflict, the outcome of diplomatic intrigue and the product of the reckless ambition of government, the longer will the real war be delayed.

Do You Want a Lasting Peace?

If so you must prevent the intrigues of diplomacy and the entanglements of secret engagements, you must avoid a settlement based on a renewed competition in armaments, you must control foreign policy through Parliament, you must defeat the attempts to institute an embittering economic war which must make peace impossible, and you must demand the right of every people with national ideals of its own to develop these ideals unhampered and unthreatened.

If you want to prevent this fearful calamity from happening again you must substitute co-operation for rivalry among the nations, the harmony of an international council for the conflict of international armaments.

These great objects might be obtained without further bloodshed, not by a frenzied desire for revenge and triumph but by the wise determination of the people to insist on the government stating their terms and opening negotiations.

THE GREATER TEST

(Ernest Crosby.)

So he died for his faith. That is fine—
More than most of us do.
But say, can you add to that line
That he lived for it, too?

In his death he bore witness at last
As a martyr for truth.
Did his life do the same in the past,
From the days of his youth?

It is easy to die. Men have died
For a wish, or a whim,
For bravado, or passion, or pride—
Was it harder for him?

But to live—every day to live out
All the truth that he dreamt,
While his friends met his conduct with
doubt,
And the world with contempt—

Was it thus that he plodded ahead,
Never turning aside?
Then we'll talk of the life that he lived,
Never mind how he died.

If more lived for their country there
would be little call to die for it.

BEEES."

A story is told of a Japanese student at one of the universities, who after going through a course of reading of all the classical political economists, was asked his opinion of the entire subject. He replied that though these books were differently worded, they all taught the same thing: "the art of extracting the honey from the hive without alarming the bees."

What happened to the virtues of voluntary enlistment? Placed in the Capitalist junk-basket, we presume.

RUSSIAN WORKERS' ANSWER TO HENDERSON, THOMAS AND VANDERVELDE.

Petrograd, Wednesday.

The Executive Committee of the Council of Soldiers' and Workers' Delegates of Petrograd, in reply to a letter addressed to it by M. Albert Thomas, Mr. Henderson, and M. Vandervelde, publishes a statement in which it explains the program of the impending International Socialist Conference and the part played by the Council in the preparation of the conference. The statement says:

"The Russian Revolution, which is the revolt of the people not only against the tyranny of Tsarism but also against the horrors of the world war, the blame for which falls upon international Imperialism, has placed before all countries with extraordinary acuteness the urgent need of concluding peace. At the same time the Russian Revolution has indicated to the nations the way of realizing this problem, notably the union of all working classes to combat all attempts of Imperialism to prolong the war in the interest of the well-to-do classes and to prevent a peace without annexations or indemnities.

"Having recognized the right of nations to dispose of their destiny, the members of the conference will come to an understanding without difficulty regarding the future of Alsace-Lorraine and that of other regions.

"Moreover, the working classes, relieved of the mutual distrust which the Imperialists envenom, will agree as to the means of granting compensation and the amount of such compensation to the countries devastated by the war, like Belgium, Poland, Galicia, and Serbia; but it goes without saying that such compensation must have nothing in common with contribution which is imposed on a conquered country.

"The Council of Soldiers' and Workers' Delegates considers it futile for parties to make it an absolute condition of their taking part in the conference that the preliminary consent of other parties shall be obtained to any obligatory decisions, for that would give rise in the imagination to irreconcilable contradictions on questions the amicable discussion of which might lead to a solution acceptable by both parties.

"As for your desire to obtain previous complete agreement between the allied Socialists, the way in which we put the problem renders futile any such understanding. We consider that the conference can only succeed if Socialists consider themselves, not representatives of the two belligerent parties, but representatives of a single movement of the working classes towards the common aim of general peace."

WHAT OTHERS ARE THINKING

Bright Clippings from Wide-a-wake Contemporaries

"The German Government is clamoring at any door, back or front, which promises entrance to any peace which is not the peace of undisguised defeat."—*"Manchester Guardian,"* June 21, 1917

"For reasons to which this nation may fairly plead guiltless the end of the war is more remote than once seemed possible. A sudden collapse of the enemy may be ruled out of our calculations."—*"Times,"* June 20, 1917.

Films of the Russian Revolution, presented to the Soldiers' and Workmen's Council to raise money for a fund for released Siberian prisoners' needs, have come to London. They show a New Russia in the first ecstatic moments of its freedom.

A GHOULISH MOCKERY

"The graves before Sebastopol must always stand as a mockery of the graves on Gallipoli."—From "The Future of Constantinople" by I. S. Woolf.

A NEW PATENT CRANK

The "London Telegraph" has discovered that Pacifists are "Crank," but that cranks are little things which make revolutions.

AMERICA, OUR HOPE

Our "fight for victory men" now seem to be depending on a huge army to be sent over from America. On this the "New Republic" (quoted in the "Nation") says:

The result for this summer and the next would, at best, be a hideously expensive stalemate. The deadlock could be broken only by the dispatch of a huge American army to Europe one so large that it could not be recruited, equipped, and trained until the summer of 1919. Even then it might be impossible to transport it to Europe. . . . A war conducted until 1920 on a scale required by a military decision might bring peace with victory, but it would also bring victory with suicide.

A TRAGEDY OF WAR

"One of the greatest tragedies of the war is to see the idealist laying down his life for a peace that is to be arranged by the materialists."—From a British officer's letter, quoted at the Leeds Convention.

CONNOLLY AGAINST CAPITALISM

"It was not against England but against Capitalism that Connolly rebelled. His death was a protest against its atrocities."—Lion Phillimore in the "Nation."

"THE PUSH" NOW 1918

The "New York Tribune" declares that if Germany is to be decisively defeated a 1918 campaign is inevitable.

Mr. Bonar Law stated in reply to a question in the British House of Commons that the passports of the I.L.P. delegates to Russia, had not been withdrawn.

Any official, high or low, who uses the power entrusted to him by the citizens to deny them any right which the Constitution grants, is a greater enemy to Canada than a foreign foe. It is the Prussianized public official who is now the greatest menace to the liberty of the people.—*The Messenger,*

"So far as the Allies are concerned, the best hope of peace is a frank and open statement both by way of avowal and disavowal of the objects for which they are fighting. As a means to that

end I welcome the fullest use of all opportunities for an interchange of views between representatives of the great democracies. It cannot be too clearly stated that this is a matter for the peoples, rather than for the governments. Once that is realized by the democracies of the world, we shall be within measurable sight of an honorable and lasting peace."—Herbert A. Asquith, ex-premier of Great Britain in the House of Commons, on July 26, 1917.

COMING TRANSFORMATION

No revolution ever rises above the intellectual level of those who made it, a little gained where one false notion supplants another, but we must some day, at last and forever, cross the line between nonsense and common sense.

And on that day we will pass from class paternalism, originally derived from fetish fiction, in time of universal ignorance, to human brotherhood in accordance with the nature of things and our growing knowledge of it—from political government to industrial administration, from competition in individualism to individuality in co-operation, from war and despotism in any form to peace and liberty.—Thomas Carlyle, 1871.

THE FRACTION OF A MEANING

War in 1917.

The "Nation" for June 23 contains a letter from a young officer written to a friend. In it he speaks appreciatively of a recent article in the "Nation," "On Leave," and avers:

It is hideously exasperating to hear people talking glib commonplaces about the war and distributing cheap sympathy to its victims. Perhaps you are tempted to give them a picture of a leprous earth, scattered with the swollen and blackening corpses of hundreds of young men. The appalling stench of rotting carrion mingled with the sickening smell of exploded lyddite and ammonal. Mud like porridge, trenches like shallow and sloping cracks in the porridge—porridge that stinks in the sun. Swarms of flies and bluebottles clustering on pits of offal. Wounded men lying in the shell holes among the decaying corpses; helpless under the searching sun and bitter nights, under repeated shelling. Men with bowels dropped out, lungs shot away, with blinded, smashed faces, or limbs blown into space. Men screaming and gibbering. Wounded men hanging in agony on the barbed wire, until a friendly spout of liquid fire shrivels them up like a fly in a candle.

But these are only words, and probably only convey a fraction of their meaning to their hearers. They shudder, and it is forgotten. . . .

IS LIBERTY AT STAKE?

According to a news dispatch from "Le-Pay," warships stand like sentinels guarding Montreal, and special companies of soldiers have been drafted to conspicuous positions, provided with the usual civilizing accoutrements. We are led to ask what for; are they preparing for a regatta, or a jubilee? Potters Field is not inconveniently situated, however, in case of any person refusing to become a convert to militarism.

A SHORT CUT

Or Diplomatic Expediency.

"Labor Leader," June 14, 1917.
The suggestion of Mr. G. Bernard Shaw that "if we wish to kill C.O.'s,

cannot we shoot them out of hand and have done with it, Dublin fashion" would seem to have commended itself to the military authorities who are responsible for sending another batch of C.O.'s to France.

The following letters have just been brought to our office. Both are from members of the I.L.P., and both are shining witnesses of the reality of the faith on which our movement is founded. Well we know it that our comrades are prepared to do or die, and to die gladly, rather than submit to the intolerable slavery that would compel a human being, utterly against his will and conscience, to become the slayer of his fellows or in any way to aid in that slaying. But is our Government prepared for the consequences of the cold-blooded murder of such men? We warn them that the echo of the shots which should free our comrades' spirits from bondage will be heard in every part of the world to-day, and most of all in Tolstoy's country, the new Russia of the Revolution.

LETTERS FROM C.O.'S IN FRANCE

Somewhere in France,

Friday Night.

My Dear Wife,—Just a few lines to let you know that I have arrived in France. We had a beautiful passage across this morning; we are at present at a rest camp and are being moved again to-morrow. Now do not worry; I am in the best of health and spirits. I feel proud that I am one of the first Manchester men to be sent out here to testify to our glorious cause. I trust that God will give men strength to come through this struggle.

Albert Middleton.

Somewhere in France,

June 9.

Dear Mother and Dad and All,—Just a few lines to let you know that I am still in good health and spirits and quite prepared for whatever happens. I hope that you won't worry and get downhearted by my being here, as I am proud to think that I should be chosen to suffer this ordeal, which others have suffered.

I hope you have received the letter and postcard I sent you when in England, and hope parcel will be returned to you soon.

Please remember me to all on Wednesday, and tell them to keep the flag flying, as we shall. Well, I will close now, and will write you as often as I can, but if you do not hear for a day or so don't get anxious about me, but hope for the best.

Well, good night, with best love to all at home.

I remain your loving son,

Joe Davies.

No. 48,178, E. Co., 3rd Manchesters, 30th I.B.D., A.P.O., S. 17, France. Guard Room.

A SINISTER DOCUMENT

Material for reflections is provided by a trade prospectus which appears in the "London Times" of July 27th. The prospectus refers to the "British Trade Corporation," an undertaking with a nominal capital of £10,000,000 and a directorate of influential business men. The corporation is described in the City Notes of the "Times" as being the "British Trade Bank." "The corporation," says the prospectus, "has been incorporated by Royal Charter with a view to carrying out the recommendations of the Departmental Committee of the Board of Trade appointed to consider the best means of meeting the needs of British firms after the war as regards financial facilities for trade. . . . The corporation will specially devote its energies to the development of the trade of the British Empire in every part of the world. The corporation states that it has the goodwill of the British Government and quotes the

following from its charter as showing this:

"In any cases in which as a result of arrangements between Our Government of the United Kingdom and any other government, whether the Government of a British possession or protectorate or a foreign Government, Our Government is desirous that British Capital (a capital "C" is used) shall participate in financial operations not falling within the terms of any agreements or arrangements with other parties which may be existing at the date of Our Charter, and requires an Agent for the representation of British interests so far as relates to trade and finance. We do hereby . . . grant and confer on the Corporation the right in such cases of being such Agent of Our Government."

The directors are sixteen in number. The names include directors of large firms of merchants, of East India merchants, of chemical manufacturers, of the Calico Printers' Association, and of other firms. They also include the names of Sir Vincent Caillard (Director, Vickers, Ltd.), J. H. B. Noble (Director), Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth and Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Sir Hallerwell Rogers (Chairman Birmingham Small Arms Co., Birmingham).

This document, in its implications, is compact of all the evils that most definitely contributed to bringing the present war and which will, if unchecked, bring further wars to the world. It implies the continuance and even the more vigorous pursuit of the competition with capitalists and financiers of other nations for foreign markets, for concessions in new countries, and for the privilege of loaning money to China and other extra European countries. One recognizes this regretfully enough; for one had hoped that the war had taught the wisdom, if not of abandoning, at all events of modifying, the lines of activity which analysis has shown to have been so largely responsible for the war's occurrence.

And there is something in this document that is perhaps even more foreboding than the mere continuance of the policy of capitalistic "expansion." It would appear that the Government puts itself definitely behind this body of capitalists. We have known that in the past the policy of the Foreign Office and the intrigues of diplomats have been largely inspired by a desire to advance the interests of capitalists and financiers of their nationality in securing concessions and favorable opportunities generally for the exploitation of "undeveloped" countries, but never before has a definite alliance between the Government and the capitalists in this exploitation been so openly confessed.

This alliance gives a very good indication of what will certainly be a pronounced trend in the movement of economic life after the war, viz., an alliance between capitalism and the State—always, it will be pleaded, for the benefit of the nation of the Empire and because of patriotism. Associated with this movement will quite probably occur the state control of certain industries, but the object of the movement as a whole will only be to make capitalism more efficient as a whole under the developing conditions of to-day. So long as the State continues essentially capitalistic in its make-up, capitalism will only benefit by alliance with the State. The war has shown the capitalists of Great Britain that, for the sake of their future, they will be compelled to acquiesce in and even to welcome the "socialization" of certain industries, such as has been taking place during the war. It is recognized on all hands in Great Britain that the relations between the State, Capital, and Labor can never be the same after the war as they were

(Continued on Page 7).

ITEMS OF NEWS FROM ALL PARTS

BRITAIN'S GREATEST WOMAN

Mrs. A. Besant is Ordered to Place a Padlock on Her Mouth and Cease Writing.

The Government of Madras has prohibited Mrs. Besant from taking any further part in the movement for Home Rule for India. She, and some of her associates in the movement, have been ordered to leave Madras and have been virtually interned. Her newspapers have been suppressed and she has been prohibited from publishing or speaking, even in furtherance of her purely religious theosophical work. Mr. Austen Chamberlain was keenly questioned on the matter in the House of Commons on Tuesday, and he was unable to offer any justification of this outrageous act by the Government of Madras. He sheltered himself behind the wholly unfounded charge that Mrs. Besant's propaganda had been of a dangerous character. There is not a grain of truth in this assertion. Mrs. Besant's agitation has been carried on by the strictest constitutional methods. Her papers have energetically supported the war. She was the first person to raise recruits for the new Indian Volunteer Force. Her only offence is that she demanded for the people of India the rights of self-government which are enjoyed by other parts of the British Empire. The abominable treatment meted out to Mrs. Besant is a deliberate attempt to suppress a legitimate agitation, and the Government's action expose their hypocrisy in professing to desire the extension of democratic liberty. The Imperial Government has learnt nothing from its experiences of the repression of liberty in Ireland. The action of the Madras Government, endorsed by the Imperial Government, can only drive the Home Rule agitation into unconstitutional channels. The two men responsible for this insane act are Lord Pentland (the Governor of Madras) and Mr. Austen Chamberlain, both men utterly devoid of imagination. They have incurred an awful responsibility, and have created a situation in India of the utmost gravity.

SOLDIERS SEARCH VICTORIA PRINTING HOUSE WHICH PUBLISHED THE MESSENGER—STATE DEPARTMENT MAY TAKE ACTION

We are in receipt of a communication from Phil. R. Smith, in which he refers in it to the actions of the military authorities in raiding his print shop. It is a very mute point as to whether the military have any legal power to interfere in matters of this description. Suffice to say, that so far as intent is concerned they have very little respect for the Constitution.

The S.D.P., in particular, are greatly indebted to comrade Smith for the yeoman service he has rendered to our cause. He has borne a weight of responsibility in publishing The "Messenger," and he is now likely to have a very serious charge laid against him. We have no faith in Canadian Justice to protect him; but it may be a means of strength to him in his hour of trial if you write and let him know that his courage and indomitable spirit have awakened a response in the hearts of thousands who seek the abolition of "Canadian slavery."

We extend our hearty congratulations to Phil. and his Victoria associates for their courage and devotion in popularizing the cause of "Freedom of Press," which is essential to all true progress, and for the further demonstration that Prussianism is not solely associated with conditions in Europe—but have been, and is to-day, an integral part of all governments

that rest on "Might and Human Spoilation."

The life of "The Messenger," an anti-war sheet published ostensibly in the interests of the Social-Democrat party of Canada has been nipped in the bud.

A detail of soldiers from Work Point Barracks, under the command of Capt. C. Tweedale, the District Intelligence Officer, entered the premises of the Victoria Printing & Publishing Company, 521 Yates street, where the paper was issued, on Thursday and demanded the right of search. This was granted by the manager, Mr. Phil R. Smith, himself a leader among local Socialists, and all the literature in the place was thoroughly examined, several manuscripts and newspapers, said to be of a seditious nature, being seized for evidence.

With Secretary of State

The fate of the paper is now in the hands of the Secretary of State, who alone has authority through order-in-council to order its suppression or the infliction of a penalty on its publisher.

Just what definite purpose "The Messenger" had seems to be more or less of a mystery, its general policy being of a radically Socialist nature. There wasn't much original matter in the paper, most of it having been clipped from English and United States newspapers of the pacifist, peace-at-any-price order.

Copy Sent to Governor

Several thousand copies of "The Messenger" were printed and distributed gratuitously as hand-bills throughout the city. Mr. Smith told the search party that it was the intention to make the paper a periodical; one issue would be sufficient. But every effort was made to secure as wide a circulation as possible. One copy was sent to Lieutenant-Governor Barnard, another to Major-General Leckie, the G.O.C., and one to Vice-Admiral Story at Esquimalt.

The military authorities, by carrying out the search, have finished their part of the case, and it has been referred to the Dominion chief press censor. The usual course is to submit the matter to the Secretary of State, who has authority to take action against the party responsible for the publication should he deem such to be necessary.

Police Interested

Not alone the military authorities are interested in "The Messenger," but the Provincial police, on instructions from Attorney-General J. W. deB. Farris, have been investigating with a view to ascertaining the individual or individuals responsible for the circulation of the publication. The paper, the first issue of which has occasioned the military and police activity, purports to be issued under the auspices of the Social-Democratic party of Canada. The attention of the Attorney-General was called to the paper by a gentleman here who forwarded a copy to Hon. Mr. Farris, calling his attention to the fact that in it was published an editorial from the "San Francisco Examiner," one of the numerous Hearst papers, the entry of which into Canada has been prohibited by the Federal authorities under heavy penalties. The Attorney-General was asked to investigate on the ground that if the Hearst papers are not permitted to circulate in Canada another publication reproducing articles from such papers for circulation in Canada would be evading the Federal order.

Attorney-General Farris referred the matter to the Provincial police to investigate, but in the meantime the military authorities took action.

"Daily Colonist," July 22, 1917.

The "Melbourne Age" says that the

federal ministers are considering a scheme for providing for the expenditure over a term of years, of at least £10,000,000 on the establishment of factories under joint private and governmental supervision. The scheme includes the creation of a national industrial department in close contact with the commonwealth banks.

THE GREEK SITUATION

The Russian Government has announced that it has taken no part in the acts of the "protecting" Powers recently committed in Greece. From this declaration it may be inferred that the democratic Government of Russia does not approve of what has been done by Great Britain and France. Lord Robert Cecil, when questioned in the House of Commons on these matters, has given evasive replies. From the beginning of the trouble in Greece Parliament and the public have been kept in ignorance of what the "protecting" Powers have been doing. One thing, however, has been obvious, namely, that Great Britain has been supremely anxious to safeguard the monarchical institution in Greece. The extent of the treaty rights and obligations to the "protecting" Powers over Greece is limited to maintaining a stable constitutional form of government, but these Powers have no right to "protect" a form of government which the Greek people do not desire. M. Venizelos has now come forward with a statement which supports the view of Professor Burrows, whom we quoted last week, namely, that the Greek people desire a Republic, and that Great Britain and France have thwarted the wishes of the Greeks in this matter. The British Government profess to have accepted the Russian policy of the right of nations to determine their own destiny, but the action of the "protecting" Powers in Greece is strikingly inconsistent with such a profession. The conduct of these "protecting" Powers towards Greece during the war has been such that it is no wonder that Professor Holland Rose should write to the "Times" to say that one of the questions most frequently put in the Y.M.C.A. huts is "Is our conduct towards Greece any more justifiable than that of Germany towards Belgium?"

Phillip Snowden
"Labor Leader," June 28, 1917.

CO-OPERATION TAKES ACTION

The co-operators' convention recently held in Swansea, South Wales, decided by a vote of 1979 to 201 against to endorse independent political action.

SLUMP IN COTTON DUE TO PROFITEERING RASCALS

A serious crisis threatens the cotton trade. It is due to the shortage of the supply of raw cotton and to the high price, aggravated by gambling speculation. The present situation might have been foreseen, and Government action ought to have been taken sooner. Nothing which can be done now can prevent serious hardship to the operatives. Short-time will be necessary, and it is important that the suffering should be spread as evenly as possible. But short-time will be a serious thing for the Lancashire cotton operatives, who have not shared in that prosperity which has come to many classes of operatives during the war.

PROFITS INTERNATIONAL

Shortage of food and high prices all over Norway have led to demonstrations and strikes so severe that all work is practically at a standstill.

SELF-MADE

A drunken Congressman said to Horace Greeley one day: "I'm a self-made man."

"Then, sir," replied the philosophical Horace, "the fact relieves the Almighty of a great responsibility."
—Judge.

WOMAN'S COLUMN

BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS EXTENDS THE WOMAN'S FRANCHISE TO 6,000,000 WOMEN BY MAJORITY OF 330.

The tremendous majority by which the House of Commons passed the woman suffrage clause of the Franchise Bill last week ensures the safety of that provision of the measure. At the next general election six millions of women will have the opportunity of exercising the Parliamentary franchise. It is now safe to congratulate the women who have worked so long and so magnificently for the enfranchisement of their sex upon the successful achievement of their aim. No movement ever enlisted more devoted enthusiasm nor more sustained self-sacrifice. It has been one of the tragedies of this agitation that women of great ability and capacity have been compelled to devote their gifts and energies to the work of agitating for the political enfranchisement, when their services were so much needed for the practical work of industrial and social reform. The State has lost invaluable help through this, and it will now gain immensely by freeing these women from the necessity of having to devote themselves to the agitation for the means to help legislative reforms. The measure of woman suffrage to be granted by this Bill is not complete, but it will enfranchise six times the number of women that were included in the scope of the Women Suffrage Bills before Parliament a few years ago. This new measure of woman suffrage will not block the way to a complete measure of adult suffrage, but will rather help to secure that at a date earlier than would have been possible if this large instalment had not been secured now by the compromise arrived at under the special circumstances of the war.

"Labor Leader," June 28, 1917.

WOMAN'S WAY

Mr. Burdett-Coutts Makes a Prediction.

Women had nothing to do with making this war. When the war was made, man was the sovereign power. Do you not think the awful experiences through which the nation has passed, which have been more terrible to women than to men, and will be more lasting in women's memories, and will be handed on to their children of to-day, who will be the women of to-morrow, will make a difference to the attitude of mind in which women will approach the question of another war? It is my argument that the incident of Miss Jeanette Rankin in America suggests, if it does not definitely show, what will happen when the question of a great war entailing suffering perhaps that we have seen in this war is submitted to an electorate in which there is a majority of 2,000,000 women.

SIR FREDERICK BANBURY

Women, the world over, will feel grateful for the unwilling testimony:

We are now facing a hostile and cruel enemy, and may have to do it again before many years are over. If that is so we do not want to put the power into the hands of women, who, naturally, feel so very intensely, and who will be adverse from taking very strong action.

The same thing took place in Australia. Who was it prevented Mr. Hughes getting conscription? It was the women of Australia. In Finland, where there is universal suffrage for both sexes, the Finnish troops exist only in name.

Sir Edward Carson and Mr. Austen Chamberlain both voted against Women's Suffrage in any form.

"No Annexation Amendment"

(Continued from last issue.)

Commander Wedgwood.

Commander Wedgwood made a valuable speech with a blunt, frank admission of awkward facts, and an offer of an international remedy for them.

Stern Warning to the House.

I hope that my hon. friends opposite will not pursue this debate to a Division, not because I mind in the least if they get their half dozen or dozen men into the Lobby with them, but because I know that no sooner will the Division be taken than the news will be wired over to Russia, that only a half dozen or a dozen men in this House agreed with the Russian position, taken up in their declaration, and no news could be more fatal to our prospects in this war. It is our business to remember that every word which we say now is addressed to Russia, because of the critical position existing at the present time.

Effects of a Separate Peace.

We must realize what it will mean in carrying on the war if Russia effects a separate peace. We shall not merely have the whole strength of the German Army against us on the Western front, but we shall have to bear the weight of an offensive immeasurably greater than any offensive to which we have been subjected hitherto. The mere fact that if Russia makes a separate peace the whole food supplies of Russia will be thrown open to Germany, thereby enabling her to carry on indefinitely, is a fact of enormous importance and vital seriousness to this country at the present time. Therefore, I do beg that the Government will see, if not by speech in this House yet through the ordinary diplomatic channels, that an assurance is conveyed to the new Russian Government, which is in coalition with the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates at the present time, of our appreciation, not merely of the Russian revolution—of course, we all agree with that—but of our agreement with the statements of the terms for which we are fighting this war.

The Wedge Policy.

I think that at no time was it so necessary to drive a wedge between the German people and the German Junker class. So long as the Junker class can continue to persuade German people that we are out to destroy the people of Germany or the people of Russia, and that they are defending their precious Fatherland, we shall not realize the greatest achievement that can be hoped for in this war—the democratisation of Germany, which is essential to German peace.

I have absolutely no patience with the school which says no peace with the Hun. The right thing to do is to show the German people that they can have peace now on a decent, honorable terms, that we shall look upon their needs from the point of view of justice and chivalry, and without ideas of self-aggrandizement, and once the German people believe that they can get peace on those terms we shall have in Germany the move which we all look for as an outcome of this war. Herr Scheidemann has said in the Reichstag that if England and France would agree to the Russian terms there would be a revolution in Germany if the German Government did not accept those terms.

I want a revolution in Germany more even than I want German East Africa.

The Difficulty and the Solution.

I come to the real difficulty of the situation; the feeling that the extension of our Colonial Empire is absolutely necessary for the benefit of mankind. We do not want to give back

the native races to the German rule.

I suppose that there is no one in this House who is more of a Negro-phile than myself, and I should hate to see the natives of German East Africa handed back to German rule.

Is there not a possibility of safeguarding the situation and yet safeguarding the face of the German nation by internationalising the tropic colonies in Africa? It seems to me that if the Germans gave up the same area as we gave up, and the French gave up, and also the Belgians and the Portuguese, possibly, and you put that area as a belt right across Africa, under international control, preferably with an American executive head so that every nation could trade alike in that area and the blacks would be treated with the greatest possible consideration—the German Government did not act, as they always are treated by the Americans—because after all the the Philippines are possibly better run under America than are the best of our colonies—you will safeguard the native races and at the same time prevent that scrambling for raw materials coming from tropical Africa which exists at the present time. That is a solution which I think we may regard as a possibility, provided that the war does not go much more successfully than it has been going latterly—a possibility of getting fair terms of peace, which would satisfy the Russian democracy, the people of Germany, and at the same time not be a danger to the British Empire.

Edmund Harvey.

Mr. Harvey followed with a nobly humane appeal for a statement of war aims that could be really understood not only by the great democracy of Russia, but also by the growing mass of those in Germany who are longing for a just peace, who are realizing the wrong of the continuance of this war, and who are growing indignant with everyone in their own country who insists that it should go on until there is some great victory.

The Human Cost of the War.

"We realize too little here in this country, far from the actual scene of war, what the awful suffering means in the countries in which war is going on, the terrible loss of life which was alluded to only, the other day by General Smuts when he told us that 8,000,000 men in the prime of life had already fallen. And if we think not merely of the 8,000,000 who are dead, but of the equal number who are maimed and blinded and mutilated, and the still greater number seriously wounded, we can draw for ourselves a faint picture at least of the misery and the anguish that the continuance of the war must mean in countless homes all through Europe. The peoples of these countries do not want to go on paying this terrible price for the fulfillment of the wishes of their statesmen and leaders. The widows and mothers, the wives and lovers, who are voiceless and voteless, are bearing perhaps the heaviest share of the burden, and if by a clear statement of our position we can shorten by one day the continuance of this horror, surely it is our duty to do it."

Our Civilization in Peril.

He recalled the historical parallel of the war between Athens and Sparta. In that crisis of the world's history 2,000 years ago the opportunity to get peace was passed by, and the civilization of Greece was wrecked, and wrecked irretrievably. It is possible for us in Europe now to go on struggling with a great and noble purpose until the conditions get so bad that our civilization, too, falls in ruin.

"I think that the statesmen who are responsible, the great governors of

the world who are responsible for starting this war must have felt more than once since it began as though they were school boys who played with some powerful motor car which they started on its journey downhill, and were unable to control and only imperfectly able to guide. . . . But surely we are not held, absolutely slaves to the circumstances which surround us. The Russian revolution itself gives us hope for the future. It gives us hope for the power, the creative and constructive power, of the forces of goodwill, the spiritual forces that are latent in the hearts of men, that are present in the warring armies in all the contending peoples, and will help us to build up the commonwealth of the nation, with free league of peace which President Wilson has advocated."

A Soldier's Warning.

Colonel Aubrey Herbert, as a soldier, made some striking contributions to the debate, and warned the Government that "if the Government concerned can neither win the war nor finish the war, then ultimately the war will be ended by the action of other people or the Socialists."

Philip Morrell Supports.

Philip Morrell gave valuable support. He urged that upon Great Britain lay the primary responsibility for a declaration of our general policy and of the conditions upon which peace is possible, and reiterated that such a declaration ought now to be made. Whatever the dangers and difficulties of making a declaration, what I would ask the House is—I urge this point—are there no dangers and difficulties in silence? I myself believe that there are very great dangers in keeping silence at the present time. I myself believe that there is a very great and serious danger in regard to Russian public opinion, if once it is persuaded that this country is not in harmony with the general renunciation of conquest which have been made by the Government of Russia and the Government of the United States, there will be a movement for a separate peace between Russia and Germany which the Provisional Government might find it very hard to resist. At the present moment the Russian democracy looks to this country for a lead in these matters—or it has done up till lately—and it would be a deplorable thing if after all that has been said in Russia with regard to the renunciation of conquest and the new spirit in this war, we in this country should have nothing to say but repeat those old declarations made at the beginning of the war, which at any rate, are out of date, and I believe are out of harmony with the new spirit in Russia.

C. P. Trevelyan.

Although intervening late in the debate, Mr. Trevelyan made a wonderfully clear and fresh speech. He congratulated Russia on her possession of politicians who say what they mean.

Here M. Millukoff says quite frankly to the world, "I am still out for conquest. What we want is Constantinople for Russia. What we want is the break up of the Austrian Empire." That is clear upon one side. He at present is the weaker force in Russia. There is equally no mistake about the Provisional Government and about the view of the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates who inspire the policy of that Government, and insist on their following the policy which they want.

Skobileff's Declaration.

The last thing that has happened in Russia is that the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates has decided to join the Provisional Government, and in doing so it has made the terms on which it joins that Government lucidly clear. It says that it joins on these terms:

An active foreign policy, openly

pursuing the aim of reaching as soon as possible a general peace without indemnities on the basis of the rights of nations to work out their own destinies.

The chairman of the Council is M. Skobileff, who interprets no annexation as meaning, as far as Russia is concerned, no Constantinople, and no break-up of the Austrian Empire. Therefore all these subtleties as to what Russia means or does not mean are beside the point.

At present the phenomenon in Russia is not a military collapse of the old war ambitions and war hatreds and the growth in the faith of another kind of solution of the war.

The Allies Must Choose.

If there is a separate peace made by Russia it will be because of the invitation of the Russian democracy, the Allies refuse to repudiate those ideas of annexation and conquest which they are requested to repudiate by the Russians, because they refuse to call in reason and diplomacy to aid military effort, and because they in effect say to Russia, if they insist on doing it, "If you want to negotiate you may negotiate, but we will not negotiate with you." He ended a fine tribute to the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates, everyone of them—2,000—young men, with the striking sentence:

I believe the Russian revolution will very soon be found to have torn off the mask from all the other Governments.

Herr Scheidemann's Prophecy.

Speaking of Germany, Mr. Trevelyan continued: Herr Scheidemann, the leader of the Majority of the Socialist party, has been said to-day by the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs to have supported his Government right through. He has been a supporter of the war, and has been preached in our papers as being a humble vassal of the German Government. It is not the view I take, reading his speeches, but still that is the view put forward. What he said was this:

A speedy peace by mutual agreement would be a great happiness for all Europe. Ninety-nine per cent.

(Continued on Page 6).

...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.

Local No. 71, Toronto—Meets at 165 Van Horne street, every Sunday, at 2.30 p.m. A hearty invitation is extended to all friends and sympathizers. J. Cunningham, 219 Wallace avenue, Secretary.

Saskatchewan Provincial Executive Committee—Meets on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. All comrades desiring to join party or organize Locals are requested to write, F. G. Wetzel, Box 151, Vanguard, Sask.

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

No. 1 - RSD

THE CANADIAN FORWARD

To Our Contributors—

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

Subscriptions (post free)—

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

Advertising Rates—

Advertising in this paper is charged for at one standard rate, viz.: 5 cents per agate line (50c. per inch). For rates on contract and agency commission, application should be made to the Business Manager. Locals and Executives desirous of advertising meetings are given a special rate.

Correspondence—

All correspondence should be addressed to
I. BAINBRIDGE, Managing Editor,
363 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Canada.

Vol. 1, No. 19 TORONTO, CANADA August 10, 1917



"The State is the coldest of all monsters. And its lies are cold; and this lie creeps out of its mouth: 'I, the State, am the people.'"—Nietzsche.



THE PEACE OUTLOOK

With unvaried weariness the daily press still doles out its lamentable vaporings of an early or a far-off peace. Whether this is for the purpose of keeping the people guessing in order to mask the manoeuvre for position that is taking place between the belligerents is much open to question. If it is not designed for this purpose then it is surely to keep the people in ignorance as to what is taking place behind the scene. In the evening they tell us the war will last two years (awaiting the United States new army to take the germ out of Germany), and the following morning we are greeted with a big headline, "End of Nightmare Near at Hand."

Lloyd George slings the lie at Michaelis by repeating with unvarying regularity, "You are the aggressors; it was your desire for world dominance that took the lid off Hell." Michaelis replies, "You're another; did not France, at the instance of General Berthelot, arrange a formal treaty with Russia, giving to France Alsace-Lorraine, Sarrbruck, and the vast territorial advances on the left bank of the Rhine, and in Syria?" The one peculiar feature that is associated with the diplomatic utterances of all the belligerents is the attempt of each to outclass the other in the pretension that they are not waging a war of conquest. Well, if this is so, what is there to prevent a peace move, and why are they all so brutal and insistent in trying to drown any sentiment for peace?

Every Victory a Defeat

To expect a decisive military victory is out of the question; and if it were possible, its sacrifices would far outweigh any compensation that it might bring to the victors. A dictated peace has always meant a vindictive peace, and there can be no settlement with such a peace, as the result would bring an implacable desire for revenge. Surely the governments are between the devil and the deep sea. A victory will be barren if it means the destruction of your male population—and it surely does; and in its absence you are faced with a political revolution at home because you failed to bring

home the bacon—that is, provided there is anything left worth the labor expended in depositing it comfortably in the garbage pail after the war is over.

Governments an Impediment to Peace

Let it be understood that if peace without conquest is the thing sought for by the belligerents, they can have peace at any time. The people of all the warring nations are absolutely sick of war and its attendant miseries. The only thing that stands in the way of peace are the governments of the various countries involved, who are responsible for the breach of peace, and are to-day prolonging the strife in order to gratify their mercenary desires. We believe, as Mr. Asquith stated on the 26th of July, "It cannot be too clearly stated that this is a matter for the peoples rather than the governments. Once that is realized by the democracies of the world, we shall be within measurable sight of an honorable and lasting peace."

Win the War.

A great campaign is under way with the above heading as their slogan. It is plainly apparent that those who are most prominent in this movement are men who, by virtue of their age and position, would be the last to be called up under the Military Service Act; and in most cases whose minds are infested by a germ which, unless some antidote is applied, will end in destroying the noblest of our race and bring the country to the verge of ruin—from which it will take us generations to emerge. It is the height of criminal insanity to go on sacrificing our manhood and treasure in this reckless fashion, when by the application of a modicum of intelligence, millions of human lives could be saved, which only needs the sacrifice of our blatant national pride, the last remaining impediment to peace.

Let the people fully understand that peace is within our grasp, and that it is no longer necessary to desolate our hearths and hearts to procure that for which our government essays to be waging war, which can be obtained without further bloodshed—not by a frenzied desire for revenge and triumph, but by the wise determination of the people to insist on the government stating their terms and opening negotiations; or, by otherwise demanding that a direct appeal to the people be made so that the voice of

Class-Conscious Comments

By Philip Thompson, Oakville.

Jingo and Junker look alike to me; Twixt Borden and the Kaiser no difference I see.

If this is a war of ideals and principles Germany has already won it. No doubt she will be beaten in the field, but in order to do it, England, the United States and Canada have adopted the arbitrary and tyrannical methods of Prussian Kultur.

The Orangemen, as usual, had a big turnout on the 12th. No wonder there are many thousands in Toronto who would like soft jobs at the City Hall or the Parliament Buildings for which good standing in the Orange Order is the principal qualification. We could get up just as big a Socialist parade if the road to offices and emoluments ran that way.

Women are naturally conservative and unconventional in their views, because they have as a rule received their opinions at second hand, instead of doing their own thinking. Therefore, the politicians think it safe and prudent to let them vote, hoping that they may exercise a reactionary influence. So they will at first, no doubt, but it won't be long before their quick intuitions enable them to size up the politicians, editors and preachers who now hold them in tutelage for a pack of fakirs and hypocrites, and break away from mental servitude.

Miss Laura Hughes is to be heartily congratulated on having incurred the bitter hostility of "Saturday Night." As she has been making anti-conscription speeches, my forecast that she would not stay long with such a weak-kneed bunch of trimmers as the Independent Labor Party seems to be turning out correct.

The "World," of July 13th, says that the opponents of conscription are mostly "elderly cranks." Billy MacLean is somewhat on the elderly side himself, sixty-five or thereabouts, and is voted very much of a crank by a considerable section of his own party. But after all I can't help having a sneaking regard for MacLean; because he is one of the few Toronto Tories that isn't an Orangeman.

It is stated that the party of returned soldiers which arrived this week in the city came over on a steamer containing 39 officers and 804 rank and file. The 39 officers were given the exclusive use of the entire hurricane and promenade decks, and the privates, 804 of them, were huddled into the remaining accommoda-

democracy may be heard and disaster averted.

NO PUNITIVE INDEMNITIES

"Victory would mean peace forced upon the loser, a victor's terms imposed upon the vanquished. It would be accepted in humiliation under duress, at an intolerable sacrifice, and would leave a sting, a resentment, a bitter memory, upon which peace would rest, not permanently, but only as upon quicksand."—From President Wilson's Senate Address.

NO FORCIBLE ANNEXATIONS

"No peace can last, or ought to last, which does not recognize and accept the principle that Governments derive all their just powers from the consent of the governed, and that no right anywhere exists to hand peoples about from sovereignty to sovereignty as if they were property."—From President Wilson's Senate Address.

tion, or want of it. Sixty-four arm chairs were placed at the disposal of the 39 officers. The soldiers could lean over the bulwarks if they were able.—"Toronto World," July 10.

Well, is not that quite in accordance with the eternal fitness of things? What did these fellows expect when they enlisted? Hadn't they sense enough to know that the Imperialism they went to fight for is based on class and caste distinctions? My, but it does take some people a long time and harsh experience to find things out!

Compromise with the Kaiser? No! Make peace with the war-lords? Never! Not at any price? Not at any price. But —! But nothing. It is not an open question. If in the tragedies of the past three years Canada has earned the right to speak out loud to-day in the councils of the world, it is with one voice and with one heart Canada gives back an inflexible No! to any compromise the German Chancellor may propose.—Toronto "Globe."

Rev. J. A. Macdonald, author of the above appeal to passion and vindictiveness, is not so much a man as a gift of language. He is a healthy, husky, middle-aged man, in fine physical condition, and younger than many who are in the trenches. But he prefers to stay at home and show his patriotic devotion by urging others to fight it out to the bitter end. Fine specimen of the hero by proxy, isn't he?

Send a letter of congratulation and sympathy to Mayor Mederic Martin, of Montreal, who is putting up a splendid fight against conscription. A sentence or two on a post card will do if you haven't time to write at greater length.

EDITOR OF "WORKERS' WORD"

John Stefanetsky Dismissed After Half-Minute Hearing.

The charge of seditious libel laid against the editor of the before-mentioned paper, came up for hearing on the 16th of July. The purport of the charge laid by the prosecuting attorney was based on a translation from the paper referred to, dated June 2nd, in which appeared the words: "The militia and police force will be done away with. The goals will be pulled down and there will be no place to imprison the Socialists. This has been done in Russia, and soon we shall have a revolution here." This was sufficient for Justice Kingsford; he got irate and interrupted the prosecutor by the statement, "Utter bosh! I will not hear any more; a charge should not have been laid upon such utter nonsense." Gesture spoke louder than words to John, and he hastily took his departure, much to the suppressed amusement of his friends—and the ill-concealed chagrin of the prosecution.

The case is now over, but the legal expenses remain to be paid. Your contribution to the defence will be received with appreciation. Send all remittances to the Dominion Secretary.

Every good Socialist should consider it a crime to allow his paper to lie idle or be destroyed. Hand it on. It will bear fruit in a new subscriber.

"We soldiers and sailors are merely your trained servants. You (capitalists and merchants) create wars, we try to terminate them. Nine out of ten wars are based on trade.—Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood. (Speech to Conference on International Arbitration, Mohonk Lake, N. Y., May 20, 1915.)

Little strokes fell great oaks. 26 issues of the Canadian Forward (50 cents) will overcome the greatest anti-Socialist. Be a fell-er.

"No Annexation Amendment"

(Continued from Page 4).

of the people are anxious and hopeful about Stockholm. If France and Britain renounce annexations and Germany insists on them we shall have a revolution in the land.

The German people want peace. About that there can be no doubt, but they interpret our Note to mean a Note of annexation and conquest, which makes them believe that peace is impossible. If only they knew that their own rulers were keeping on the war and that our rulers were offering them a possible peace and were ready to repudiate alike the intention the conquest and annexation, if only they knew that those were really the designs of the Allies, then, in the words of Herr Scheidemann, "there would be a revolution in the land."

Here you have from the spokesman of 5,000,000 German workmen the announcement that if they only knew that we were not out for annexation and conquest, there would be revolution in the land. Take that to be as exaggerated as you please. It means that there would be discontent with the German Government, so deep that the Junker power would not last very long. I believe that the time has come for bolder diplomacy.

The Military Deadlock.

For another reason I believe that even in this country, although it is not so expressed in the newspapers, the time is fast coming when the faith in arms alone will break away. I know that there are a great many of our people, perhaps most of them, who still cling to the idea of a complete victory. I may say this quite boldly, because never for the last eighteen months have I been silent about my view. I have said that I thought the war was a deadlock, and so would remain. I have said so for eighteen months, and it is now where it was eighteen months ago, and I believe that eighteen months hence from the military point of view, it will be where it is now. For this reason, that at this stage of the war I do not believe that there is a great nation in Europe that has enough elasticity to win a great victory, though it may have organization and patriotism to stave off a serious defeat.

And, after all, we must all be beginning to have our suspicions. Time after time the prophets are always wrong. Every time there is a push, every time there is a great offensive, we are going to break through, and yet it is always the same. Hundreds of thousands of men are dying, and the war is no nearer its end. I watch the inauguration of the great offensive with the certainty that scores of thousands will die during the summer, and that the essential military position will not be altered. But even suppose I am wrong, why should we not declare our whole policy, repudiate the things that we ought never to hint at, and declare that we are out for annexation and conquest?

Mr. Ponsonby.

The debate was wound up by Mr. Ponsonby, who asked why our terms should vary with the degree of victory that we gain.

"A Sliding Scale."

Should not our terms be the best possible terms for the future peace of the world irrespective of victory? Whether or not we reach that victory surely we ought not to have a sliding scale of terms which varies with the degree of our victory. If we have that it is admitted that the greater the victory the more aggressive may be the terms which we desire to reach, and that, I think, is not in conformity with the professions which have been made

by His Majesty's Government.

Showing as Mr. MacDonald did that war as such could settle none of the difficult problems, he said that the world was waiting while the Governments are looking for some formula which will allow them an escape from this "tragic dilemma into which they have drifted. We are waiting for some Minister to find a form of words which will satisfy his Allies and his enemies so that negotiations shall be started. I must say I am very much disappointed in the part up till now which our country has taken in regard to negotiation. We have never had really any inspiring declaration on behalf of His Majesty's Government.

"Unfortunate Phrases."

True, we have had phrases that have been repeated, such as the "knock-out blow," "never sheathing the sword" and a phrase that fell from the Noble Lord to-day—perhaps the most unfortunate phrase of all—when the Noble Lord, making a quotation said, "Let the murderers begin." Such a pronouncement—a serious pronouncement—from this Government, from the British Empire of Europe at a moment of this sort is, in my opinion, most unfortunate.

A Misleading Vote.

Most of us have been very much disappointed with the Noble Lord's speech. (Hon. Members: "No!") Instead of making a pronouncement of a high ideal and lofty purpose which this country should follow, and to which this country should aim in the future, he just grudgingly acknowledged that we were not out for Imperialistic conquest and aggrandizement. In the absence of a clear declaration and a stronger and more affirmative declaration than the one we have had, I should certainly be inclined to divide against the credit. But what we must consider also is the effect that a vote of this sort will have in Russia.

Let Britain Speak.

It would be very unfortunate for it to go to Russia that His Majesty's Government were unsympathetic to the ideals which they have set forth in their pronouncement. Other opportunities will arise when the Government may be able to make a more emphatic pronouncement than they can make to-day. I admit that the German Chancellor's speech does not give any hope, but let us not wait on the German Chancellor. Let us brush him aside, and let us make a pronouncement on our own account. After all, in the speech that he made that is reported to-day this sentence occurs—even though he said that he was unable to make any direct pronouncement—

We are not fighting now against the whole world in order to make conquests, but only to secure our existence and firmly to establish the future of the nation.

Gradually, one by one, the nations are showing, under the pressure of the people behind them, that they do not desire aggrandizement and conquest. I cannot help feeling that this great pressure of the people is growing. (Laughter.) Hon. Members may laugh at it as much as they like. Thank goodness, the pressure of the people in democratic countries ultimately counts, and in the long run the world will find that a peace will be made over the heads of the Governments and Ministers by the people themselves."

The Debate Closed.

Mr. Outhwaite rose at 10 minutes to 11 o'clock to continue the debate and Lord R. Cecil moved that the question be now put. A division having been challenged by the supporters of the

motion, the House divided, when the closure was carried by 238 votes to 32, a majority of 206. The amendment was then put and negatived, apparently without a vote being taken.

Paragot.

TRADE UNION NOTES

An Alliance of Laborers Is a Sure Sign of the Coming Industrial Democracy.

A triple alliance of workers, comprising The Miners' Federation, National Union of Railwaymen, and a National Transport Workers' Federation, representing 128,600 organized workers, has been formed in Britain. The alliance will sit on the defensive for the duration of the war, and it is confidently anticipated that a "strike threat" will be sufficient to make the bosses toe the line when circumstances call for action.

The alliance bids fair to become a powerful (politico-economic) factor in the interest of the workers thus organized. They have adopted a motion demanding the conscription of all wealth and property in the means of wealth production. The power of the union cannot be questioned, as their action last fall compelled the "British Government" to abandon the colored labor proposition which has been called into effect in France.

Other amalgamations are on the board. The railwaymen and railway clerks are likely to fall in line. (This coincides with our view of "Industrial Democracy.") They are demanding a share in the management of the industries coming under their influence. How would this suit the miners of Northern Ontario and British Columbia? We would advise them to take a lesson from their comrades in Britain. We assure them of our whole-hearted support against the proposition.

Trade Union Leader Suggests That Ballots Were Faked to Prevent McDonald and Jowett Going to Russia.

Mr. Alexander Gossip, general secretary of Furnishing Trades Association, makes the astonishing statement, "that not 1,000,000 trade unionists voted against the McDonald-Jowett trip to Russia, but, at the most, 300,000 votes were the total cast." Mr. Gossip claims that the space of time in which the vote was taken was far too short to get such gross returns, and cites instances from previous experience to prove his contentions. He also claims that the soldier trade-unionist vote was not carried into effect and suggests that Mr. Wilson of the Seamen's Union has just taken membership totals and lumped them together without taking a vote. If Mr. Gossip has got on the right end of the line, Mr. Wilson has something coming.

FRANCES E. WILLARDS VIEWS ON SOCIALISM

Frances E. Willard is recognized as one of the greatest women this country has produced. Her entire lifetime was spent in the advocacy of reforms, particularly temperance. The State of New York has honored her memory by putting a statue of her in Statuary Hall at the United States capitol in Washington, D. C. Miss Willard's statue is the only statue of a woman found in that famous hall. This is what Frances E. Willard thought about Socialism. It is from her address at the National Convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union at Buffalo, in 1897:

Look about you; the products of labor are on every hand; you could not maintain for a moment a well-ordered life without them; every object in your room has in it, for discerning eyes, the mark of ingenious tools and the pressure of

labor's hands. But is it not the cruelest injustice for the wealthy, whose lives are surrounded and embellished by labor's work, to have a super-abundance of the money which represents the aggregate of labor in any country, while the laborer himself is kept so steady at work that he has no time to acquire the education and refinements of life that would make him and his family agreeable companions to the rich and cultured?

The reason why I am a Socialist comes in just here.

I would take, not by force, but by the slow process of lawful acquisition through better legislation, as the outcome of a wiser ballot in the hands of men and women, the entire plant that we call civilization, all that has been achieved on this continent in the four hundred years since Columbus wended his way hither, and make it the common property of all the people, requiring all to work enough with their hands to give them the finest physical development, but not to become burdensome in any case, and permitting all to share alike the advantages of education and refinement. I believe this to be perfectly practical, indeed, that any other method is simply a relic of barbarism.

I believe that competition is doomed. The trust, whose single object is to abolish competition, has proved that we are better without than with it, and the moment corporations control the supply of any product, they combine. What the Socialist desires is that the corporation of humanity should control all production. Beloved comrades, this is the frictionless way; it is the higher way; it eliminates the motives for a selfish life; it enacts into our everyday living the ethics of Christ's gospel. Nothing else will do it; nothing else can bring the glad day of universal brotherhood.

Oh, that I were young again, and it would have my life! it is God's way out of the wilderness and into the promised land. It is the very marrow of Christ's gospel. It is Christianity applied.

What Socialism Will Do

Socialism proposes that the machinery of production and distribution that is socially used shall be owned by all the people and that industry and politics shall both be managed democratically. The idea of such ownership and control is to make it so all may be masters of their lives and their jobs. It is to make possible private property for all. The owners of a business control it; they automatically find employment in it; they receive the benefit of it, so that profit from the owners is impossible. The profit system will, therefore, end under Socialism and each worker will receive the full social value of his labor.

TRUTH CANNOT DIE.

(Count Leo Tolstoy.)

A truthful, fruitful idea cannot be destroyed. However you may try to smother it, it will still live; it will be more alive than all the vague, empty, pedantic ideas and words with which people are trying to smother it, and sooner or later the truth will burn through the veil that is covering it and it will shine forth before the whole world.

A WORD TO THE WISE.

Petrograd, June 11.—Unless Russians returning to live under the new democracy in America bear passports vided by some American Socialist organization, they will be sent immediately to the front, the Workmen's and Soldiers' Council advised to-day.

THE INTERNATIONAL

RUSSIAN POLITICAL DEMOCRACY

Elections to the district Municipal Councils were held on Saturday for the first time in Russia under the system of universal (adult male) suffrage.

The Congress of Peasant Delegates have passed resolutions demanding that the future political regime of Russia should be a Federal Democratic Republic, and further, that all international relations and treaties should be submitted to the control of the peoples interested. Disputes should also be settled by an international tribunal and not by force.

The Russian Commission engaged in framing the law to the Constituent Assembly has decided that the minimum age for voters is to be 18 years, on the ground that as youths of 18 are now defending Russia they are entitled to participate in the political life of their country.

GET THIS

The official German paper, "Nord-Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung," of May 31, declared "on Bethman Hollweg's authority:

Germany wishes no increase of territory, nor any political or economical increase of power. Germany merely wants to defend its own national territory against foreign plans of conquest, and also wants guarantees necessary for future defence and self-protection.

FORWARD STATE CAPITALISM

The Australian Federal Ministry are considering, according to the "Melbourne Age," a scheme providing for an expenditure over a term of years of at least £10,000,000 for the establishment of factories under joint private and Government supervision. The scheme includes the creation of a national industrial department.

Things are moving!

REACTIONARIES DEFEATED IN BRITISH COMMONS.

On Tuesday a well-organized attempt to deprive conscientious objectors of their votes was well defeated by 141 votes to 71, and "pauper" disfranchisement was swept away after eighty-five years' entrenchment as a cardinal principle of capitalist Liberal "reform."

Paragot.

Our Russian friends, men of clear purpose and firm resolve, described President Wilson's recent Note as wordy Yankeeism. "A war of attrition is a war of internal revolution."—J. R. MacDonald in "Forward," June 23.

According to the "Vorwärts," Dr. Friedrich Adler, who killed Count Sturgkh (the Austrian Prime Minister), will not be executed, his sentence being probably commuted to a long period of imprisonment.

On the invitation of the Serbian Government, members of the Southern Slav Committee have arrived in Corfu to exchange ideas regarding the union of all Serbians, Croats, and Slovenes in view of the new conditions which have arisen.

Professor Besteiro and Dr. Verdes-Montenegro are the two delegates chosen by the Spanish Socialist Party for the Petrograd Socialist Conferences. Professor Besteiro is a professor of logic in the University of Madrid.

The Congress of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates of all Russia has adopted by 543 votes to 126 a resolution

calling for the immediate summoning of the Constituent Assembly and the creation of a single body of 800 members representing organized democracy throughout Russia, and including peasant delegates. The Socialist Ministers, it is proposed, shall be responsible to this organization for the foreign and domestic policy of the Government.

M. Kerensky's speech on "the necessity of iron discipline" has so vexed the members of the "Group of Toil," the Peasants' Party in the Duma, that he has been thrown off the Executive.

Petrograd Municipal Elections.

The final returns of the elections for the new District Councils in Petrograd are as follows:

Socialist Block	289
Cadet Party	185
Maximalists	156

The present Town Council of Petrograd will be replaced by a body elected by the New District Councils.

Italian Socialists and Stockholm.

The Socialist journal Avanti, June 7, announces that Signori Lazzari, Modigliani, Musatti, Prampolini, Serrati, Treves, and Tureti, representing the leaders of the Socialist Party and the Socialist group in Parliament, have decided to take part in the Stockholm Conference in the spirit of the Zimmerwald Conference, and in full cooperation with the Russian Socialists.

But it is officially confirmed that no passports will be issued to Italian Socialists intending to take part in the Socialist Conference at Stockholm.

Huge Strike in Budapest.

Telegrams via Amsterdam report that all the workmen in the Hungarian capital of Budapest struck work on Saturday last and held a monster demonstration, passing a resolution in favor of universal suffrage and peace. Throughout Hungary similar demonstrations were held.

The committee that is drawing up the rules for the Russian Constituent Assembly has decided by 27 votes against 9 in favor of proportional representation.

Labor Leader.

LENIN'S ACCUSATION

In the "Manchester Guardian" for Monday there occurred the following significant sentence: "Our Russian friends are moving in an atmosphere not only of revolution, but also of revelation. . . . They are the only belligerent people before whom the secrets of their old traditional, professional diplomacy have been unveiled."

We note that the war press has been rejoicing over what they describe as the repudiation of Lenin.

The "Cambridge Magazine" gives the following translation of a portion of his May 1 address to the Council of Workers' and Soldiers' Delegates:

Discussing the war, Lenin said that the rumor that he wished for a separate peace was a calumny. He only reaffirmed that the war was made by the capitalists of the whole world, and was of no use to the workers. "Why," he asked, "are not the secret diplomatic documents made public?"

I may say that I know that you will find in them plans for the division of China between France, England, and Russia. Fighting beside capitalistic governments, we shall never be able to conclude peace without annexations. The war can only be ended by a revolution of the workers of the world. We are asked what will happen if William remains in Germany while authority is given by us into the hands of our workers

and peasants. I reply that even in 1916 we said that if during the war the power passed into the hands of the workers and peasants, then we would work to end the war. But we have never said that the war can be ended at once. If William remains in Germany, we will continue the war and finish it with a revolution of the whole world, one without annexation, that is without allowing the capitalists to appropriate territory.

Republican propaganda in South Africa has reached such lengths that Mr. Merriman gave notice in the House of Assembly of a resolution repudiating all sympathy with it.

A meeting of the Social Democratic Union of the Munich electoral districts adopted a resolution protesting against an annexation policy, and decided to hold a demonstration in favor of peace.

The paper supply of the German press has again been reduced by order of Dr. Helfferich, Minister of the Interior, which means for some of the bigger political journals a reduction of as much as 44 1-2 per cent. of their consumption in 1915.

A SINISTER DOCUMENT

(Continued from page Two)

before it. It cannot be said that Labor is at all widely awake to the matters at issue, but it appears that Capital is already taking steps, in its own interests, to consolidate and advance the movement in the direction of national "efficiency"—the movement towards State Capitalism and Servilism which has been so conspicuous during the war.

A noteworthy difference between Labor and Capitalism is that, under the stress of patriotic emotion, the former usually manages to sacrifice its economic interests, while the latter somehow or other manages to advance its economic interests.

Reverting to the document: doubtless some of the gentlemen who are prominently associated with the British Trade Corporation have declared that they desire this to be the last war. One need not doubt the sincerity of their declaration, but one must say, "they know not what they do," for the activities in which the Corporation will inevitably engage are those which more than any others are likely to produce further wars. It is said that, in strict fact, and when desirous of getting at the cold facts, we have swept away as after-thoughts, all the attractive phrases such as "the freedom of nationalities," "democracy vs. autocracy," that it was the interests of rival capitalists and financiers of different nationalities, as a motive in foreign policy, that was largely responsible for the diplomatic situation which led to the outbreak of war. Whatever their professions as patriots, the supreme motive of these men in their function of capitalists is necessarily profit; and that motive is capable of blinding them to the fact that the line of activity which they are supporting is that which is more likely than any other to bring war to the world.

With every desire in the world to be charitable, it is difficult, however, to believe that some of the members of the directorate are blind to this fact. It is difficult to believe that such gentlemen as the directors of armament firms desire the cessation of the national rivalries, fears and counter-armings that are the very source and fount of war. Seldom have we seen anything that must appear more sinister to the view of those who have investigated the causes of modern wars than the alliance between Government, traders, financiers, and armament

firms of which this Corporation speaks. It would seem that, at the very time that every public man is protesting that the world must be preserved against future catastrophes such as the one which is blighting it to-day, an alliance like that just mentioned is drawing plans to pursue more determinedly than ever the very course of action that was chiefly responsible for the occurrence of the present disaster.

Shares in the Corporation are to be allotted only to applicants who are of British nationality "pur sang et sans reproche." A detailed declaration on this point is required. Naturalized persons are excluded and so are any persons of British birth, who, although now British subjects, have at any time taken allegiance to a foreign country. When it is recalled that their British nationality did not prevent the Vickers-Armstrong group of firms from arming Turkey, now an enemy of their country, and from strengthening the Dardanelles and thus contributing considerably to the destruction of British and French warships and the slaughter of thousands of British and French sailors in the Gallipoli Peninsula; when it is recalled that the firm of Henry Whitehead and Co., a subsidiary firm of Vickers' and Armstrongs', manufactured for the Austrian navy, at Fiume in Hungary, torpedoes, submarines, and other engines of war, some of which have since sunk vessels belonging to the Allies, this insistence on the purity of the British nationality of those admitted to the Corporation might, to simple minds, will appear to be ironical. But those in whom a study of the capitalistic system of production has destroyed such simple-mindedness, know that profit is the supreme motive of capitalistic production, and that any higher or finer considerations that may threaten to conflict with it are neglected, no matter how disastrous to the social body such neglect may be; and, in recalling incidents such as those just mentioned, they will note them only as particularly glaring examples of that obsession with profits that is inherent in capitalistic production and that is so largely responsible both for the ugliness and miseries of everyday and for the culminating misery and brutality of war.

G. Stafford Whitby.

A NOTE—Since writing the above, I have turned up, in "Who's Who," the biographies of the three directors whose names I have mentioned. Two of them appear to have no claim to fame except business success; but the biographical notice of Sir Vincent Caillard, which I will quote in part, is instructive, as indicating, in the activities of a single individual, the way in which the army, the navy, the diplomatic service, the financiers, and the armament interest are intermingled.

"Director Vickers, Ltd.; Commission in Royal Engineers, Aug., 1875; Special political duty in Epirus for report to Berlin Congress in July, 1880; Specially attached to Sir Beauchamp Seymour, Naval Demonstration, Dulcigno, Sept. 1880; Service in Intelligence Department, Feb. 1882; Attached Headquarters Egyptian Campaign, Aug. 1882; President Ottoman Public Debt Council, Oct., 1883; and Financial Representative of England, Holland and Belgium in Constantinople; resigned May, 1898; Chairman of Tariff Commission, 1904."

The Price We Pay

By Irwin St. John Tucker

Per 1000, - Prepaid, -	\$3.00
" 500, " -	1.60
" 100, " -	.40

PEN PUNCHES BY THE LOCALS

News from Alberta

We are inclined to the belief that about the most important subject a Canadian Socialist Convention could discuss would be the amalgamation of the two branches of the Party.

The Edmonton Local of the S.P. of C. has shared the same fate as the Winnipeg and Ont. comrades in having their propaganda meetings broken up by soldiers. Two of the comrades—one of them a lady—were beaten with the "heroes' " crutches, and others threatened. When Com. A. C. Johnson of the S.D.P. wrote a letter of protest against such mob rule, and sent it to the Edmonton Journal (Conservative) it was ignored. He also sent one to the Bulletin (Liberal) and received a courteous reply, saying it was not advisable to print it. The manager of the Bijou Theatre, in which the S.P. had been exercising their right of free speech, refused to rent it to them again for fear the soldiers would burn the building.

Edmonton Socialists and their friends held a picnic near 142nd Street, Sunday, July 15th. Races were run on the beautiful meadow where the smell of the new mown hay reminded us of "Maud Muller"; swings and refreshment booths were located in the shade of the poplars, and the mosquitoes were polite enough to not put in their appearance until the picknickers were leaving.

Comrade Laws, who is one of Alberta's progressive school teachers, accompanied by his wife, is spending the vacation in Edmonton.

Comrade Mrs. A. C. Johnson and daughter are spending their holidays at Banff.

Comrade Bergen of Ferintosh is doing some excellent work among the country locals, and the A.P.E.C. hope to be able to support him and one other organizer during the next few months.

Comrade T. J. Hughes of Asquith, Sask., who made a flying visit to Edmonton during the fair, reports the \$2-wheat farmers as a hard bunch to convert. But he never wearies in well doing and keeps handing them bits of literature that is to the point.

We wish every local in the Dominion, and especially in Alberta, would help the "Forward" by keeping their Ad. in the directory.

WESTERN CROP OUTLOOK

Mr. H. B. Mortenson writes from

Amelia, Sask., giving a very poor outlook for the crops in that locality. No rain for seven weeks and everything gradually burning up. Finances very low.

It almost looks as though God were on the side of our enemies. In Flanders he intervenes with rain to prevent a crushing defeat of the Huns, and in the East the Russians are so disorganized that the Austro-Germans are just taking a walk over. It certainly looks bad for us so far as God is concerned.

SECRETARIAL NOTES

Local No. 5, Guelph, have passed a resolution guaranteeing support for delegates to be sent to A.-C. convention in Port Arthur, and recommends the Dominion Secretary for the job.

R. Buhay of Montreal sends compliments to the Editor on the splendid character of the "Forward."

Comrade May Saunders of Edmonton writes, Congratulations—The Forward is still coming, and it is a fine presentation of Internationalism, even I.P. of C. men here have no fault to find with it, and it is doing much to unite the different factions.

After this we shall look forward to the re-organization of Edmonton Local. I am in receipt of \$13.55, being surplus in the treasury at the time Edmonton Local decided to die.

Local No. 4, Kitchener, has now 84 members on the books, and they are contemplating putting up a candidate in the forth-coming election.

Notice to Locals.

We shall be pleased to hear from you with reference to the approaching elections. As your Executive are contemplating throwing all our resources into the campaign.

INFORMATION WANTED

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

All Locals are advised to take advantage of the clubbing offer for Forwards. You can help us, and your Local at the same time. Get the Sub-card with your ordinary supplies and thus circulate the word. Provincial Secretaries are requested to stock Sub-cards for supply.

HIGH COST OF LIVING DUE TO DEPRECIATION OF GOLD STANDARD

By T. D. Benson.

The currency question and its relation to prices is probably one of the most abstruse questions which can present itself for urgent solution. It is generally ignored when dealing with to-day's soaring prices, for it is too complex a subject for popular treatment nor can the present writer claim to see clearly all the involved issues of currency, credit and prices. There are certain elementary facts, however, which help to show that rising prices are not wholly due to profiteering, and that the Government, by its method of financing the war, must shoulder much of the responsibility.

Prices began rising in 1896, when the South African mines were being opened out and the cyanide process of extracting the ore cheapened the production of gold. A large quantity of gold at a cheaper cost of production was placed on the market and naturally exchanged for a less quantity of other commodities; the cost of production generally regulates the exchange value of commodities, whether they be gold, food, or clothing. Whilst the cheaper gold lessened its value, as Mr. Percy Wallis points out, the larger amount available increased the basis of credit which the banks could give, and the greater use of cheques instead of cash rendered gold as a currency still less necessary. This was the position in 1914 when the war commenced.

In 1914 the relation between the production of gold and other commodities, which till then had been fairly stable, was rudely shattered. The transfer of the workers into the army seriously diminished the production of commodities, and the printing press, instead of labor at the gold mines, supplied all and more than all the currency, in the form of Treasury notes, that was required. A cheaper currency always drives out the dearer, and gold vanished from the market. The inevitable result was a depreciation of the currency in relation to other commodities and a universal rise of prices. This increase is about 100 per cent. of pre-war prices, i.e., money is just about half its value.

Private profiteering, viewed from this standpoint, is not responsible for the rise of prices to anything like the extent with which it is credited. If, for instance, a person has made double the profit of previous years, reckoned in gold, he has made exactly the same profit reckoned, say, in wheat or other material that he did prior to the war. This applies to workers' wages as well as to profits, for everyone who has received a war bonus knows that he is not so well off as formerly. The evil here is that whilst the wage-earner is compelled each week to spend his income, the profiteers can hoard their inflated profits till after the war, when

the relation between commodities and currency again becomes normal, and so retain the profits gained by high prices to spend in a period of low prices.

The Government has appointed a Commission to inquire into profiteering, from which I anticipate no result. If it would appoint a Commission to inquire into its own financial conduct of the war and its own part in raising prices by the issue of paper money and by enormous credit borrowing from bankers instead of by bona-fide loans, some useful purpose might be served—if at least it acted on the report.

The only solution I see for the problem of the constant increase of prices is a strong effort to rehabilitate the currency, and that can only be done by the Government definitely realizing their responsibility for the evil that is being done. Failing the arrest of the depreciation of money by the Government, there can be no limit set to the rise of prices.—Labor Leader, 14, 6, '17.

With reference to the above, we desire to draw our readers' attention to a very important fact which may have some bearing upon the above, although we do not pretend to believe that it is the sole cause of the relative "High Cost of Living."

If, as Mr. Benson states, the depreciation of gold is the main cause of the enormously high prices, and we believe there is a good deal of truth in what he says—How can Government regulation of the currency prevent the rising prices?—in view of his previous statement, that the cheapening of gold has necessitated that a larger quantity of that important factor be exchanged for a relatively less quantity of other commodities.

Surely he is placing the onus on the wrong article when he suggests Governmental regulation of currency, unless he appends with it the regulation of all commodities. We venture to suggest that the time would be better spent in aiding the transformation from corporate ownership of commodities to Social ownership of the essentials of life—rather than dabbling with prices, which at the best are but the reflex of a given amount of socially necessary labor.

The regulation of currency cannot have any permanent beneficial effect upon the wages received by the worker—(in increased spending capacity)—which is the only thing that counts under the system. The trouble lies in surplus values; let these be conscripted for common utility.

If wages did not rise, or not sufficiently rise for the increased values of necessities, the price of labor would sink below the value of labor, and the laborers' standard of life would, therefore, deteriorate.—Karl Marx.

Shiplacoff, in Montreal.

Dear Comrade Editor: Our Local has quite a bit of news to report since our last communication. In view of the fact that there is going to be a general election, we (that is, all Socialists of Montreal), have decided to run a campaign. We had a general members' meeting two weeks ago, where this was adopted, and last Friday night, with the aid of Comrade Assemblyman Shiplacoff of New York, who was here in town, we managed to raise for a start \$250.00 amid much enthusiasm. It is terrible to think that in such a democratic country as Canada \$200 deposit is needed for any candidate.

Next Friday our candidate will be nominated, and the real hard work will begin. Of course, we don't expect wonders, but we mean to take advantage of our opportunities and break away a little of the thick leaden wall of reaction in this city. R. Buhay.

Published at
363 Spadina Ave., Toronto

I. Bambridge Business Manager
Dominion Secy.

THE CANADIAN
FORWARD

SUB BLANK
Single Subscriptions, One Dollar per Year
Fifty cents per Half Year
In Clubs, Six for Five Dollars

You will assist our work by giving names and addresses as clearly and fully as possible

	NAME	STREET OR P.O. BOX	TOWN	PROV.
FIVE DOLLARS	1			
	2			
	3			
	4			
	5			
	6			

Sent by _____ Street No. _____
P.O. _____ Province _____
Amount sent \$ _____ How sent (cheque, postal note, money order or cash) _____