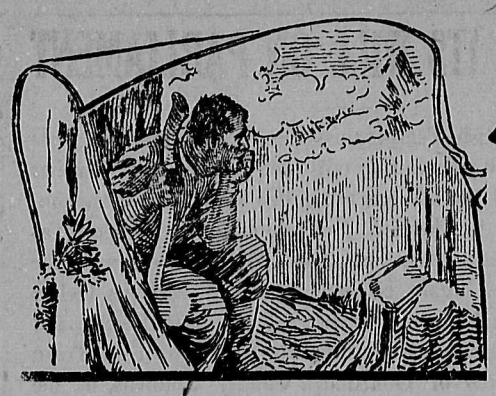
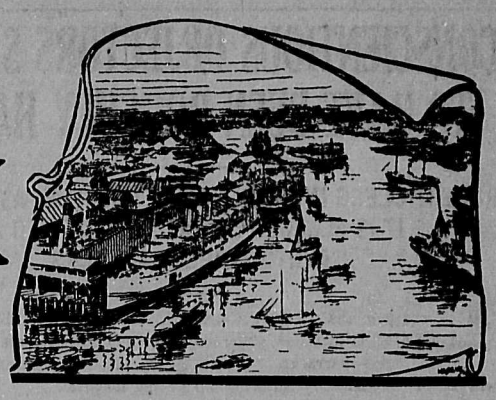


The Week



Published by W. E. Peirce, in the Interest of Good Government, Temperance, Single Tax and Sane Socialism

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The Mayor and the Attorney-General

THERE is evidently a deadlock between His Worship the Mayor and the Hon. the Attorney-General over the enforcement of the Lord's Day Act. The situation is peculiar, to say the least. Both officials profess to be willing to have the act administered fairly and squarely. The Mayor demands that there shall be no discrimination; the Attorney-General makes the same demand; but they cannot agree as to where to begin and where to end. There is a suspicion in some minds that the Mayor and Police Commissioners are trying to bring the Lord's Day Act into disrepute as a piece of "freak legislation" and quite a few citizens agree with them in this point of view. Others give the Mayor full credit for an honest endeavor to carry out the law without fear or favor, but blame the Attorney-General for trying to get out of the unpleasant duty of enforcing the act. How the quarrel will end, it is not easy to foresee. The whole trouble arises because of a clause in the act that requires the consent of the Attorney-General before a prosecution can be instituted. In this respect the act is ridiculous and cannot be expected to work smoothly until it is amended so as to leave the responsibility for its enforcement upon the police.

Chinese and Palm Grease

"WHERE there's smoke there's fire" is an old saying, and judging by the smoke that escaped in the course of the police enquiry held by the Commissioners early this week, there must be considerable fire smouldering somewhere between Fisgard Street and Chinatown. The facts are hard to get at, but Inspector Heatly said things that would lead to the conclusion that one of the great hardships of a policeman's life is the fearful temptations which he has to face especially when he goes down into Chinatown. Inspector Heatly was offered the sum of $80 a month "to keep the uniformed men out of Chinatown," but he bravely resisted and declared that he would have refused $800 had he been offered that sum. He said that "there was plenty of opportunity for grafting if the police wished as the Chinese were willing and rather expected to pay for protection, showing surprise when the money was refused." All this sounds peculiar, not to say funny, if it is, as we would like to believe, that the police are altogether innocent. It must call for a good deal of moral grit to refuse $80 for simply winking the other eye and it would make an interesting story to find out how many men on the force have succumbed to the temptation. Will the Police Commissioners continue the probe a little deeper? If they do they will probably find out a few things about the "ways that are dark" of the "heathen Chinee," as well as about his brothers in blue.

Prayers in Parliament

IT is open to grave question whether the practice of reading prayers at the opening of each sitting of the Legislature is worthy of perpetuation. To most of the members the performance is a trial to be endured rather than a privilege to be enjoyed. The custom tends more and more to cold formalism which neither pleases God nor benefits man. The meetings of the City Council are not opened with any such formality. Yet who will venture to suggest that the City Council meetings are less decorus, or animated with less good feeling than the meetings of the Legislature? But so long as the formality stands, there is no good reason for discrimination amongst the various denominations. All religions are equal before the law and all should be treated alike. For this reason we are glad to observe that a representative of a non-Anglican body was chosen to read the prayers at the opening ceremonies on Thursday. For many years past the Anglican body has received precedence although formerly, under the Speakership of Mr. Higgins, no such discrimination was shown. We congratulate the Government on its latest recognition of the principle of religious equality. And may we venture to hope that the members of the House will allow the spirit of prayer to constrain and restrain them just at those moments when partisan bitterness and sectional discord threaten to obtain the mastery?

We Want to Know

WORD is being circulated round the city of events happening at the Willows that demand immediate investigation. The report is that on a route march out by Cedar Hill one of the men fell out of the ranks and was unable to go any further. He was left by the roadside till the men returned and again left there while they marched back to the Willows, when he was sent for and brought in to camp. He was taken seriously ill and died during the night. This is the bare report which was given to THE WEEK with various embellishments which we do not print. We want to know whether there is any truth in it or not. If it is true, we demand that a thorough investigation be made as to who are the parties responsible for treating a man with far less consideration than one would a horse.

Latest reports from Winnipeg say that a sergeant is to be court marshalled for alleged acts of cruelty to Conscientious Objectors. It may be that public opinion may prevent the necessity of anything of that nature happening at the Willows.

The Price Britain Is Paying

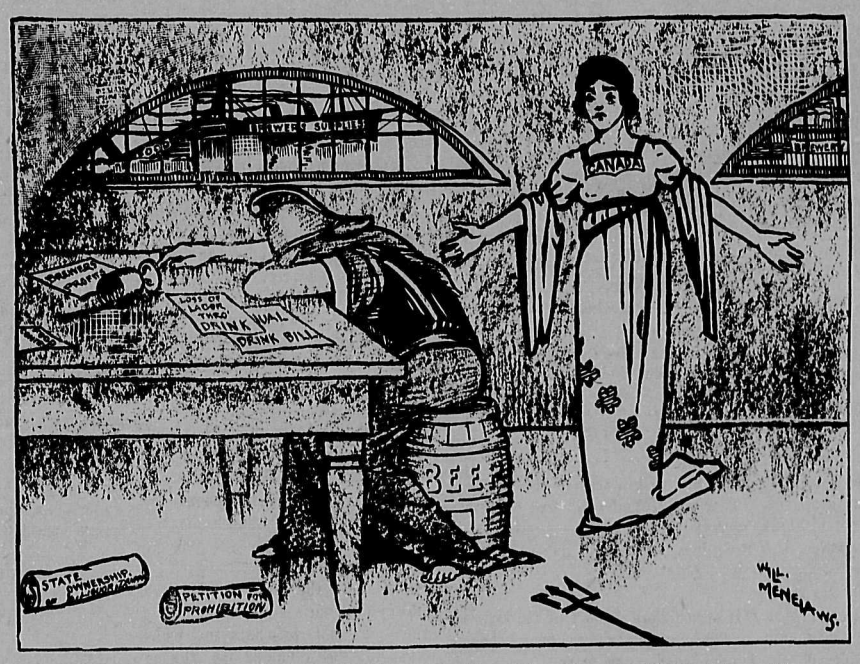
A SOLDIER came home from the front to find that drink had ruined his home, and his children were being cared for by the Glasgow Parish Council. "Hour by hour we sit on this council," says the Chairman, "listening to case after case, and the cause is drunkenness, drunkenness, drunkenness. There are 2,300 children under the council, and 2,000 of these have parents living. . . . *Our raw material is the finished product of the public houses.*"

A workingman at Gravesend went to the front leaving behind a wife and three children. His wife started drinking away her allowance, neglected her home, and full of remorse and shame for the disgrace she had brought on the man who was in the trenches, hanged herself. The man came home to find waiting for him three motherless children and one of the most pathetic letters a man has ever had to read.—Records of Gravesend Coroner, 1916.

Two women started drinking in Chester on a Sunday night, a soldier's mother and a soldier's wife. They had five whiskies each and fell drunk in the street. One slept all night on a sofa, and the other lay on the floor, shouting and swearing. Her husband propped her up with a mat, and for hours she lay shrieking. In the morning she was dead. The publican was fined £5.—Chester Chronicle, 1917.

In one street in London, where there were one day four convictions for drunkenness, a woman carried a sick baby into a public house. As she stood at the bar the baby died, but the mother went on drinking with the dead child in her arms.—Records of Charity Organization, 1917.

WHEN WILL BRITAIN WAKE UP?



CANADA TO BRITAIN: *How CAN We Help You When You Wont Help Yourself?*

A munition worker at Newcastle was greviously upset by the drinking habits of his wife. The police left a summons for her and she disappeared. Four days later her body was found in the Tyne. The man broke down at the inquest, saying, between his sobs: "She was a good wife to me for twenty years, and reared a good family before she took to drink."—Records of Newcastle Coroner, 1916.

Outside a public house in Dublin, fifteen small children were crying in the cold, waiting for their mothers. Ninty-four drunken women came out in twenty-five minutes. There were ten drunken soldiers and two girls of fifteen were thrown into the street hopelessly drunk.—*Irish Times,* April 20, 1915.

A stream of nearly 15,000 men and women poured into fifty-eight public houses in Birmingham in less than four hours; over 6,000 were women. Into one house the people streamed at nearly 500 an hour.—*Review of Reviews,* October, 1915.

Letter from a fourteen-year-old boy to his father in the trenches:

"Dear Dad.—Just a line to let you know how everything is at home. Mother is drunk for a fortnight and sober for a week for months and months. I've stuck it now for seven months and can't stick it any longer. I tried to get into the navy and passed all the tests but mother would not sign the papers, for which I am sorry. If she would sign, I could go to Portsmouth on Thursday, but she will not. At the present moment she is half drunk and keeps jawing at me so that I could knife myself. I've lost my new job because mum would not wake me in the morning, and nothing was ready for breakfast and I had to get mine and the children's tea at tea time. It pains me to write like this, but I can't help it. I hope you will enjoy your Christmas although there is not much hope for us. Your heartbroken son, Leslie."

The men and girls at a large armament works drank all night. Girls would lurch into the dormitory dead drunk at 2 a.m. One lady was up till 4 a.m. letting in drunken girls. As a result of drunkenness, there was an explosion at these works, two men being killed and six injured.—*Spectator,* Jan. 20, 1917.

A Dublin public house was found full of girls and soldiers, all drunk. Three drunken girls were taken away by six soldiers.—*Irish Times,* April 20, 1916.

Blind Leading the Blind

IT is difficult to imagine what sort of a condition Canada will be in if we go on drifting and muddling the way we are doing. Every available man of military age is to be shipped out of the country. Result, a great shortage of labor for essential production. A large number of men over military age are enlisted to round up and keep tab on those who are endeavoring to evade service. Result, a further shortage of available labor. An organized effort to bring in indentured labor to make up the shortage. Result, a feeling of grave unrest in labor circles. Now comes word that the press must refrain from making any comments about the introduction of outside help as it might have the effect of interfering with the plans. This is the last straw. Talk about secret diplomacy! This is bringing it home with a vengeance, and we raise a most vigorous protest. If Canada cannot be trusted to know the truth about what is being done; if the labor market is to be supplied from outside and Canada is not to know anything about it till the transaction is complete, then we are certainly right up against it. The endeavor to stifle public discussion of "War Aims and Peace Proposals" in the Old Country proved a failure, and this new move in Canada will be a failure too. Unless we very much mistake the feeling of the labor men here, they will stand for no such infringement of the rights of the press. We demand the privilege of discussing on the platform and in the press all measures in which labor is concerned. We claim the right to know just what the shortage of labor is and just how it is going to be met and where the men are coming from to make it good. Any attempt to carry out plans of that nature without consulting labor will certainly be a case of the "blind leading the blind" and the ditch will be the inevitable landing place.

The Aftermath of Conscription

How the Prussianization of Canada is Progressing

ON December 17th last a great many people in Canada voted for they knew not what. Trained as they had been in the benign atmosphere of free British institutions, they only partially realized the true value of their inheritance. The priceless birthright of British freedom was madly bartered for a mess of Prussian pottage. Innocently they succumbed to the glamour of a glittering uniform and lightly stepped to the tune of a German march. Like the prodigal of old their hearts were away in a far country and now they feed on the husks that Prussian swine do eat. They exchanged the right of free thought, free speech, and a free press for controlled thought, suppressed speech and a brow-beaten press. The proud boast of our fathers that Britons never will be slaves has been shamelessly falsified. Never were slaves more abject and servile than the Canadian people since December 17th, 1917. Since that date the right to obey God according to the dictates of conscience has been contrary to the law of the land. The practice of the religion of Jesus is now a penal offence. The statutes of Canada proclaim Jesus a Master-fool and the presence of His disciples a menace to the state. Hence from Victoria to Halifax has commenced a round-up of Christians accompanied by a ferocity of persecution unknown since the days of the Spanish inquisition. Innocent youths, fresh from the sweet influence of home and Sabbath school, have been handed ruthlessly to the tender mercies of a military machine. The enlightened spiritual adviser has been exchanged for a brutal drill-sergeant and the ethics of Jesus for the ethics of the Kaiser.

20th Century Persecution of Christians

FROM all parts of Canada have arisen ominous rumors of the treatment which officialdom is meting out to such Christians as have remained true to their Lord, and to such Socialists as have remained true to their ideal of an international brotherhood of man. It was not deemed expedient to try offenders against the Military Service Act before the Civil Courts in the full glare of publicity. By no means. The drill sergeant and the martinet officer can best accomplish their purpose in the quiet of the guard-room and the mystery which surrounds a military camp. Therefore it is that only vague but dark and ugly whispers have reached the public of the fate of the men whose convictions were being put to the acid test of bitter persecution. The condition of affairs at the Willows camp is by no means beyond reasonable suspicion. Some of the victims of ill treatment have made statements very damaging to the authorities. The matter is being closely watched in the interests of humanity. But it has been left for the City of Winnipeg to furnish the most glaring instance of brutal militarism which has yet been brought into the light of day. It appears there exists in that city a branch of the International Bible Students' Association. The members of this association are diligent in the study of the Bible and are consecrated to the dissemination of the truth as they see it. Amongst the articles of their faith is one forbidding participation in the conduct of national and imperial affairs. The Associated Bible Students do not vote, or give heed to the lessons of social science or take any part whatever in the conduct of public affairs. In their view all present systems of government are doomed and will be replaced by a theocratic government with Jesus Christ at its head. Their views in this respect are not very dis-

(*Continued on Page Five*)

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS SAID TO HAVE BEEN ROUGHLY HANDLED

ROBERT CLEGG IN ST. BONIFACE HOSPITAL AS A RESULT, IT IS ALLEGED OF HAZING RECEIVED AT MINTO STREET BARRACKS

It is charged that Robert Clegg, one of the drafted men now stationed at Minto Street barracks, was subjected to inhuman treatment on Tuesday, and as a result of the hazing to which he is alleged to have been subjected he was rendered unconscious, his condition necessitating his removal to St. Boniface Hospital.

Clegg's charges are denied by the military authorities, although the man has sworn to an affidavit in support of his assertions. He is known among the men of the depot battalion as a conscientious objector, and it is said that he was held under a shower bath until he fell unconscious. He is still confined in St. Boniface Hospital, although the hospital authorities state that he is well on the way toward complete recovery.

The military authorities deny that the man was ever in an unconscious state. They also assert that the man's temperature and pulse were quite normal a few hours after he was admitted.

Dr. T. A. Mathers, who attended Clegg at the hospital, says the man was never unconscious and will be out of the hospital in a day or two.

Inquiry Under Way

A regimental court of inquiry sat at Minto Street yesterday to probe the incident, and in the meantime the military authorities refuse to make any statement beyond the fact that the man is not in a serious condition. One prominent officer who is familiar with the case states that there were what most people would call "schoolboy pranks," or "ragging," but brutality was never practiced for a moment.

Lieut.-Col. Osler, commander of the depot battalion, states that the matter has been very much exaggerated.

A second man is also said to have been put through the water treatment, but did not have to be taken to the hospital.

Official Camouflage

Lieut.-Col. Gray, assistant adjutant-general, made the following statement yesterday:

"Immediately on the incident being reported to district headquarters a court of inquiry was ordered. One man was admitted to St. Boniface Hospital, but we had no information as to why he was admitted. On enquiry from the hospital authorities, the latter stated that the man's temperature and pulse were quite normal and that the man himself stated that he was all right. These enquiries were made only because this man's name was connected with an incident reported from Minto Street barracks. The statement that the man was rendered unconscious is absolutely false. Any further statement cannot be made until the court of inquiry has held its sitting."

Refused to Don Uniform

Men who claim to be entirely disinterested swear that the man Clegg, and another man, were held for 15 minutes under a cold shower bath until they fell unconscious. Pte. Paul Case, of "E" Company, makes a statement to this effect. Case is not a drafted man, but an American citizen, who enlisted voluntarily. Telling his version of the incident, Case said he saw the man held under the shower and saw them fall. It was true Clegg had positively refused to put on the uniform, "but he should have been placed in the guardhouse."

Case adds that the men of the battalion are incensed over the treatment meted out to Clegg and the other man, whose name they do not know.

PROHIBITION URGED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

LONDON, England.—In a letter to The Times, Dr. Wilfred T. Grenfell, of Labrador, makes a vigorous plea for strong legislation by the British Government on the liquor question.

"I am an Englishman," he writes. "Recently I have been speaking a good deal in America, and specially at one or two of the very large camps for soldiers, where I have met many of their officers, and also at Washington, D. C., whence I am now writing to you. You are aware of the large response here—viz., $52,000,000 in a few days—to the soldiers' Y. M. C. A. work, indicating the very strong feeling in America of the need of helping to send a clean army to fight for high ideals. Several times the conversation has in my presence turned on the subject of the remarkable—indeed, almost absolute—freedom from drunkenness and the small amount of immorality among the soldiers here, and then comes always the turn to it which brings a flush of shame, I confess, to my cheeks, as an Englishman, when a clean American officer turns round and says, 'Ah, but they will get all the alcohol they want and the danger that comes with it as soon as they get to England and to France.' The question today is one of deeds, not words; of facts, not opinions. When is our beloved motherland going to believe the facts—that ruling out the temptation to drink by closing down on the sale of liquors of an intoxicating nature as beverages is of vital importance? For over 30 years, I have lived, Sir, among seafaring men in fishing vessels on both sides the Atlantic, and in many winters in the bitter cold of the northeastern coast of America, and as a medical man, capable of observing facts, I know the individual is far better able to withstand hardship and is far fitter without any of it, and also that prohibition of is sale has been of immense value.

"Can you not find space to express the opinion of an Englishman who loves England as his life, and who is hurt every time he has to listen to the facts of wasted food and degraded manhood and wasted efficiency just because we won't tackle the strangling liquor traffic as we do the Huns—namely, by force?"—The Christian Science Monitor.

Recent explorations have led to the belief that the coal fields of China contain more fuel than all the rest of the world together.

WORKINGMEN WILL CONTROL THE WORLD

The Bolsheviki spirit has come to stay and must be reckoned with in considering the future economic situation of the world, according to Charles M. Schwab, of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation. As a graduate of old public school 40 here, he spoke at a dinner of the alumni in the Grand Hotel.

"The time is coming," he said, "when the men of the working classes, the men without property, will control the destinies of this world of ours. It means that the Bolshevik sentiment must be taken into consideration, and in the very near future. We must look to the worker for a solution of the economic conditions now being considered.

"I am not one to carelessly turn over my belongings to the uplift of the nation, but I am one who has come to a belief that the worker will rule, and the sooner we come to a realization of this the better it will be for our country and the world at large."

"A CRITICISM THAT JUSTIFIES THE CRITICIZED"

Bolshevik policy in repudiating the Russian national debt is shortsighted in the extreme. On grounds of expedience there is no defense for it. But the Bolsheviki defend their procedure on grounds of political morality. The old debt, they say, was raised not for the benefit of the Russian people, but to provide means for repression. The assertion is not to be dismissed without consideration. Let us recall the circumstances of the loan of one hundred million sterling floated in London and Paris in 1906 while the fate of the first Duma hung in the balance. The Czar was at the point of bankruptcy; money was absolutely required to pay the Cossacks and assure their loyalty. If the Duma could have said, Without our consent, no money? it would have been able to lay the basis for a sound constitution. The Liberals of Russia earnestly entreated London and Paris to hold up the loan, just for a few months at most, until the necessary constitutional concessions could be wrested from the Czar. London and Paris knew exactly what was at stake. Neither British nor French are likely ever to ignore the relations between control of the purse and representative government. But London and Paris rejected the plea of the Russian Liberals and provided the Czar with the money he required.

Thus ended the first and most promising movement for the reconstitution of Russia as a Liberal state, able to maintain prosperity at home and honor abroad. We might have had a Russia that would stand by us to the end if London and Paris had not been so complaisant to the autocracy that was destined to betray us.—The New Republic.

VETERANS' OFFICIAL JOURNAL

"The Veteran," official organ of the Great War Veterans Association of Canada, is one of the latest additions to journalism. It comes in very attractive form. Bright red cover with the initials G. W. V. on a maple leaf design. The first number is full of breezy, interesting matter.

A greeting from Sir Robert Borden, crisp editorials, letters from the front, short stories and original verse.

We are in hearty sympathy with the tone of many of its articles. The Veteran realizes that a big fight will have to be put up against an unjust system at home and The Week is with them in that fight to the limit. The boys who have been to Flanders to "make the world safe for democracy" find on their return that there is still a whole lot of fighting to be done if democracy is to be anything more than a name. They will find in the sane Socialist the man who has thought tnings out and is willing and able to help put things right.

The Veteran is published at Ottawa, monthly, and the subscription is $1 a year. The following is from the December issue:—

The Rear Guard

"What are you leaving the war for,
Bill?"
"To Hell with the war," said he;
"You can make a safe bet
I'm fed up to the neck;
What more could a man want to be?

"You once told me you loved fighting,
Bill,
Has the joy of it gone astray?
When with bayonet and gun
You made holes in the 'Hun.'
For a dollar and ten cents a day."
"You surely can't make me believe,
Bill,
That 'midst all this slaughter and strife,
Dodging "whiz-bang" galore
And bombs by the score,
You'd rather be home with your wife?"

"You've got the right dope," answered William,
"There's a time when a man tires of fun,
When he feels much inclined
To leave Glory behind
And attend to some things—left undone."

"For I hear that, away over yonder,"
(Said Bill with a tear in his eye)
"That our folks live in fear
Of the Food Profiteer—
To allow 'Ours' to live—He must die."

"It seems that instead of me staying
To fight for our 'rights' over here,
I am needed much more
Near my own cottage door
To protect the loved ones I hold dear"
"So, that's why I'm packing my kit bag
And taking my hand bombs away;
I'm leaving the 'front'
For a rear action stunt:
Ain't we fighting for Freedom?
Hooray!"

E. Witherstone.

"THE BEYOND"

(By the Dowager Duchess, Queen Alexandra)

It seemeth such a little way to me
Across to that strange country,
"The Beyond";
And yet not strange, for it has grown to be
The home of those of whom I am so fond:
It makes it seem familiar and most dear,
As journeying friends bring distant regions near.

So close it seems that, when my sight is clear,
I think I almost see the glistening strand;
I know I feel those who have gone from here
Come close enough, sometimes, to touch my hand.
I often think, but for our veiled eyes,
We should find Heaven right round about us here.

I cannot make it seem a day to dread
When from this dear earth I shall journey out
To that still dearer country of the dead,
And join those loved ones, so long dreamed about.
I love this world! Yet I shall love to go
To meet the friends who wait for me, I know.

I never stand above a bier and see
The seal of death set on some well-loved face,
But what I think: "One more to welcome me
When I have crossed the intervening space
Between this land and that on over there,
One more to make the strand 'Beyond' seem fair."

And so for me there is no sting to death;
And so for me the grave has lost its victory†
It is but crossing, with abated breath
And with set lips, a little strip of sea:
To find the loved ones waiting on the shore,
More beautiful, more previous than before.

These last two verses were written by Queen Alexandra on the wreath she sent on the occasion of William Ewart Gladstone's interment.

IMPOSES ITS WILL ON PARLIAMENT

"The British Temperance Party has made but little headway in 100 years. I do not want to depreciate what has been done, but the tide has not rolled back, for we are consuming today per head of the population very nearly as much alcohol as seventy years ago. With us we have in the liquor traffic a highly efficient organism with its feelers everywhere, making its influence felt in every election, and securing representation by creatures of its own on Town Councils, Boards of Guardians, County Councils, in the House of Commons, and in the House of Lords. Therefore, when it comes to political and legislative matters, the teaching we have done has proved insufficient, because we have resisting us an enemy actuated by self-interest alone, pursuing its course *regardless of the national welfare,* bent on making its sales of its products as extensive as possible, and in possession of machinery which enables it to impose its will on Parliaments and Governments."—Mr. L. Jones, M.P., President of the United Kingdom Alliance, in an address delivered at the International Congress on Alcoholism, at The Hague, in 1911.

IN PERSIA'S LIBRARY

II.

"At the Feet of the Master." By Alcyone (J. Krishnamurti) Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, Madras, India. American Branch: "Krotona," Hollywood, Los Angeles, California. Leather, 75c; cloth, 50c; paper, 25c.

"The Path to the Masters of Wisdom." London. The Theosophical Publishing Society. American Branch: "Krotona," Hollywood, Los Angeles, California. Leather, 60c; cloth, 40c.

"A little philosophy inclineth a man's mind to atheism, but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds about to religion." So sayeth our old friend Viscount St. Albans, better known as Sir Francis Bacon; and very true we have found it to be.

First, a man rebels against Christianity; then he enthusiastically takes up such as remains to the world of the principal Greek philosophies. But the day comes when he returns to his religion.

A long journey he has had, often winding and tortuous. He is never the same again; he is broadened and feels tolerant to all sects.

The rebel who has studied ancient teachings deeply and at the same time with a full understanding, is much disposed to regard all religions as expressions of the Universal Truth; and he sees behind the forms of Christianity, Buddhism, Zoroastrianism (to name a few), however outwardly they may differ, the same Divine Spirit.

We have reason to think that could the searcher go even deeper in philosophy than Bacon knew, he would have good cause for amazement, and his mind would be brought about to religion in a way none too pleasing to parson and prelate.

Some of the world's greatest philosophies, such as Plato's, had a hidden or esoteric character which could not be divulged to the uninitiated; and it is to this secret knowledge that we allude.

There are cases where the rebel against Christianity having sounded the depths of materialism, and passed up through the heights of the known philosophies, finds himself practically a believer in Christianity, but his whole nature revolts at "Churchianity" (to use an expression coined by a famous teacher), and he is in a somewhat trying position.

On the one hand he may defy his rebellious feelings, and be a man "convinced against his will"; on the other, he may dawdle with some of the most attractive systems that he has just been examining.

He possesses great spiritual possibilities, and his spiritual nature is starving for the right food. He picks up again "The Consolation of Philosophy," but soon casts it aside. "The Sayings of K'ung Fu Tze," "The Meditations of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus," "The Discourses of Epictetus," and hosts of others, excellent as they are in their way, are treated in a like manner.

Perhaps he will then stretch forth his hand for "The Imitation of Christ," but the perusal of a few pages is enough.

Nine cases out of ten, he then devotes his attention to some other subject, and smothers the aspirations of his higher nature.

It is just in such cases as these that "At the Meet of the Master" and "The Path to the Masters of Wisdom" would come like an inspiration from above.

We have perused these books with great care and no little wonderment. The first was written by, or rather through, a youth of sixteen, and under circumstances which the Western mind would consider mystical to a degree.

We are only too familiar with prejudice to attempt to describe them here, and would advise that the treatise be first read as it stands, and judged as any other work.

The young author, who is now in his early twenties, has had a remarkable, a most remarkable, future prophesied for him; and this is his first gift to the world.

"The Path to the Masters of Wisdom" contains a very valuable selection from different works of high authority, carefully and systematically arranged. The name of the compiler does not appear, it probably being thought unnecessary owing to the composite character of the production.

Those who are acquainted with its author's position in Occultism will appreciate the manner of the presentation of the texts. It should be understood that all the matter in the book, alhough made up of various extracts, will be decidedly new to the vast majority of Occidental readers.

We understand that these works are not to be found in the local Public Library; but as the prices are low, even for war-time, none who seek need look in vain.

(Note:—We have no patience with those who review books, yet fail to state where and how they may be procured. We therefore furnish such information when we are in a position to do so. It should be recollected, however, that the appearance of the publisher's name and address, together with the price, does not mean that we necessarily recommend the purchase of the book. In some instances, as above, we believe the money would be well spent.)

PERSTA.

January 18, 1918.

STOP IT!

What the Manitoba Free Press thinks of the Winnipeg atrocities:

The problem of the "conscientious objector," who, gathered into the army by the draft, refuses to don khaki or do his military duties is one which the Canadian army authorities must now face. They should profit by the experience of the British army authorities: and see that the very serious mistakes made across the water are not repeated here.

Refusal to obey the military law to which, by the courts of his country, he has been declared subject, constitutes a very serious offence on the part of a Canadian citizen. The course to be followed in these cases and the punishment to be imposed ought to be defined by the authorities; and there should be strict but scrupulous observance of the procedure which may be decided upon.

In the British army there were a number of cases where recalcitrant soldiers were subjected to rough handling with a view to inducing on their part a more compliant spirit. The result was not happy. The details of these assaults got a full measure of publicity in the newspapers and in Parliament; and the effect upon public opinion was very unfortunate. In not a few cases, officers, who had tolerated or instigated these practices, were disciplined by military courts—in some cases dismissal from the service followed.

The evidence is conclusive that methods of "hazing" and physical coercion have been resorted to in this city in the case of young men who have carried their resistance to the point of defiance of the army authorities. It is idle to pretend that, in cases like this, the hazing is the result of spontaneous indignation by the companions of the recalcitrant; these things happen because some one in authority is desirous that they should happen.

It is to be assumed, however, that the responsibility for the happenings at Minto Street barracks does not extend beyond very subordinate officers. It is not possible to believe that the senior officers approve or will tolerate these practices. There will doubtless be an investigation; with the awarding of due punishment to those to whom the responsibility for these acts is brought home.

Thoroughgoing action will be necessary not only in the interests of army discipline, but for the quieting of public opinion. The people of Canada will simply not stand this sort of thing. Nothing could arise which would be more likely to make trouble of the most serious kind in the new Union Parliament than an appeal to this body against the refusal or the failure of the military authorities to put a stop, once and for all, to practices of this character.

FOR OUR SOLDIERS

"You Are Only the Mother"

(Translation of Article From "Figaro," 18th Dec., 1917)

This thing has been said a number of times to a widow whose three sons have been killed at the front and who, rendered incapable of work by a recent sickness, had come to the Rue de Bellechasse to ask for help at the Ministry of War. It was explained to her that it was not a question of helping her, that she had not been made a widow by the war, and that to lose her sons on the field of honor did not give her any claim on the consideration of the State. The unfortunate woman did not understand. Then very gently, with a sad gesture which showed his own feelings, the officer who had received this woman said to her: "It is the law, madam: you are only the mother."

We are given a rule which, less terribly cruel than that law, resembles it a little just the same. . . . It is applied to the nurses in the military hospitals. When these women have husbands on active service and they return on leave, they (the nurses) are given permission to visit them, but if the nurse (a widow) has only sons at the front, and if those sons come to see her, she is forbidden to go out—"you are only the mother." At least that is the rule enforced in a great hospital in Paris. We brought this fact to the knowledge of the health department of the military government. It appeared to us incredible that those in high places would approve of such rule.

EM. B.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR'S DYING REQUEST

Arthur Butler, a Stockport conscientious objector, died on December 12, in Preston Prison, of consumption aggravated by pneumonia. He was arrested in July, 1916, and was serving his third sentence of imprisonment with hard labor for refusal to obey military orders. He contracted consumption in prison, anl had been in a very serious state since November 10, but on the morning of December 12 the Home Office assured a member of Parliament that he was only suffering from a slight cold. His mother stated that she saw him on December 11. He was gasping for breath, and said he was dying. He begged very hard for her to be allowed to stay with him, but the governor of the prison said it was against the rules. Butler was educated at Stockport Grammar School, where he won a scholarship and gained the reputation of a brilliant scholar.

TREATMENT OF DRAFTED MEN IS UNDER OFFICIAL PROBE

SOLDIER IN HOSPITAL SIGNS AFFIDAVIT ALLEGING HARSH TREATMENT TAKEN BY "PUNISHMENT SQUAD" AT MINTO BARRACKS

The Winnipeg Tribune's account of the outrage:

F. J. Dixon, before the Legislature Thursday, denounced the alleged harsh treatment of conscientious objectors at Minto barracks. He said: "If men are to be treated in this manner for adhering to the dictates of their conscience, and they cannot find any better way to handle them, it would be better to line them up against a wall and shoot them." He said he made this comment simply to call the facts to the attention of the public. There was no comment from other members of the house.

Have conscientious objectors been tortured at Minto Street barracks?

How much truth is there in the reports, circulated in Winnipeg for the last week, that International Bible Students, drafted into the army, have been treated cruelly for adhering to their religious convictions against war?

Information, backed by affidavit, was obtained by The Tribune Thursday that one soldier is now in St. Boniface Hospital in a serious nervous condition as the result of punishment at the barracks.

Further information was obtained that at least one other draftee was accorded similar treatment.

The Tribune also ascertained that Brig.-Gen. H. N. Ruttan, commanding officer of the district, has been told of the situation and has started an investigation at the depot battalion.

Robert Clegg is ill in St. Boniface Hospital, Ralph Naish is in a state of nervous prostration and Charles Matheson is now in khaki, as a result of torture which they allege was inflicted upon them by non-commissioned officers of the depot battalion because of their conscientious objections to military service.

Clegg and Naish are members of the International Bible Students' Association; Matheson is a member of the Pentecostal Faith.

According to an affidavit sworn to by Clegg before F. J. Davidson, barrister and commissioner for oaths, these men were subjected to ice-cold shower baths until they lost consciousness.

Matheson gave way under the treatment and, after several hours' resistance, intimated his willingness to obey orders.

Clegg and Naish were firm in their resolve. They withstood all efforts to make them acknowledge authority.

The torture is alleged by Clegg to have commenced after Lieut.-Col. Osler, officer commanding the depot battalion, had in orderly room sentenced Clegg and Matheson to three days' confinement to barracks for refusal to obey a lawful command.

Members of the International Bible Students' Association have retained E. J. McMurray, barrister, to prosecute all those responsible for the alleged outrage.

Mr. McMurray declared that as soon as he could learn all the names, he would have warrants issued for the arrest of every individual connected therewith. Furthermore, he said:

"It is our intention to prosecute these persons to the fullest extent of the law. It is high time such outrages in the name of British fairplay should be stopped."

The treatment has reduced Clegg to a state of physical exhaustion. When asked to sign the affidavit, he could hardly raise himself in bed sufficiently to do so.

He was admitted to St. Boniface Hospital at about 8:30 o'clock Tuesday evening. For some considerable time half a dozen attendants were engaged in trying to restore him. His temperature chart indicates that on arrival his temperature stood at 78 degrees. A notation on the "condition sheet" made by the examining physician states, "Patient suffering from acute chill."

Clegg, on being interviewed, expressed no resentment against the officer whom he believes to be in charge of the punishment party. He asked that some assistant be sent to "Ralph." On hearing that Matheson had relented and was now in uniform, he expressed deep regret.

Here is the text of the affidavit sworn to by Clegg:

Manitoba.

To Wit: In the Matter of Robert Clegg and the Military Service Act, Canada, 1917.

I, Robert Clegg, of Winnipeg, in Manitoba, clerk, make oath and say as follows:

I. I am a member of the International Bible Students' Association, and a firm believer in the teachings and principles of this association, and, as such, have conscientious objections to the undertaking of or participation in the making of war in any manner whatsoever.

II. That on Friday, the 18th day of January, 1918, I was taken in charge by the Military Police as an absentee under the Act, and later taken to Minto barracks.

III. That in consequence of refusal on my part to obey commands, I was not furnished with blankets, and slept in the barracks basement on benches till my removal to St. Boniface Hospital later.

IV. That on Monday, January 21st, a non-commissioned officer directed me and one Matheson to take hold of certain pails which he pointed out to us; we refused; he made dire threats as to what would happen to us and had us removed to detention, where we were confined till the following morning.

V. On Tuesday morning following (being January 22nd) I was taken before a major, who sent me before the officer commanding, and I was sentenced to two days C. B.

VI. After sentence I was taken to the drill hall, in charge of military police; then the non-commissioned officer previously referred to ordered me taken to the basement. I was taken to the basement and the said non-commissioned officer further questioned me as to whether or not I would obey commands, and I again reiterated my position.

VII. Then I was taken to the ablution rooms; ordered to undress, which I refused to do, so said non-commissioned officer removed all my clothes. I offered no resistance. Then he led me into a shower bath. I was then subjected to a violent treatment of ice-cold water, which was from time to time directed at my neck, shoulders, spine, kidneys, forehead, chest.

VIII. During the operation above described I was held by said non-commissioner officer, as I can judge, while still undergoing this punishment; I was seized with weakness and could hardly stand erect, when I was removed from the compartment.

IX. Upon removal from shower bath, and while I was still faint and weak, the said non-commissioned officer said to me, "If you want to fall now you can: the floor is hard." He then proceeded to rub me down with a towel, and rubbed and dried me to the waist, when he handed me the towel and ordered me to finish drying myself, which I refused to do; he then took the wet towel and violently lashed me dry. When sufficiently dry to suit his whim he ordered me to dress, and I refused to obey; and the military put my clothes upon me. I was then taken to the basement and run up and down, a military police on each arm.

Soon I was ordered to help load a van. I refused, and was then placed in detention.

X. About three or four o'clock on the afternoon of the same day on which I suffered the punishment above recited, I was again taken to the ablution room and again subjected to the ordeal which I had undergone in the morning, except that I was not lashed with a towel, but while still wet my clothes were put upon me. All the second treatment was under the direction of a returned soldier.

XI. I was in a semi-conscious state during the greater period of the second treatment, and, when taken out, I was seated upon a cold stone slab, which caused me to lose control of myself and became absolutely incapable of any control of my limbs, or muscles, and was attacked with a severe fit of hiccoughs which was more severe than on the occasion of the first treatment. Presently, while still wet and in a condition of complete nervous prostration and helplessness, I was dressed without my underclothes, dragged on the concrete floor, upstairs, through the drill hall, to the place of detention, where I was left unattended, although absolutely helpless.

XII. I have a dim recollection that while I lay in the detention cell, my friend Naish, who I believe had undergone similar treatment, was put in with me.

XIII. Subsequently, while unconscious, I was removed to St. Boniface Hospital, where I regained consciousness, about ten o'clock at night.

XIV. That during the happening of all the events above recited I never at any time offered resistance, or said anything to arouse anger, except to disobey orders.

R. CLEGG.

Sworn to before me at St. Boniface this 23rd day of January, 1918.

J. H. DAVIDSON,
A Commissioner B.R.

F. J. Dixon, M. P. P. for Centre Winnipeg, is interesting himself in the case. He announced today that he had wired the Government at Ottawa demanding an immediate investigation into conditions at Minto Street barracks, with reference to the treatment of all conscientious objectors.

SOME OF THE GOOD CHRISTIANS WHO VOTED FOR CONSCRIPTION WILL DO WELL TO GIVE HEED TO THE FOLLOWING FACTS

1. That several Christians in the City of Winnipeg were taken into custody for giving Jesus Christ the preeminence.
2. That they were placed in the basement barracks in midwinter without blankets and forced to sleep on benches
3. That later they were stripped forcibly of their clothing and subjected to a treatment of ice cold water which with fiendish malice was directed at the vital organs of the body.
4. That the ice-cold water treatment was continued until the victim fell with weakness and exhaustion.
5. That a non-commissioned demon gloated over the helpless victim and said: *If you want to fall now you can; the floor is hard.*
6. That while the unfortunate man was still wet and numbed with cold, he was lashed with towels.
7. On the afternoon of the same day he was again subjected to the same treatment. For the space of fifteen minutes he was held under ice-cold water until reduced to semi-consciousness.
8. After the bath he was placed on a stone-cold slab without his clothes until—let the truth be told: the shame is on the brutal militia and on those who voted for Prussianism at the last Federal election,—he lost control. Physical endurance gave way. He became as an infant.
9. While thus weak and helpless and while still wet he was —without his underclothes—dragged along a concrete floor and finally abandoned although still absolutely helpless.
10. His condition gave such alarm to his persecutors that they at length rushed him to hospital where he appears to be making a good recovery.
11. That his story is confirmed by eye-witnesses. Other soldiers have come forward to give the lie direct to official attempts of denial. An inquiry will be held.

WHY VACCINATE?

By Harold W. Whiston

Part I.

Having carefully studied the Reports of the Royal Commission, and weighed evidence from all sides, and examined the judgments expressed by many able medical men and scientists, I have no hesitation in saying that I can put before my readers such facts as will lead them to see that the public is being misled to a most astonishing extent—that hundreds of little children and adults are being crippled for life as the direct result of vaccination—and, more terrible still, hundreds of homes are being plunged into sorrow through the death of some loved one owing to this monstrous medical fetish. If anyone challenges this, I am prepared to show them a bundle of death certificates all duly signed by respective Registrars and certified by medical men that the "cause of death" was vaccination, and if it were not for the long and laborious task of "searching" and paying "search fees" I could tell a long story of suffering and woe. Anyone who, in the cause of humanity, will spend a few weeks at Somerset House gathering the names of all those who have died from vaccination, will never need further proof of the truth of my statement that it is a curse to the individual and the State.

I will give facts, and speak plainly —in the balance lies the welfare of thousands of unsuspecting, trustful men, women, and children.

In the first place I quote from the Royal Commission (p. 128). Dr. T. Skinner, of Liverpool, giving evidence:

Q. 20,766: "Will you give the Commission the particulars of the case?"

Dr. Skinner: "A young lady, fifteen years of age, living at Grove Park, Liverpool, was re-vaccinated by me at her father's request, during an outbreak of smallpox. I remember asking the mother to observe how perfectly clear and homogenous, like water, the lymph was; neither pus nor blood corpuscles were visible to the naked eye. All three operations were successful, and on the eighth day all three vesicles were matured. The eighth day after the operation I visited the patient, and to all appearance she was in the soundest health and spirits, with her usual bright eyes and ruddy cheeks. Between the tenth and eleventh day after the re-vaccination I was called in haste to my patient, whom I found in one of the most severe rigors I ever witnessed, such as generally precedes or ushers in surgical, puerperal, or other forms of fever. Eight lays from the time of this rigor my patient was dead, and she died of the most frightful form of blood poisoning that I ever witnessed, and I have been 45 years in the active practice of my profession. After the rigor a low form of acute peritonitis set in. At last vomiting and cold, clammy dead sweats set in with pulselessness. Collapse and death closed the terrible scene. Within 20 minutes of death rapid decomposition set in, and within two hours so great was the bloated condition of the whole body that there was not a feature of this once lovely girl recognisable. Dr. John Cameron, of 4 Rodney Street, Liverpool, met me daily in consultation while life lasted."

Q. 20,767: "To what cause do you attribute death?"

Dr. Skinner: "I can attribute the death to nothing but vaccination."

. . . . .

In this same Report fifteen medical men gave evidence as to disease, permanent injury, or death caused by vaccination, and cases were emphatically cited where those two most terrible of diseases to which flesh is heir —syphilis and leprosy—were clearly due to vaccination. Think of it! Syphilis and leprosy caused by vaccination anl officially confirmed by a Royal Commission, and yet English men and women allow their bodies to be stamped with "the mark of the beast" from childhood to old age!

No one has a monopoly of the making of keys to the door of success. —Evening Ledger.

FOOD SCARCELY IS NOW SEVERELY FELT IN ENGLAND

MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WAIT IN VAIN FOR SUPPLIES IN LONDON AND NEIGHBORING TOWNS —MEN UNABLE TO WORK

Demonstrations demanding better distribution of food were held at Brighton, at Erith, in Kent, and at other places in England recently, while men, women and children stood in queues, in many cases in vain, for a Sunday roast, margarine, butter or tea. At Erith 3,000 workers from one of the big war factories marched to the food committee's offices to protest against their wives and children having to wait long hours outside the shops and then being obliged to come away empty-handed. The men say that owing to the scarcity of food they are unable to work, and the percentage of sickness has been high.

Meanwhile the butcher shops were closed and the grocery stores were virtually sold out this morning, while men were waiting on the streets for the food committee to take some action.

Everywhere in London crowds gathered recently at the butcher shops at an early hour. There were at least a thousand persons at 8 o'clock one morning waiting to be served in the retail section of the Smithfield market. Most of these got limited portions, and were luckier than the people in the suburbs, many of whom were unable to get any meat. This was due, not so much to the shortage of cattle and sheep as to the weather, which made it impossible in many districts to bring livestock to the market.

Cost of Footstuffs Still Increasing

According to Ottawa advices the average cost of a family budget of staple foods is still increasing. A return compiled by the Department of Labor shows that such a budget cost $12.24 in December, as compared with $12.10 for November, $10.10 for December, 1916, and $7.95 for December, 1914. The Department's index number of wholesale prices based on the average prices of 272 commodities during the decade of 1890-1899 was 253.5 for December, as compared with 247.3 for the previous month, 207.4 for December, 1916, and 137.6 for December, 1914.

There was a decline in the number of strikes during December, although there was a slight increase in the time lost due to industrial disputes. Four new strikes were recorded in the month, as compared with six in November. In all there were 12 strikes, involving 25 firms and 3,209 employees in existence at some time or other in December.

The total time lost was estimated at 33,192 working days, as compared with 26,944 in November and 12,532 in December, 1916.

LEAVES FROM A SOCIAL WORKER'S NOTEBOOK

By Lilian F. Smith

"Please call as soon as posisble at No. 16 Poplar Alley; family there by name of Karnich who are to be ejected for rent. Have a very sick child with tubercular meningitis; can't live but a few days."

This call came over the telephone from the free dispensary nurse to the charity organization office one raw, drizzling morning early in February, and I hastened to the address given, to see what could be done.

No. 16 is a two-story house with a small grocery store in front, and I found the family, after going through a dark passage, in two dark, damp rooms in the rear. They pay eight dollars a month for these rooms, and one of them is so damp that they cannot use it in cold weather.

Peter and Anastasia Karnich came from Russia about five years ago. Peter's English is intelligible, but the little wife, who is only 21, speaks English very brokenly, and understands a smile and a sympathetic handclasp better than the English spoken to her.

• • •

SHE IS A PATHETIC SIGHT as she stands by the bed in the corner with the smallest baby in her arms, watching the labored breathing of the little waxen-faced figure lying there.

"She always such smart baby," she said, while the tears streamed down her pale cheeks. "She always want to help me in my work. When I wash she hands me clothes to put clothes on line, she say 'here, mama, baby help.'"

Peter Karnich is a laborer in one of the large steel mills, but has been laid off for three months because work is slack and the mills are not running on full time. In his periods of enforced leisure he reads history and such stories as Dumas' translated into either Polish or Russian. He secures these at the public library.

Work is promised him next week at one dollar and seventy-five cents a day and he has told the agent that he will pay the rent that he owes—just ten dollars—just as soon as he receives a pay. But this arrangement does not satisfy the agent; he must settle immediately or get out.

We adjust matters so they can remain in peace the few days that little Stephania has to live.

Five days later Peter comes to tell me that she is dead. My heart aches for the poor father and mother, but how can I regret that this one soul, at least, will escape the wretched struggle with poverty that seems the only future for so many of these little ones?

• • •

THE SOLEMNITY OF DEATH hangs over the little room today. Its furnishings consist of the bed, stove, one chair and a kitchen table. The latter is covered with a white tablecloth and on it is laid a pillow upon which the little body of Stephania reposes.

She is a pretty baby, not three years old yet, with fair hair in little ringlets all over her head and big blue eyes that are closed now forever. A penny rests on each lid to hold it in place until the little form becomes rigid. The white dress and stockings and pink ribbons in which she is "laid out" were purchased with the last two dollars the little mother possessed and which she had been saving for days, knowing that death was hovering over her poor home.

"But where is the mother?" I ask of the kind neighbor who has come in to lend her assistance to the stricken little family.

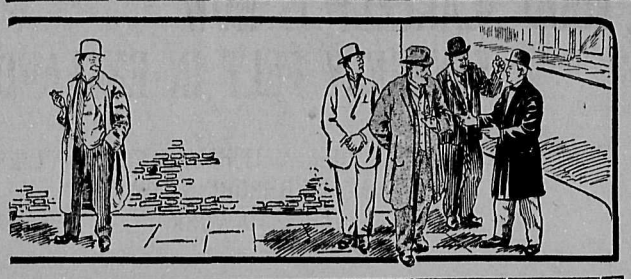
"She is gone to borrow a holy picture," is her reply. "You know, it would not look nice for the people to come in and see that she was too poor to have a holy picture to hang over the corpse."

I glanced around and saw that nothing adorned the walls but a small mirror, and that was carefully covered with paper, an old country custom in times of death.

The little mother returns; the holy picture is hung above the table; the two tall candles are lit—and the parents of Stephania are plunged into debt that it will take months to pay in order that the last ries of their church may be observed and the little body laid to rest with the ceremonies that they deem necessary.—New York Call.

Ex-Secretary of War Garrison clares in an address, that President Wilson "must welcome well intentioned criticism" can only be defined as the kind that doesn't hurt. It may be safely asserted that the President welcomes criticism. He must draw to his side the ablest aids the country affords. As "well intentioned criticism" can only be defined as the kind that doesn't hurt, it may be safely asserted that the President welcomes ready drawn to his side the ablest aids Burleson, and Gregory, and son-in-law Crozier, and other brilliants too numerous to mention? Then there is "Fatty" Taft on the outside, to say nothing of Mr. S. Gompers, who is at least in close telephonic reach in case of emergency. And there is the Colonel Roosevelt one, you know, the doughty hero of San Juan, where he shot a "fleeing Spaniard in the back," as he has so clearly and succinctly set forth by the use of his valiant pen. Of course the President did not exactly "draw" the gallant and also blatant colonel. Although the colonel wished himself upon the Wilson administration in his own peculiar and inimitable way, even the captious critic must allow that he is using the only talent that an all-wise Providence hath given him in the only way he knows how, to strengthen the hand and stiffen the backbone of the Wilson administration. Under such fortunate circumstances Wilson is amply reinforced for the conflict, and Garrison don't know what he is talking about.—B. C. Federationist.

In a street car signal system that a St. Louis man has invented an electric lamp in front of the motorman is illuminated as long as the back door of the car is open.



At The Street Corner

BY THE LOUNGER

"I was reclining comfortably on the cane-covered seat of my favorite Fort Street car, and perusing the pages of The Week, when my most loyal and patriotic friend, Win-the-Warrior Smythe, entered and seated himself by my side.

"Well, I AM surprised!" he ejaclated.

"Surprised at what?" I inquired.

"Surprised that you, of all people, should be reading that contemptible and disgusting little rag."

Smythe, of course, has not the remotest idea that I am in any way connected with the "pesky little rag," and, as I could see no reason why I should enlighten him on the point, I merely remarked that citizens who stand high in the public estimation read The Week regularly, and many had expressed themselves as being in absolute accord with its sentiments. I also told him that I had the best of reasons for knowing that the terrible little sheet was read by no less august a personage than the Unquestionably Honorable, the Chief Press Censor for Canada.

"That may be so," he said; "but anyway, it's a dangerous, pacifist, pro-German, disloyal socialistic rag, and ought to be suppressed. It wouldn't be tolerated in Germany for a moment. Its editor would get short shrift there."

"Doubtless he would," I remarked. "He has said some hard things about the Kaiser and Prussian militarism generally."

"Ah, but—don't you see, man?—that's only a blind!" he retorted, and added angrily: "The beastly rascal who edits that — — — sheet gets his palm well greased by German agents and sympathizers in the States, Argentine, or some other hotbed of Hun activities. I know it!"

I assured Smythe that he was mistaken.

"Not a bit of it!" he insisted. "I know; everybody knows. The local dailies hint as much, and they ought to know."

"What do you think of the 'Lounger'?" I mildly interrogated.

"Punk!"

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The genial conductor sang out the name of my street and I jumped briskly off the car, feeling rather discouraged. I was followed by a man who had been sitting opposite and who was obviously interested and seemingly amused at Smythe's outburst.

"Your friend appears to have a grievance against The Week," he said, on overtaking me. "D' you know, I think it's the finest paper in the Province. I take it in regularly—have done so ever since it changed its tone-policy—or whatever you like to call it. I think it's doing a great work. It tells the truth, and that's more than can be said of the others." In his opinion and in the opinion of many others he knew, the public were being made the victims of a gross and systematic policy of deception on the part of the daily press and those in authority over them, and so on.

"By the way," he said, "do you know who's running The Week now? Nobody I've spoken to seems to know."

"Probably nobody cares," I replied.

"Probably not. Anyhow, it's a peach. I would rather miss my breakfast than my Week. Good-night!"

—o—

On turning the matter over in my mind, I have arrived at the conclusion that my newly-made acquaintance could not possibly have intended to include the "Truthful Times" and the "Conscientious Colonist" in his strictures regarding the public press. Everyone who takes the trouble to read between the lines must be impressed with the evident almost superhuman effort continually displayed by these journals to supply their readers with the plain, unqualified truth. The mental strain which is thus imposed upon the editors of these two papers must inevitably lead to a serious break-down—unless, of course, the censorship, whose commands, like those of the King, must be obeyed, relaxes somewhat in its demands on their consciences.

—o—

I was relating my experience with Smythe to a friend who lives in a big rooming house.

"Oh, some folks are crazy these days," he said. "We have a funny old chap in the house who has similar notions. Every day, immediately after he gets up, and just before he goes to bed,—no matter how late the hour may be,—he sings 'God Save the King,' right from beginning to end, and in a rancous voice which penetrates to every corner of the building. On Sunday afternoon, a few of us were sitting in the drawing-room, by the window, when our loyal friend appears on the lawn with a copy of The Week. Spreading it out upon the grass, he struck a match, carefully lighted the four corners, and viewed with fiendish glee the poor, unoffending sheet being consumed. Come up some day and I'll introduce you to the guy."

I inwardly vowed that in future I would studiously avoid that rooming house. The patriotic gentleman might, by some unforseen chance, discover my identity, and I don't quite relish the prospect of playing the chief part in a stake-burning drama, even in the interests of patriotism. I have often experienced what martyrdom means, but the experience has never taken a more serious form than that of a severe calling-down from my wife when I have come home rather late from a lodge meeting.

LOUNGER.

IMMORTALITY OF A DOLLAR

By Scott Nearing

The world has searched in vain for a spring of perpetual youth. Men and women seem destined to grow old and die. Not even Metchinoff, with all of the resources of the Pasteur institute at his command, could stay young or stay alive.

Man must die. His property lives on, if the modern system of finance has its way, forever.

Financiers believe that they have discovered the river of perpetual financial life. Its modern name is "securities." Once put a dollar in this form, and its vitality is so increased that it loves, almost if not quite, forever.

Modern business practice has wielded an immense influence in the direction of property permanence. A thousand dollars, once invested, is virtually immortal, unless it is stolen, or disposed of in some extra-legal way. Depreciation, amortization, insurance and special surplus-fund charges throw around income-earning property a large guarantee of safety. Any failure in the petpetuity of the property values is due to the carelessness, stupidity or dishonesty of some servant of the property interests. For centuries, the thought and effort of the business world have been directed toward the increasing permanence of property rights.

The efforts of the propertied interests have been exerted to good purpose. The public mind, the laws and constitutions, the form of judicial practice—in short, all of the social forces that were of advantage have been bent to the guarantee of property income permanence.

Granted the continuance of the present system of property, the student trembles to think of the task in store for the toiler of the future. Each year, besides producing wealth in sufficient quantities to provide for himself and his family, he must devote a large portion of his energies to the provision of income for the owners of a vast and ever-growing body of immortalized property rights and interests.

Today the property values of the United States are only two hundred and fifty billion dollars, but they are increasing at the rate of more than ten billions each year. Stacked up, mountain high, these immortalized stores of exploiting power provide their owners with an ever-increasing possibility of living without working, upon the work of someone else.

Today the dollar is immortal—but tomorrow? WHO SHALL SAY?

He that falls in an evil cause, falls in the devil's frying-pan.

Help the lame dog over the stile.

PROMINENT JAP SAYS JAPAN IS THE PRUSSIA OF THE ORIENT

Down at Manhattan Beach, New York City, dwells temporarily Sen Katayama of Japan. He is, or was, one of the aggressive Socialist leaders of his country. Before leaving there he had the experience of working ten hours a day in a Tokio printing shop for the munificent sum of 7½ cents a day, so he is speaking from experience when he tells of the Japanese workingman. He is a graduate of Grinnell College, Iowa, and spent two years at Andover and Yale studying sociology. That was before he returned to Japan to devote his life to Socialism.

"Japan is the Prussia of the Orient," said Mr. Katayama, contradicting the assertion made in Washington by a member of the Japanese War Mission. "This is true, especially in a military and in an imperialistic sense. The Japanese Government also imitated Prussia's educational and army systems. We have three kinds of elections, just as in Prussia. There are taxation and educational requirements for voting. Men's suffrage is very limited—1,500,000 out of a 70,000,000 population are enfranchised. In fact, the voting right has a commercial value. In order to be a candidate a man must be worth between $15,000 and $30,000. Women are not allowed to attend political meetings. Education in Japan is quite advanced. We have compulsory education in the grammar schools, and we have high schools and universities, though not enough of the latter.

"Our universities are copied from the German universities, but that is the only good thing we have learned from them. We have copied all the bureaucratic policies, such as the police system, but we adopted none of their admirable labor protection laws. Last September a factory law was passed allowing a thirteen or years of age can be worked twelve ears of age can be worked twelve hours in a night. Women and children in Japan are more exploited than men. A factory belonging to the spinning industry employs 800 to 1,000 hands. Each year it must employ an entire quota of new laborers. The old workers are worn out, and they do not recuperate. A half year wears them out. In other words, we have legalized exploitation in Japan. Since the war there have been many strikes for higher wages. We have no labor organization, nor do we need one. It is easy for us to get together. We understand each other; we speak the same language. Food prices are higher, and the capitalists will not raise wages without strikes."

Mr. Katayama was asked how the war had affected conditions in Japan.

"The rich have become richer, and the poor have become poorer," he said.

"Two years ago two thousand millionaires sprang up on account of the war. But a farmer's family of five must live on $5 a month, while prices soar. Japan had $150,000,000 in gold before the war. Now it has $425,000,000, and this is increasing every moment. Not until 1915 did we ever export more than we imported. Now we have a large excess of export. The Government is the largest employer of labor; nearly sixty thousand iron workers are busy building guns and bombshells, which are sent to France and Italy. The Government is a big profitmaker, now. It has earned money selling munitions, while taxes, income, and custom duties add to its wealth.

"Every move toward Socialism is suppressed in Japan. The Government is very reactionary. But the people are thinking toward Socialism. If Japanese past history tells anything, a revolution is not improbable. The present rulers came into power through a revolution. Japanese history sanctions revolutions, but hitherto those who have overturned the feudal law have become as reactionary as their predecessors.

"There is as much dissatisfaction in Japan now as there was in Russia. Recently in the Imperial Diet the Government stopped free speech for the first time. It was afraid. Some one was attacking the Government budget, and the Parliamentary report told the public about it. When the present Ministry came into power, at first it had little political influence and was lenient toward developing movements, but, gaining more power, it became more reactionary. The Liberal papers are suppressed; meetings are dissolved. It fears the effects of the Russian revolution.

"The Japanese people did not want to go into the war. Five or six years ago the army and navy became unpopular because of great scandals. Several Generals took bribes when buying battleships. Those Generals are now serving prison terms, but the affair made the military party unpopular in Japan. Moreover, war always stifles Liberal opinions and Liberal movements. But there were new army and navy implements to be tried. So, five or six thousand soldiers from every part of Japan were sent out to test the perfection of the military machine. There is no enthusiasm among the people save among those who are making fortunes out of it.

"There is no chance of Japan's sending more men to the front. It is too far away. There are not even enough railroads to send the required munitions and food to the Russian army. A fifteen days' journey is too far to send troops when food for them must also be sent.

"All of the better class Japanese studied in Germany; everything Governmental is German. The newspapers often comment admiringly on German successes. But Japan is being faithful to the Allies. The Government is very pro-Ally. It has been policeman over the Far East for England. It is the judgment of the best Japanese magazines that Japan kept India from revolt and drove the German ships from the Pacific Ocean."

"We Socialists had no chance to keep peace. We were not allowed to get into communication with our brothers in the belligerent countries. This pro-Ally and pro-German business stops free discussion. War policies snuff out every liberal move. We couldn't organize an anti-war party; we weren't allowed to hold meetings. The German Social Democrats are supported by petty merchants and the middle class; they want to keep the party intact for the period after the war. Wars will not stop until the workingmen in the belligerent countries want it to stop and act for it to stop. There must be an international workingmen's effort that will make itself felt.

"I have been in this country since just before the war, during the San Francisco Exposition. My family is in Japan. I intended to start for Europe via the Siberian Railroad, but I came to this country instead. I can't do any work for Socialism in Japan, but I want to do some work for the Japanese workingman from here. In Japan my home was guarded in the front by one policeman, in the back by another. They were always watching me. If I went to see a friend a policeman would go and put many questions to him about what business I had with him. I had a hard time getting away from Japan, but I am connected with an economic paper there, and I was allowed to leave in the guise of a journalist.

"Socialism is young and suppressed in Japan, but it will grow. I am not allowed to return to Japan while the present bureaucratic Government is in power."—New York Times.

H. BILLINGSLEY

WATCH AND CLOCK REPAIRING A SPECIALTY

All Work Guaranteed

1009 - DOUGLAS STREET - 1009

THE PLEASURE OF TRAVEL

It operates its own Sleeping and Dining Cars, and has its own Hotels and Steamships. Its magnificent Mountain Scenery and the excellence of the Dining Car Service have made the favorite route for tourists across the American Continent.

For Sleeping Car and Steamship reservations and any further information write or call on

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

1102 Government Street Victoria B. C

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Wooden Freight Shed, Vancouver, B.C.," will be received at this office until 4 p.m. on Monday, February 4, 1918, for the construction of a wooden freight shed and fireproofing of grain conveyor supports, on the West side of the Government Wharf, at Vancouver, B.C.

Plans and forms of contract can be seen and specification and forms of tender obtained at his Department and at the offices of the District Engineers, Equity Chambers, Toronto, Shaugnessy, Building, Montreal, and at the Post Office, Vancouver, B. C.

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, and signed with their actual signatures, stating their occupations and places of residence. In the case of firms, the actual signature, the nature of the occupation, and place of residence of each member of the firm must be given.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque on a chartered bank payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, equal to ten per cent (10%) of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the person tendering decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

NOTE.—Blue prints can be obtained at the Department of Public Works by depositing an accepted bank cheque for the sum of $50, made payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, which will be returned if the intending bidder submit a regular bid.

By order,

R. C. DESROCHERS,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, January 7, 1918.

Newspapers will not be paid for this advertisement if they insert it without authority from the Department.
Jan. 19-Feb. 2

PUBLIC WORKS OF CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA DREDGING FLEET

REPAIRS TO DREDGE No. 301 ("AJAX")

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the undersigned until 4 p.m., on Thursday, January 24th, 1918, for repairs and general overhaul of the Dredge No. 301 ("Ajax".

Each tender must be sent in in a sealed envelope endorsed "Tender for Repairs to Dredge No. 301 ("Ajax").

Specifications can be seen at the office of A. F. Mitchell, Esq., Acting District Engineer, Victoria, B.C., and at the office of C. C. Worsfold, Esq., District Engineer, New Westminster, B.C., and at the office of the undersigned, 614-18 Birks Building, Vancouver, B. C.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque on a Chartered Bank, payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, for the sum of $500.00 (Five Hundred Dollars), which will be forfeited if the person tendering decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or fail to complete the contract. If the tender be not accepted, the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By Order,

F. H. SHEPHERD,
Superintendent of Dredges.

Department of Public Works,
Vancouver, B. C.,
January 11th, 1918.

Newspapers will not be paid for this advertisement if they insert it without authority from the Department.

PUBLIC WORKS OF CANADA.

BRITISH COLUMBIA DREDGING FLEET

REPAIRS TO DREDGE No. 301 (AJAX) DIPPER ARM AND BUCKET

Sealed tenders will be received by the undersigned until 4 p.m. on Monday, February 4th, 1918, for Repairs to Dipper Arm and Bucket of Dredge No. 301 ("Ajax").

Each tender must be sent in in a sealed envelope endorsed "Tender for Repairs to Dredge 'Ajax' Dipper Arm and Bucket.'

Specifications can be seen at the office of A. F. Mitchell, Esq., Acting District Engineer, Victoria, B.C., and at the office of C. C. Worsfold, Esq., District Engineer, New Westminster, B.C., and at the office of the undersigned, 614-18 Birks Building, Vancouver, B. C.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque on a Chartered Bank, payable to the order of the Honourable The Minister of Public Works, for the sum of $200.00 (Two Hundred Dollars), which will be forfeited if the person tendering decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or fail to complete the contract. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By Order,

F. H. Shepherd,
Superintendent of Dredges.

Department of Public Works,
Vancouver, B.C., January 21st, 1918.

Cured His Rupture

I was badly ruptured while lifting a trunk several years ago. Doctors said my only hope of cure was an operation. Trusses did me no good. Finally I got hold of something that quickly and completely cured me. Years have passed and the rupture has never returned, although I am doing hard work as a carpenter. There was no operation, no lost time, no trouble. I have nothing to sell, but will give full information about how you may find a complete cure without operation, if you write to me, Eugene M. Pullen, Carpenter, 811D Marcellus Avenue, Manasquan, N.J. Better cut out this notice and show it to any others who are ruptured—you may save a life or at least stop the misery of rupture and the worry and danger of an operation.
nov24-mar30

NOTICE

The Home Builders Investment Company Limited intend to apply to the Registrar of Companies for a change of name to The International Investment Company Limited.

Jan. 12—Feb. 9

INCREASED PRODUCTION COMMITTEE

OWNERS of vacant land in the city who are willing to lend same for cultivation during the year 1918 are requested to notify the

SECRETARY,
Increased Production Committee,
City Hall.

INCREASED PRODUCTION COMMITTEE

INDIVIDUALS wishing to cultivate vacant lots in the City during the year 1918, are requested to notify the undersigned, and if possible give definite information as to the particular lots required; if the lots desired are not listed, efforts will be made to secure the owner's permission to use same.

SECRETARY,
Increased Production Committee,
City Hall.

SYNOPSIS OF COAL MINING REGULATIONS

Coal mining rights of the Dominion in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories and in a portion of the Province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years renewable for a further term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of $1 an acre. Not more than 2,560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the District in which the rights applied for are situated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal subdivisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be staked out by the applicant himself.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of $5, which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of five cents per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the Agent with sworn returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mined and pay the royalty thereon. If the coal mining rights are not being operated, such returns should be furnished at least once a year.

The lease will include the coal mining rights only.

For full information application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or to any Agent or Sub-Agent of Dominion Lands.

W. W. CORY,
Deputy Minister of the Interior.

N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.
April 2nd.

The following letter speaks for itself:

Amersfoort, 13-12-17.

Mr. Editor-in-Chief,
The Week, Victoria.

Forgive me my daring in writing you these few words.

I am a Belgian interned soldier and should like very much to receive, for collecting, used postage stamps, helping me to pass the longness of my captivity.

I dare hope, Mr. Editor-in-Chief, you will be so kind to insert, in your esteemed paper, an advertisement for which I thank you very much beforehand.

With all my kindest regards, I remain, sir,

Yours respectfully,
John Corthals,
Belgian Soldier interned at Amersfoort,
Holland.

DEAF PEOPLE

DEAFNESS AND NOISES IN THE HEAD can now be most certainly cured by the newly discovered "French Orlene." This new remedy goes right to the actual seat of the trouble, and effects a complete and lasting cure in a few days.

One box is ample to cure any ordinary case, and has given almost immediate relief in hundreds of cases which had been considered "hopeless."

Mr. D. Borthwick, of Dalbeattie, N.B., writes: "Your new remedy, which I received from you some time ago, HAS COMPLETELY CURED MY HEARING, AFTER MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS' DEAFNESS. I will be pleased to recommend it to all my friends."

Scores of other equally good reports.

Try one box today, which can be forwarded securely packed and postpaid to any address upon the receipt of postal order for $1. There is nothing better at any price. Address:

"ORLENE" CO., H. T. RICHARDS,
WATLING STREET, DARTFORD,
KENT, ENGLAND.

Please mention this paper

20TH CENTULY PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS

(*Continued from Page One*)

similar to those held by the Plymouth Brethren. They carry non-participation in worldly affairs to the point of refusing service in army or navy. They believe that it is unchristian to commit murder even in the name of justice. Warfare is to them anathema. The dogs of war are loosed by the devil and the devil it is who keeps them snarling. Rather than participate in war they will face fire and sword, prison and torture, contumely and opprobrium. We express no opinion whatever on the correctness of their viewpoint or the soundness of their conclusions. But we have no hesitation in adding our tribute of admiration for their wholehearted devotion to principle and their consecration to the Author and Finisher of their faith. In every city, town and village in the United States and Canada these Bible Students are to be found, and wherever they are found they take the same stand. Just as surely as the military authorities attempt to coerce these men, just so surely will they find that they are attempting the impossible. In this respect the baffled sergeant at Winnipeg is no exception to the rule.

A Tribute to the Bible Students by a Freethinker

The words of the Nazarene are this day being fulfilled in our ears. "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake for their's is the Kingdom of Heaven. Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Ye are the salt of the earth." Many of the men thus persecuted are actually rejoicing midst their sufferings. The opportunity to witness for conviction is always a privilege to men of the right stamp. But what shall be said of those that do the persecuting? Surely it were better for these that a millstone were hanged round their necks than that they should cause one of the weak ones to stumble. What shall be said of the nation which permits its authorised officers to wreak malice, and contumely and vengeance on those whose only offence before God and man is that they clung tenaciously to their faith midst storm and tempest and bloodshed? What shall be said of those churches which forsook their Lord at the first breath of unpopularity and joined in the torture of the saints? What shall be said of any so-called Christian minister who at this time shall hold his peace whilst Christians are hounded down in this fair Canada of ours? Surely the story printed elsewhere of the outbreak of fiendish and hunnish persecution in Winnipeg will bring a blush of shame to every honest Canadian irrespective of political or religious persuasion. One fact stands out plainly in this crisis. It is that the International Bible Students' Association is beyond all others bearing a witness for principle which few of the other Christian bodies are able or willing to show. This tribute comes not from one who is a member of that Association. It comes rather from one whose religious and political convictions are in many respects the antithesis of the disciples of Pastor Russell. But only a churl would deny to those who are willing to suffer the tribute of respect and admiration which they so richly deserve. This episode in the city of Winnipeg is a fitting answer to the ill-natured criticism levelled against these men by Dr. Oliver during his visit to Victoria last fall. Dr. Oliver openly joined himself to the revilers of the saints. When Dr. Oliver shall have demonstrated that he is willing to bear a similar testimony for truth and righteousness then will we listen further to his words.

Great Britain and the Liquor Traffic

WHEN will the Mother Country wake up to see the price she is paying to the liquor interests? When will she realize she is playing second fiddle to her greatest enemy outside of Germany? From Aug. 4, 1914, up to today, her progress in the war has been hampered by the ramification of the liquor business, and this, in spite of all the warnings issued, and in spite of Lloyd George's statement that our greatest foe was drink. All sorts of things of national importance have had to stand aside; personal liberty has been almost entirely abolished, but King Alcohol has still held the right of way, and has travelled unhindered. Even with the whole world facing a food shortage and Great Britain on the verge of famine, she has allowed it to continue on its course of infamy, using ships that ought to be carrying food, using labor that ought to be on the farms, and sinking millions and millions of money that ought to be used for national service. What is the toll that has been taken by the liquor business since the beginning of the war? What has it cost Britain in food value, men and money?

It has used over 5,000,000 tons of grain, that might have been turned into food. This is sufficient to supply the whole of Great Britain with flour for one solid year.

It has used over 400,000 tons of sugar. More than enough to supply Canada for a whole year at the rate of 100 pounds for every man, woman and child.

It is keeping 156,000,000 gallons of spirits in bond, all of which could be used for munitions.

It has taken $2,500,000,000 from the pockets of the people, and in return has given back thousands of wrecked lives, ruined homes and broken hearts, and one long stream of misery and want. It has brought home to all of us the bitterness of the knowledge that England has not done all she might have done in the great war; has not played the game in earnest.

Canada is asked to stint and economize on the necessities of life while thousands of tons of food are wasted by the English Brewing companies.

"We must not eat more than is absolutely necessary"—So that the man across the sea can eat his share and drink somebody else's too.

"We must eat less and eat slowly" so that the liquor interests may waste more and waste quickly.

"We must help to fight famine" but the brewers in Britain may waste enough each year to keep all Canada for nearly ten months.

"God speed the plough and the woman who drives it" and God help the woman who drives the plough to feed the brewer while her little ones cry for bread.

"Bread is ammunition and we cannot afford to waste a single loaf," but what of the madness of destroying 6,000,000 loaves a week for drink?

"Every cargo of grain sunk by submarines has to be made up by economy in our homes," and a cargo of 8,000 tons of grain is destroyed every week by the brewers.

One would have thought that the lessons from other countries would have been sufficient to satisfy the Old Country, but England is always slow to learn when vested interests stand in the way. Canada, Australia, America, all realized that in order to put forth their utmost effort they must put down the liquor traffic. France abolished her absinthe, and Russia her vodka, but England has not yet found the moral courage to say to her greatest enemy: *"You must go."* The miracle of the Russian Revolution is explained when we understand that it was a drinkless revolution. It was prohibition that made the revolution possible. It was the stopping of drink that set 170,000,000 people free. *The Times* correspondent in a note from Odessa said: "Perfect tranquility continues to prevail here although for the moment Odessa is practically without police. The satisfactory absence of crime may largely be attributed to the sealing up of spirituous liquors." Is it any wonder that the Russian leaders do not hesitate to use pretty straight language to us? They have shaken off the two millstones which were pounding them to dust, the millstones of Imperialism and Drink, and they look with amazement and scorn at democratic England still humiliated by them. If we want to greet the first real democracy the world has ever seen—the Russian Democracy—in anything like terms of equality, we shall have to shake off the shackles of the drink traffic. The greatest danger that faces the heart of the British Empire today is not the German submarine, not the Zeppelin, not even Famine—but the danger of a revolution of a people not thoroughly sober. Such a danger is fearful to contemplate and it may come if the present foolish system of "saving at the spiggot and wasting at the bunghole continues. There is nothing to fear in a revolution of sober people. Such a thing might be carried out with little more excitement than a general election, but once let drink have the upper hand and there is no knowing into what depths of horror the nation might be plunged. We call to the Mother Country to follow Canada's lead and *sober up—and to do so before it is too late.*

How Germany Handles Conscientious Objectors

GERMAN International Bible Students are better treated than those in Canada. The Huns of Berlin have much to learn from the Huns of Winnipeg in the matter of brutality. News has recently come to hand on excellent authority that thirteen members of the International Bible Students have been shot in Germany for their religious convictions. Better death than brutality. *But neither death nor brutality will convince any sane man that war is anything but devilish.*

BRITAIN, SOBER UP!

Strike! Britain, strike! Your foes are strong and mighty,
They watch each move, to catch you off your guard.
Mark well the tyrant, lurking in your borders,
Strike! and *strike hard.*

Strike! Britain, strike! The wolf is at the doorway,
His hungry jaws are terrible to see,
Shake off your stupor, grapple him in earnest,
Strike! *and be free!*

Strike! Britain, strike! Your statesmen all are servile,
Mammon still holds them to his beck and call.
Your "Vested Interests" keep you in subjection,
Strike! *Strike them all.*

Strike! Britain, strike! Your Press it is polluted,
The slime of gold on every hand is seen.
Wipe out the stain of infamy that brands you,
Strike! *And be clean.*

Strike! Britain, strike! The foes you first must conquer
Knaw at your vitals, starve you to the bone.
Banish the Drink—Destroy the god of mammon.
Strike! And *strike home.* W.E.P.

The Only Way

An Illustrated Poem of Peace

By W. E. Peirce and Will Menelaws

Published by the Canadian Freedom League

On Sale at Hibben's Book Store, Victoria Book and Stationery Co., and C. H. Smith, 611 Fort Street

Price, Ten Cents

LOST AND FOUND

WATCH FOUND in North Ward Park. Owner can have same by applying Room 523, Sayward Blk., and paying for this ad.

GRAY HAIR

Dr. Tremain's Natural Hair Restorative, used as directed, is guaranteed to restore gray hair to its natural color or money refunded. Positively not a dye and non-injurious. Price $1.00, post-paid. Write **Tremain Supply Co., Toronto, Ont.**
Drug Store
On sale in Victoria at **Dean & Hiscocks**

WANTED—Good, live, energetic **BOYS** to sell **THE WEEK** on Saturday mornings in Esquimalt, Fairfield, Oak Bay, Spring Ridge, Victoria West, Saanich, and other outside points. Good openings for the right boys. Apply 523 Sayward Block.

LOOK for the date on the address of your paper and if your subscription has expired, just jog our memory. We are too busy to attend to it ourselves.

NEW METHOD LAUNDRY

LIMITED

"QUALITY LAUNDERERS"

1015-1017 North Park Street
Phone 2309.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the harbour head line in the Harbour of Victoria, B.C., beyond which wharfs, breakwaters, piers and similar structures are not permitted to be constructed, as established by Order in Council of *15th May, 1914, and amended by Orders* in Council dated respectively 3rd December, 1915, and 5th May, 1916, has been further amended under the authority of an Order in Council passed on the 17th January, 1918.

Plans and descriptions showing the amended line can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, and at the office of the District Engineer, Victoria, B. C.

By Order,

R. C. DESROCHERS,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works, Canada.
Ottawa, January 22, 1918.

Superior Fruit Service

Dan W. Poupard

Fruit Specialist

Balmoral Block Douglas Street, Victoria

Phone 3321

OUR SPECIAL

$5 Watch

16 Size, Seven Jewel Lever, in Nickel Dust-proof Case,

Fully Guaranteed by

F. L. HAYNES

Victoria's Watch and Clock Repair House,
Jewelry Repairing,
Manufacturing and Re-modelling

We are *Specialists* in this work and can make your old jewelry like new, at prices that will meet your purse.

DON'T FORGET: We are Expert Watch and Clock Repairers, Engravers, Gold and Silver Platers, etc., etc.

Valuers of Jewelry and Precious Stones

ONE ADDRESS ONLY: 1124 GOVERNMENT ST.

WHAT CONSCRIPTION HAS DONE TO NEW ZEALAND

THE TRIUMPH OF PRUSSIANISM IN THE LAND OF THE SOUTHERN SEAS — TALE TO BE PROFITABLY READ BY SLAVES OF CANADA AND UNITED STATES

The following remarkable document was compiled by Mr. E. Holland (editor of The Maoriland Worker) at the instigation of the Austrian Anti-Conscription Labor Party, in order that Australians may know what had really happened in New Zealand under conscription. The revelations contained therein demand publicity throughout the whole world, and particularly in the Canadian anl United States Labor Socialist press:

The organized working class movement in New Zealand—industrial and political, "Moderate Labor" and "Extreme Socialist"—is uncompromisingly against conscription. Conference after conference, whether it has been a conference of the trade unionists, a conference of the political bodies, or a combined conference of trade unions, politicals, antipoliticals, and other bodies, has declared by overwhelming majorities against conscription. From the very beginning a vast majority of the workers were opposed to the idea of it, but it required the bitter experience of a terrible year of its administration to convince many outside of Labor's ranks of the far-reaching evil of it. Today it may be said, without fear of serious contradiction, that if the people could wrest from the combined Liberals and Tory element now functioning as a national government, the right which you in Australia will once more exercise on December 20th—the right to vote "Yes" or "No" on the conscription question, their decision would be "No" by a three to one majority. The government knows this so well that it dare not permit a vote to be taken. It has also extended its own life by a year, not even being willing to trust the electors in the parliamentary constituencies.

The term, "Prussian militarism," as applied to conscription in New Zealand, is Sir Joseph Ward's creation. Therefore the government, of which Sir Joseph Ward is half-leader, will not object to its general use. How conscription was imposed on the people, without their consent, and how it is continued, in defiance of their wishes, together with some of its appalling results, I shall endeavor to show.

Immediately following the outbreak of war, Mr. (now Sir James) Allen, Minister of Defence, without in any way consulting the people, hastened to promise that he would provide an expeditionary force of 8,000 men. Having made this promise, he then proceeded to tell the people that they must "keep their obligation to the Mother Country." Our first expeditionary force was organized accordingly, there being no lack of volunteers, and it consisted of 7,761 men. Mr. Allen's promise was that this force would be maintained at its full strength for the whole period of the war, and this necessitated a monthly reinforcement of 100 men. So great, however, was the voluntary response, that the main body was speedily increased, and by the time of the Gallipoli retreat we were supplying reinforcements on a strength of 14,000 men, the people never having been consulted about this huge increase in the number originally promised by the minister, and a rifle brigade and other units were duly formed out of the surplus reinforcements. In due time, from the accumulating reinforcements, a third infantry brigade was created, and the New Zealand division was then formed, containing more than 20,000 men. We now found ourselves called upon to send away monthly drafts of 2,250 men—just double the number we were originally pledged to send. Up to the present time we have sent away some 80,000 men. Including the men in camp and due to go into camp within the next three months, we have taken about one in ten of the total population for war purposes, or one in five of the adult population, or one-half of the adult male population. All the time the main body was being increased in this way, although we were permitted no voice in the matter, we were continually having it dinned into our ears that we "must honorably keep our obligations to the Empire."

When the 1914 elections were fought, shortly after the outbreak of war, conscription was not seriously mentioned by any government candidate, nor yet was it advocated by any Liberal candidate. The most extreme militarists left the matter severely alone. No sooner was the election over, however, than the Liberals hastened to make an alliance with the Tories, and towards the middle of 1915 an insidious propaganda was commenced in a section of the press for conscription. Capitalism generally seemed to see in conscription a safeguard against Labor's demands, and it was not far wrong, as events have proved. In due time the demands of the papers became more insistent, and certain politicians began to say—somewhat timorously at first and then more brazenly—that they would support conscription if it should be found that we could not otherwise "keep OUR obligations to the Empire." As the Labor bodies began to awaken to the danger that was threatening, the Tory-Liberal leaders were found at first indignantly denying that they contemplated the imposition of conscription; then they, too, began to hint that conscription might be necessary to help us to "keep our obligations," etc. Eventually we found Sir Joseph Ward telling a Southern audience that, although he knew conscription was Prussian militarism, he would be prepared to vote for it if it was necessary to enable us to keep our promises to the Empire.

At last the government decided to enforce national registration. This was the first real step in the direction of conscription. The national register was taken at the end of 1915, the government solemnly pledging itself to the people that the register would not be used in any way in connection with conscription. How much that promise counted for may be guessed when it is mentioned that the very cards signed by the men registering were the cards that were used in drawing the conscription ballots this year. The men between 19 and 45 years of age who signed the register numbered 193,341, of whom 80,000 men of military age declared themselves unwilling to go abroad to fight. The men who expressed themselves willing to undertake military service abroad numbered 112,778, and of these 61,794 were married men (the vast majority of whom apparently never dreamt that they would be asked to go; they seemed to think the single men would provide all the soldiers required), while 16,676 were single men with dependents. Only 34,198 were single men without dependents. Had the answer "Yes" meant automatic enrolment for the trenches, as it ought to have done, the "Noes" would undoubtedly have represented a tremendous majority, in which case conscription might never have been enacted. Because thousands of married men answered "Yes" when they never meant "Yes," as the 2nd Division agitation now pretty clearly indicates, they made conscription inevitable, and are now caught in a trap of their own setting. There is a thunder-voiced lesson here for the married men of Australia. They are asked to cast their ballots to compel the single men to the trenches, and if they are foolish enough to be led into the commission of that political outrage against all that constitutes courage and justice, they will find at last that they have created a Frankenstein that will destroy themselves. How much are Mr. Hughes' promises worth? Does not his record furnish the answer? As disastrously as the married men's turn has come in New Zealand, so will it come in Australia if a majority is recorded for conscription on December 20th.

Made somewhat more confident by the result of the national register, the N. Z. Prussianists got ready to move the infliction of full conscription on the people; and the move was met with indignant protests from the more wide-awake Labor bolies, notably the Miners' Unions, the L. R. C.'s and the S. D. P. The State Miners, in a letter to the Premier, declared that they would meet the operation of conscription with industrial revolt, and other miners' unions carried similar resolutions. In January, 1916, convened by the United Federation of Labor, a conference was held at Wellington, with delegates representing a great number of organizations, and, with one dissentient, a pronouncement was made denouncing conscription. Of all the trades unions of New Zealand, only four small organizations refused the invitation to attend the conference, because they were in favor of conscription.

Soon after the January conference a series of questions was propounded to the Prime Minister of New Zealand by the Maoriland Worker, and in his reply Mr. Massey once again stated that conscription would only be enacted if it were found not otherwise possible to "keep OUR obligations to the Empire."

Side by side with the movement towards conscription came the more repressive war regulations. Freedom of expression was practically denied, premises were raided, and one by one men—almost always Labor men—were fined and jailed for "offences" which hitherto were not offences at all.

On May 31st, 1916, the Conscription Bill was introduced into the House of Representatives, and about that time the Labor organizations found the large halls and theatres closed against them, while outdoor meetings were forbidden, except to their political opponents. Especially was this so in Wellington.

Even the use of the town hall was denied to the Labor bodies. When a small hall was used and the meeting overflowed to the street the speakers who addressed the overflow were prosecuted and fined, while no action whatever was taken against the Prime Minister, who addressed another overflow on the same day.

With only five dissentients, conscription was eventually carried through the House (one Labor member (Mr. W. A. Veitch, of Wanganui) ratting to the conscriptionists.

The administration of conscription brought with it a more stringent application of the war regulations and general repression. The opposition to conscription became more and more pronounced, and great meetings favoring the repeal of the Act were addressed by prominent Labor and Socialist spokesmen in all the big centres. In nearly every case the meetings overflowed, and hundreds were unable to gain admission.

Within the Cabinet a serious attempt was made to make it an act of sedition to advocate parliamentary repeal of conscription. "Hansard" reporters were now told off to take verbatim reports of Labor speeches, and detectives appeared at almost every Labor meeting.

In the meantime, the industrial organizations were in a state of seething unrest, because of the fact that conscription had been enacted in defiance of the people's wishes. The miners told the minister plainly that they would strike on the day that an unwilling man was taken, and the result was that the coal miners were notified that they would not be taken. But this top to the mining Cerberus was not sufficient. The miners were not merely concerned about their own liberty. They were not satisfied that any unwilling man should be made a compulsory soldier.

Towards the close of 1916 the government adopted a wholesale jailing policy. Hitherto men had been taken here and there; but now, as the tide of opposition to conscription rose higher and higher, it seemed as if the campaign of repression was being organized against the Labor movement directly, the idea being apparently to strike at the movement through its effective spokesmen. The first man to be seized under the new plan was Robert Semple, who had not long returned from Australia, the charges against him being based on political speeches in condemnation of conscription. The Maoriland Worker office was raided, and the raid was followed by the arrest of James Thorn, Rred R. Cooke, and others.

In December a second anti-conscription conference was held in Wellington, at which practically 50,000 workers were represented. While that conference was sitting an attempt was made to force a police entrance, and eventually the conference secretary, Peter Frazer, one of the most brilliantly intellectual men in New Zealand, was seized and dragged off to prison. Next morning Tom Brindle, the Wellington L. R. C.'s delegate, was flung into the cells. Other arrests followed in rapid succession. In every case bail was refused. In every case also the sentences were uniformly one year's jail, until it was discovered that the term disqualified the sentenced men as soldiers. Then the sentences became uniformly 11 months for men of military age. The infliction of these uniform sentences led to the suspicion that the magistrates had their instructions, and, indeed, the Attorney-General, Mr. Herdman, was charged in parliament with having instructed the magistrate as to the sentences they should inflict, and he did not deny the charge.

After the December conference the feeling against conscription grew in intensity, and the rank and file of the industrial organizations clamored for action to be taken to defeat the Act, but the officials of the union were generally against a strike. The ever-increasing cost of living, amounting to 40 or 80 per cent., accentuated the unrest. The coal miners asked for a 17 1-2 per cent. increase in wages, and the employers refused even to discuss the matter. A go-slow strike followed, and the government at once ranged itself on the side of the mine-owners, the war regulations were applied, and the principal officials of the Miners' Federation and the various unions were arrested and taken away secretly, without their wives even knowing where they were being taken.

Then the rank and file of the miners' unions, going over the heads of their new executive, forced a strike against conscription, in which they were supported by the gold miners of Reefton. Ministers of the crown hastened to negotiate with the strikers, and called to their aid the Labor member for Grey, Mr. P. C. Webb. In the end a bargain was made with the miners that if they would return to work the prosecutions against their officials for the go-slow strike would be called off, no one connected with the anti-conscription strike would be prosecuted, and no coal miner or metal miner would be forced into camp. The ink was hardly dry on the ministers' signatures, however, when Messrs. O'Brien and O'Rourke were arrested and sentenced to eleven months for speeches made at a political meeting. Later on the member for Grey was arrested, held a month without bail, and then sentenced to three months' hard labor for a political speech.

In all, the Labor movement at one stage had 20 of its prominent men in jail, practically all of whom having been sentenced for political speeches. In every case the trials were held under the War Regulations. The government would not trust any jury to try the men charged.

Month by month, under the Conscription law, hundreds of unwilling men are being forced into camp, and other hundreds are being gazetted as deserters. It does not matter that a man has never taken the oath, that he refuses to be a soldier, that he has never donned the uniform. He is held to have taken the oath, he is held to be a soldier, he is labelled a "deserter," and treated accordingly. It does not matter whether he is a Socialist objector or a religious objector. He is not permitted to have a conscience. A religious objector told a court martial that he could not accept military service because his trust was in God and he could not subscribe to the principle of force. He was told, "You are trusting to a broken stick." A Socialist objector stated his objections, and the renegade Labor man who was a member of the tribunal told him he ought to be thrashed.

In July of this year (1917), 14 young men, some of them boys of 20, were forcibly placed on a transport and taken to England. The transport had left New Zealand BEFORE THEIR MOTHERS KNEW WHAT HAD BEEN DONE. During the voyage they were subjected to cruelties and indignities, and a number of them have since been forcibly taken to France. At the time of writing these boys' mothers had not been able to ascertain what had happened to them.

Under our Conscript Law, teachers are refused exemption, but the government arranges for exemption for policemen and jail wardens. An attempt was made recently to secure exemption for teachers, Marist brothers, and clergymen. The proposal was carried in the lower house, but the upper house threw it out.

Scores of the very best citizens in New Zealand are now hard labor prisoners in our common jails. Among these prisoners are some of our most accomplished educationalists. Well on towards FIVE THOUSAND ARE FUGITIVES IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY. They are pursued from place to place; they are hunted through the hills and tracked down in the towns. Both the military police and the civil police are employed against them. Private employers are forbidden to give them work under heavy penalties, although there is an enormous shortage of labor as the result of the draining away of the able-bodied workers. A boy's own mother may be sent to jail for long years with hard labor if she fails to inform on her son should he happen to be such a fugitive.

We have almost exhausted the first division, and the military Moloch reaches out for every lad as he attains his twentieth year. Next January the married men are to start to go into camp. Anxiety and trouble fills every life, sorrow overshadows the days of every mother, every wife, every sweetheart. The transports that steam north and west every month carry away a living freight of unwillingness. The parting scenes would baffle description. Young wives with babes in their arms—all men married since May, 1916, are flung into the first division; aged mothers with desolation in their lives, crowd to the camps. The farewells are no longer said at the waterside, for a reason that is obvious. No longer do the cheering thousands rend the day or the bands play through the streets. The atmosphere is now a subdued atmosphere. Women come day by day to those of us who are known to fight Labor's battles—they come with breaking hearts and streaming eyes, and what comfort can we give them?

While we have been compelling the workers to the battle field, the employers have been using the opportunities afforded them by this abnormal state of affairs to hold down wages, and the war has also been used to bolster up the profit making of the exploiters. The cost of living has gone up from 40 to 50 per cent, but in scarcely a single case have wages been permitted to rise more than 10 per cent. The result is that $15 per week is now no better than $10 prior to the war.

On wheat, on wool, meat, butter, cheese, and a few other items, the war profits have run well towards $250,000,000. The profiteers have bled the people of this country white, and they have wrung huge millions from the people of Britain as well. And they have done it with the aid of our Conscription Government.

When the Seamen's Union sought to secure conditions that would make life at sea reasonably safe, the government seized the general secretary and the assistant secretary of the Seamn's Union and flung them into jail with sentences of three months' hard labor. The same government has, under the War Regulations, paid the Union S. S. Co. nearly three million pounds for the hire of a few of its boats, although Sir Joseph Ward had said that the whole of the Union Co.'s fleet could be bought for a million and a half pounds.

The attorney-general, who has been more active than any other member of the cabinet in sending labor to jail, recently advocated rebellion if six o'clock closing was carried, but was still allowed to remain a member of the law-and-order cabinet, and is now being appointed a supreme court judge.

Across the Tasman's narrow strip of sea, we of the New Zealand Labor and Socialist movement call to you in Australia to vote down conscription on December 20. If you vote for conscription you lessen our chances in New Zealand of politically freeing ourselves from the worst evil that has eevr befallen this little country. And it would not only be our interests that would suffer if you so voted, for you would be voting to sacrifice the brave for the cowardly, the virile youth for the conservation of senility. You would be voting to smash the strength of your labor organizations, to shackle its intellects, to padlock the lips of its platform protagonists, and to muzzle the militant press. You would be voting to make the robbery of the people by the profiteers easier. You would be voting to break the hearts of the mothers of Australia and to mar the future of your own daughters and sisters. You would be voting to deluge Australia with the tears of her womanhood and the bitter curses of her manhood. You would be voting to sink Australia deep down in the hell and damnation of a slough of oppression from which it would take centuries to recover.

What shall it profit you if, when your soldiers return from blood-soaked trenches and tragic battlefields that are whitened by the bleaching bones of ten million men—what shall it profit you if they find that all the liberties they believed they were fighting for in that unspeakable hell of carnage have been destroyed in their own sunny Australia? What shall it profit you if having fought Prussian militarism abroad, your soldiers find it despotic and arrogant on their return? What shall it profit you if your soldiers come back to find Prussian kultur insolently triumphant in Australia? Is there not a possibility in the very thought to make men pause?

MEN AND WOMEN OF AUSTRALIA, BE WARNED BY THE EXPERIENCE OF NEW ZEALAND!

As you value all that makes for good; as you hate all that makes for evil; as you hope for liberty, and as you dread the chains of slavery—

VOTE DOWN CONSCRIPTION!

A POST-BELLUM BRITISH REVOLUTION

Those who have at various times declared themselves convinced that revolutionary changes in the social, financial and industrial organization of the United Kingdom only await the close of the war will find confirmation for their opinions in the platform which has just been adopted by a committee of the British Labor Party for consideration at the convention of the Labor Party next June, or at such earlier date as the possible occurrence of a general election may render necessary.

This platform, or "draft report," as the dispatches call it, bears the title of "Labor and the New Social Order," and it is based upon the principle that what will have to be reconstructed after the war is not merely any governmental department or social system, but "society itself." All things are to be made new. The existing social fabric is to be destroyed, or so radically changed as to be unrecognizable. Every form and kind of privilege is to be abolished. Wealth is to be conscripted for the publih welfare and the revenues derived from toil, in which all revenues are necessarily included, are to be equitably divided among the laboring classes.

A national minimum wage is to be established by law and universally enforced, the whole financial system is to be recast from top to bottom, and the industries of the country are to be conducted on the collective principle whose adoption the exigencies of war have to such a considerable extent necessitated.

Upon this point the proposed Labor platform is especially emphatic. It scoffs at the idea that the British people will ever permit a return to the disorganization, waste and inefficiency which the conduct of business through the instrumentality of private enterprise is said to involve, and it declares that whatever may have been the shortcomings of government importation and control, profiteering has demonstrably been prevented.

Coming from a convention of the Bolsheviki, these plans and purposes and principles would have occasioned no surprise and invited little comment, but their enunciation by an influential and representative body of British workmen, whose views have formerly inclined to a somewhat extreme conservatism, is a significant and momentous sign of the times which demands and will receive a widespread and deeply interested recognition. It is not imaginable that all the aspirations which the Labor platform embodies will be realized, and the more radical among them are probably not presented with any such idea. They are rather counsels of perfection than propositions advanced with a practical purpose, but in their entirety they are unquestionably portentious of an impending change and the outlook is the graver because in England the powers of Parliament are not restricted by any constitutional law, and for the further reason that, as the franchise has recently been amended, the balance of the political power has been transferred from the middle to the so-called working classes.

MEN OF TORPEDOED SHIPS

The Reverend T. Eynon Davies, general secretary of the British and Foreign Sailors' Society, writes concerning the relief of men of torpedoed ships that:

"As some misunderstanling," he says, "has arisen on the part of newspaper correspondents concerning the work of my Society, which is the oldest organization for seafarers, may I state the following facts:

1. When we claim that, among other activities, we have this year alone assisted some 17,000 victims of German piracy, the claim is in absolute accordance with the facts. If needs be, we can produce our records and supply the evidence.

2. This claim based upon work done, conveys no imputation that kindred societies are not doing work equally excellent. Indeed, our own staff have now and then co-operated heartily with other societies, and hope to be permittel to do so again.

3. Under present conditions a little overlapping is, I am afraid, inevitable. We avoid it whenever we can; but when this merciful work needs doing, and when nobody else is doing it, we step in. Need we offer any apology for doing so?

4. A suggestion has been made that we should attend to the moral and spiritual welfare of sailors. We are doing that, but we also consider the fact that the sailor is a creature of flesh and blood. Hence, when he steps ashore, shivering and starving, we clothe him and feed him; we doctor him and nurse rim back to live; then we pay his fare and send him rejoicing home. In so doing we expect that we are promoting his modal and spiritual welfare in a very practical sort of way, and, of course, we never send out claims to anbody for the services thus rendered.

5. My Society is fully recognized by the authorities, and only this week we have received from the Lords of the Admiralty a letter of thanks in very handsome terms for our services to the men of H. M. S. Drake, to say nothing of many another brave ship in His Majesty's service.

We are chiefly concerned about getting the work done. Never mind who gets the credit for it."

IVENS PRAISES MEN WHO PROTEST TREATMENT TO MINTO SOLDIERS

Editor Tribune Church Page: The affidavit of Robert Clegg, as published in The Tribune, proves beyond doubt that the treatment being meted out to conscientious objectors in this city is severe even to cruelty. I am a minister of the Methodist Church, and, with the full realization of the misunderstanding that such will inevitably cause, I want to congratulate the men on the protest they are making.

"I, too, am a conscientious objector (to very many this means I am very foolish, thoughtless, impractical, cowardly, and possibly even traitorous). Cowardice says, let the other fellow fight his own fight; but Canadian justice and British fairplay say, the issue is too important to be left alone. I do not feel like a traitor. I have for several years definitely tried to put other men's interests before my own and have consecrated my life in srvice to humanity. Hence at this time, at the cost of consumely and suspicion, I must champion the cause of justice.

"There are two classes of conscientious objectors: intellectual and religious. The Government has recognized the fact that there is such a being as a conscientious objector and has legislated to exempt him from military service. I presume that this was done in all sincerity by a Government desirous of respecting the conscience of humanity. If this is the fact, then we must take it for granted that the Government was so misinformed as to believe that all such men could be found in certain churches or organizations, and forthwith exempted them.

"The facts are manifest today. All such men are not within pacifist churches; many belong to churches wholly controlled by the spirit of militarism for the time being. Yet they are conscientious objectors in the strictest meaning of the term. Is the Government trying to exempt men or organizations? If it is men, then what is the meaning of such wanton brutality as that being perpetrated in the name of liberty and justice? Is it an order of the Government, or is it the fiendishness of some men who cannot understand the force of religious conviction?

"I do not here argue the issue of conscientious objection. There is no need for that. The Governments of Britain and Canada clearly recognize the existence of this class, and have, in legislation, said the men are worthy of consideration and defense. They have taken certain measures to guard against imposition and cowardice. That is the right of any government. Surely it is abundantly clear that the man who will suffer such indignities as those outlined in this affidavit is no shirker, nor is he the kind of manhood from which cowards are made. If conscience is no guide to conduct, then the Government should say so; but if it is, then the spirit of justice, and not that of barbarity, should guide our actions.

"If some say that nothing is too bad for the conscientious objector, then we must suffer the implication, and they should bring pressure to bear on the Government to remove the exemptions. If they allow the exemptions to stand, then they should also insist on all men who are sincere in the matter being meted out the same treatment, whether they belong to an exempted organization or otherwise.

"WILLIAM IVENS."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Week invites letters from its readers on all subjects of public interest. Letters need not be signed by the writer but a nom de plume may be used for publication, and they must be accompanied in every case by the name and address of the writer as a guarantee of good faith. This will be treated by the Editor entirely in confidence. The Editor also reserves the right to withhold publication of any letter without having to give a reason for so doing.

Against Attack on Religion

Editor, The Week.

Sir,—Your paper, which surely stands for justice and liberty and a square deal all round, made a great mistake in printing the letter last week from the pen of Iauto ap Dafydd, which was really an attack on the religion of many highly respectable citizens. Before lending his support to such an explanation of the number 666 in the Book of Revelations, the writer should have made sure that the latter book was written in Latin, which is what he assumes. It is never wise to dogmatize on such matters; but the concensus of opinion among scholars is that the book was written in Greek, whilst a few support the theory that it was written in Aramaic, which was the common speech of Palestine in the days of our Lord. In the case of either of these languages it would be difficult for anyone to prove that there is any reference to the Papacy in the figure 666, which is undoubtedly symbolical.

W. STEVENSON.

Vaccination

Editor, The Week.

Dear Sir,—For some reason or other this letter was withheld from publication in the local daily press. If possible, please insert in your progressive paper, and greatly oblige.

Freedom of speech on this subject not yet being denied, I desire to briefly testify of what I have seen and know.

Considerable experience and observation as a one-time sanitary official taught me that smallpox invariably originated in slums, tramp wards, navvy construction camps, and wherever people were herded together in insanitary surroundings, and where the laws of cleanliness of mind and body in eating and drinking were almost unknown or impossible of attainment.

It has been my duty on several occasions to assist in the removal of smallpox patients and, without exception, they came from poverty-stricken and insanitary districts; and never did I know a case to originate in the sanitary, well-to-do neighborhood of a city.

These experiences have convinced me that smallpox is the produce of impure blood, caused by a filthy environment and unnatural habits of living.

That vaccination or re-vaccination ever prevented smallpox I personally have no record; but I do know that the introduction of unnatural foreign matter, such as vaccine, into an already impure bloodstream has caused sickness, skin diseases, amputations of arms, running discharges from ears, and deafness.

I believe that the truest and surest preventitive of smallpox or any other disease is a body full of vitality and strength; in a word, ABOUNDING HEALTH; and this is only to be obtained by greater personal and community cleanliness, dietetic reform, and a higher moral standard of living.

I also know that many in the medical profession are not so favorable to vaccination and inocculation as is supposed; for I have known several who believe these methods to be a mistake, but dare not say so for fear of the tyranny and ostracism of their Medical Associations.

For this reason Medical Officers of Health, holding comparatively easy jobs, dare not believe and act otherwise than they do, for their security of tenure would soon disappear.

Awake! people of Victoria, and overthrow once and for all this superstition of Medical Prussianism.

DAVID VALLANCE.

"Made in Germany"

Editor, The Week.

Sir,—It is a solemn duty incumbent upon all loyal subjects of His Majesty the King to make sure, both now and in the future, that nothing of German origin shall pollute their households. In the case of the less expensive articles of furniture, these ought, in all cases, to be immediately destroyed, should it be clearly established they are of German origin.

In my home we had this brought forcibly to our notice only today, and hence my purpose in writing to you.

While the boys and myself were having luncheon, I happened to turn a plate over, when, to my horror and disgust, I beheld the legend, "Made in Germany" imprinted thereon. I was naturally greatly annoyed that this should have so long escaped my notice. However, I preserved a calm demeanor, and, after commanding the boys to desist eating for a few minutes I summoned my wife from the kitchen. Placing the offending dish in her hand, I demanded an explanation, the boys standing at attention. Not receiving a satisfactory reply, I seized the breadknife, and, with a lightning stroke, dashed the offending plate from her hand, it falling at her feet in pieces.

I ordered the eldest boy to pick up the fragments and hand them to my wife. Forming in single file, we proceeded in silent procession to the back yard, where all stood at attention round the garbage can. I then ordered my wife to drop the pieces singly into the can until all, save one, had been so disposed of. This remaining piece I ordered her to dance and stamp upon until it was almost pulverized. Then, taking the particles in my hand, I threw them into the air, this being symbolic of the scattering of the detestable German race to the four winds of heaven.

Mounting on top of the garbage can, I addressed them in words befitting the seriousness of the occasion, concluding by ordering my wife to immediately institute a thorough search of the house and to destroy any similar articles she might find, these to be replaced by herself out of her allowance, as a lesson to her to exercise greater care in future. As is customary on occasions of a similar nature, we wound up the ceremony by singing the National Anthem. I commend this to the notice of patriotic, but perhaps careless citizens.

God Save the Kink.

RULE BRITANNIA.

Editor, The Week.

Sir,—I am not a member of the International Bible Students' Association, neither can it be said that I endorse their standpoint with regard to their interpretation of the Bible as applied to its prophetical aspect. Nevertheless, they are a body of men and women for whom I entertain the highest respect and admiration. They have demonstrated that, during a time of crisis, unexampled in the world's history, they have been able to resist being drawn into the whirlpool of popular effervescent enthusiasm and have proved themselves capable of serious thinking at a period when practically the entire so-called civilized world is non compos mentis. Above all, they have exhibited a degree of courage in resisting a law which they conscientiously believe to be in direct opposition to the Divine will as revealed by the Christ, which should put their detractors to shame. Every fair-minded person will admit that moral courage is infinitely more difficult of attainment than mere animal courage.

The letter appearing in The Victoria Times from the pen of Mr. Wm. Christie, in which he indulges in most unfair and undignified strictures upon the Bible Students, forms a sad commentary on the depths of malice and vindictiveness to which some have fallen at present, when it is the obvious duty of all to preserve control of their mentality. Events are moving rapidly these days, and the time appears to be fast approaching when men holding the views expressed by Mr. Christie, and urging, as my interpretation of his letter leads me to believe he does, the persecution of men and women for their opinions, religious or otherwise, will find themselves in the position, maybe, of having to display not only moral courage, but animal courage as well.

When the public mind is fully aroused to a true appreciation of what this world tragedy means, these men and women who, in the press, pulpit and on the platform, have incited the populace to deeds of persecution and have displayed an aptitude for ill-natured abuse of those who canont see eye to eye with them, may find that no amount of perfervid oratory, no frantic flag-waving, will avail to shield them from the effects of the tremendous mental reaction which is steadily but surely being effected in the body politic.

Might I add that it is the bounden duty of all ministers of religion, irrespective of creed or denomination, to publicly denounce all attempts at and incitements to persecution. The time has arrived when they must either take their stand with Christ or deny him.

JAS. F. WILSON.
1224 Johnson St., Victoria, B. C.

SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 15, 1918.

To Friends of the Blind in Canada:

In view of the recent terrible explosion in Halifax, and the number of persons who have become totally or practically blind as a result of the same, the several organizations in Halifax for the care and training of the blind find themselves almost overwhelmed in meeting the new conditions which have arisen. Even before the disaster the resources of the Halifax School for the Blind, the Home Teaching Society for the Blind, the Maritime Association for the Blind, etc., etc., found it almost impossible with their limited resources to meet the demands upon them, but these demands have been suddenly increased by the necessity for providing shelter, care and training for upwards of two hundred men, women and children who lost their sight as a result of the recent disaster. Under these circumstances it is imperative that an appeal be made to all sympathetic and public-spirited Canadians. The best and most effective way of making provision for these sightless people is to immediately increase the Blind Endowment Fund so that it may reach a total of $500,000.00. The income arising from such an endowment fund will enable us to meet the problems of the blind in Halifax in a systematic and practical manner, and would bring to many a one now helpless and hopeless new opportunities to fit himself or herself for the battle of life. No greater need to help the blind has ever arisen in any part of the world, and I believe that when the people of Canada fully appreciate the situation generous help will be forthcoming.

The Blind Endowment Fund is in the hands of three trustees, namely, the president of the board of managers of the School for the Blind, Halifax; the treasurer of the School for the Blind, and The Eastern Trust Co. of Halifax.

A few typical cases of the recent disaster may be cited:

A woman of 31, now totally blind, is a patient in one hospital, while her little daughter nine years of age, totally blind, is a patient in another. Two other children of this mother were killed in the explosion, and two were badly cut, but will recover. The husband and father was killed at his work.

A young wife of 18, whose husband is in the army, is still in hospital, four months pregnant and frantic over practical blindness.

A mother, of 39, totally blind, had a child of ten totally blinded in the explosion who has since died. A second child, aged 12, has lost one eye. The husband, a soldier, is in the trenches overseas.

Contributions toward the Blind Endowment Fund may be sent to

SIR FREDERICK FRASER,
School for the Blind, Halifax.

Lord's Day Act

Vancouver, Jan. 28.

To the Editor of The Week:—

Sir:—I note that the Lord's Day Act is to be enforced to the letter and that "no business or calling will be allowed unless it is held to constitute a work of necessity or mercy." Also that "excursions by rail or boat will be an infraction of the Act."

I cannot but protest with righteous indignation against such a display of bigoted intolerance.

You shall not take a train to Goldstream for a picnic to give the children a healthy outing. You shall not hire a boat or canoe for health-giving exercise. You shall not ride in your automobile—unless you want to push it home. In fact, if they can prevent you being conveyed anywhere where you can commune with nature, with the mountains, the rivers, the lakes, the green trees, the ferns, the mosses, the rocks, the waterfalls, they will do so.

You must work hard six days in the week and on the seventh you shall be made thoroughly miserable.

Why didn't they make it a penal offence if you did not get up at 6 o'clock and remain in sack cloth and ashes on your bended knees all day in church and contribute to the collection plate once every hour?

That there is no honesty of purpose to really free people from labor one day in the week was made only too apparent some years ago when this same unholy alliance sought to prevent The Colonist from appearing on Sunday. It was quite immaterial that the newspaper was printed on Saturday and that the employees rested on Sunday, no Monday edition being issued. It would not have mattered if The Colonist employees worked on this most holy day so long as the paper appeared on Monday—not Sunday. It is a crime to read a newspaper on Sunday—churches are open on that day.

It was the same old story when the Bishop of Columbia protested against Sunday concerts at the Victoria Theatre. The theatre was full with the people who might otherwise have filled the pews. If music is unholy on Sunday, why, of course, arrest all the organists.

My reply to this "kindly" spirit of Christian tolerance, as exemplified by the Lord's Day Alliance—this noble endeavor to restrain everyone by Act of Parliament from harmlessly enjoying themselves in the guise of sweet humility and holiness, the kernel of which sweet nut is really that the church may enjoy "business as usual," is to boycott the churches and Sunday Schools.

Go, good fellow citizens, out under the blue heavens and let these distorters of religions mumble their empty texts to still emptier pews.

Go, good mothers and fathers and children and commune with the great outdoors and leave these dry-as-dust mummies to discover some spark of human feelings in their breasts and above all to discover the difference between the "letter" and the "spirit" of the law which He whom they call Master came to teach them, but which they have not yet learned.

I trust that others besides myself will take up the cudgels of freedom and truth; and protest with all the eloquence that is in them; and if necessary continue to break this intolerable law until it is repealed.

"ME."

SOLDIER ISSUES STATEMENT CHARGING HARSH TREATMENT

Following is a statement, signed by a member of the depot battalion, telling of the alleged harsh treatment of "conscientious objectors" at Minto barracks:

An International Bible student, recently drafted under the Military Service Act, and a member of the first depot battalion stationed at the Minto Street barracks, was admitted to the General Hospital Tuesday evening suffering from exhaustion, caused by being forced to stand, by the military police of the barracks, under an ice-cold shower bath: one man for 15 minutes, until he fell exhausted; another was given two ice-cold shower baths of 15 minutes' duration, each with an interval of 30 minutes between, when he fell exhausted. Both were then taken to the guardhouse and confined until night, when the condition of one became so alarming he was hustled off to the General Hospital.

The soldiers of the barracks are highly incensed over such cruel treatment, and have questioned if even Germany can beat it.

Truth is a very valuable asset, and such a misrepresentation of plain facts as occurred in yesterday's issue of The Free Press regarding the matter has occasioned quite some ill-feeling among the soldiers, who have many witnesses to the facts.

The article in The Free Press stated the two men were "manhandled roughly" by their "fellow soldiers," and that the military authorities at the barracks claim to know nothing of it. Let it be known, please, that such things do not "carry on" unless so ordered; neither are soldiers put in the guardhouse unless ordered to be confined there by a commissioned officer.

We, as men, regret there are those so debased who would tolerate such treatment on human beings when it would be unlawful to meet out such treatment even to a dog.

PTE. PAUL CASE,
E Company, Minto St. Barracks.

THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold.
Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
From heaven's all glorious King;
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

And still they come through cloven skies,
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains,
They hover on fluttering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

* * * * *

And now, when savage war devours
Two nation's youth and hope,
And maddening fires of pride and hate
With love's own vision cope.
A note of heavenly music stays
Awhile the pitiless strife,
And through the crust of hell wells up
The throbbing brotherhood life.

The Xmas truce those heroes kept,
Good fellows together a day,
Once more a gifted singer revives
To gladden the weary way;
For though men set their faces stern
Their fellows to maim and kill,
Deep in their hearts the music stirs,
And they are brothers still.

From these two nations embroiled in hate,
Five hundred years ago,
When Luther and Wycliffe friendly spoke,
The gospel of peace did grow.
And shall that message decline to naught
And poorer folk prevail,
The Tartar and Asia's barbarous hordes?
Nay, it cannot, it will not fail.

* * * * *

For lo the days are hastening on
By prophets seen of old,
And with the ever circling years
Shall come the time foretold.
When the new heavens and earth shall own,
The Prince of Peace thy King,
And the whole world returns the song
Which now the angels sing.

—R. J. Billinghurst.

POPE AND PEACE

Christmas Message From His Holiness—Men Must Return to God

The war and peace entered largely into the Pope's reply to the customary Christmas address from Cardinal Vannutelli, doyen of the Sacred College, His Holiness expressing determination to persist in his endeavors as representative of the Prince of Peace.

His Holiness, after expressing regret that for the fourth year in succession the festival was overshadowed by war, said, according to Reuter's Rome correspondent, that he felt acute sorrow that all his efforts for reconciliation of peoples had been in vain; and, adverting to his peace proposals, said from the highest quarters some of the principal bases for an understanding had been announced. "We simply took them up," he went on, "inviting heads of belligerent States to make them the object of particular study with the sole object of satisfying the desire which lies in the depths of the heart of everybody."

He deplored that some quarters did not deign to hear his words, while others did not spare their suspicions and calumnies, but he consoled himself with the reflection that his invitation to peace would be compared to the corn of wheat about which our Divine Master spoke: "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die it abideth alone, but if it die it bringeth forth much fruit."

His Mission of Peace

Above all, His Holiness said, he was comforted by the consciousness of right, and it was his duty to continue throughout the world the mission of peace—the peace-making of Jesus Christ.

"No obstacle or peril," he continued, "is capable of breaking my determination to fulfil this duty and exercise the right of him who represents the Prince of Peace. We do not deny that, seeing the efforts of once flourishing nations thrown back into a paroxysm of mutual destruction, and fearing the ever nearer suicide of European civilization, we sadly asked when and how will this dreadful tragedy have an end. The present calamity will never finish until men return to God. With the warmest prayer from the heart we wish to hasten the hour of this salutary return of society to the Gospel, when the eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped, when the crooked shall be made straight and rough places plain; when, in one word, men and society return to God, when all flesh shall see the salvation of God, and to the poor and sorrowing will be announced the good news of peace.

"As the unbridled lust of the senses plunged once-celebrated cities in a sea of fire, so in our days public impiety, atheism erected into a system of so-called civilization, has plunged the world into a sea of blood. To return to God, it suffices to go to Bethlehem, and, with the simplicity of the shepherds, listen to the Voice from the Divine manger. In these days we may go in the footsteps of Christ to Jerusalem.

"Humane counsels and Divine designs have advanced together, the former subjugating countries, the latter granting the age-long prayer of the Fathers, giving back to the Christian Faith the sacred places and venerated soil where the Blood of the Redeemer was poured out. Jerusalem, the Sacred City, blessed vision of peace, lifts to God the hymn of exultation and gratitude and love.

"All must see that the events accomplished in Jerusalem have a special language which strengthens the invitation we address to the people in return to God, because in Jerusalem were blessed not those who came in the name of arms, but in the name of the Lord."

NO APPEALS FOR BIBLE STUDENTS.

Chas. H. Edwards and David Wells, the two draft objectors who were on Wednesday sentenced to two years in the penitentiary for refusing to report when called up in the draft, will not be granted appeals. They claimed to be conscientious objectors.

Japanese electricians were among the first to experiment with radio telegraphy, and have perfected one of the most efficient systems.

By using from 50,000 to 60,000 oscillations a second a German wireless system causes musical notes to be heard in receiving instruments.

SOTTO VOCE

BY THE HORNET

That The Week had a big sale last week.

That the "Editor," who sells them on the street, beat this record.

That he is figuring on investing in an automobile soon if his sales continue to increase.

That he has half enough to buy his license already.

That there are openings for boys to do as well in outside points if they want to try.

That doctors are being besieged with "evidence" for vaccination just now.

That a dollar a case ought to be enough to convince any doctor of its value.

That when circumstances allow, more than a dollar may be charged.

That such extra charge might figure in circumstantial evidence.

That doctors who question the efficiency of vaccination in face of such evidence must possess a "peculiar type of mind"—or a big bank balance.

That "our Doctor" has been out after the "Antis."

That he has been giving them some good hard hits; but

That they don't hurt as much as the vaccine, and

That you get over the effects much sooner.

That the drink traffic is causing lots of anxiety in the Old Country.

That it's a big job to fight two enemies at once—one outside and one inside.

That they should take a tip from Canada and quit it.

That the British Parliament does not appear to have the necessary "spunk."

That the liquor business has them by the throat and won't let go.

That the grip is on the INSIDE, not the outside, of the throat; and that makes it worse.

That the temperance people over there feel very discouraged over it.

That they are making a special appeal for funds for propaganda work.

That their plan is "State purchase" of the trade.

That that is about the best solution.

That there is as much alcohol consumed today per head in the United Kingdom as there was 70 years ago.

That the liquor interests are able to impose their will on the Government as much as ever.

That the new Food Controller's name is Thompson.

That the old one's name was Hanna.

That the names of Hanna & Thompson have always been connected in Victoria with serious "undertakings."

That our friend Wells has been reelected by acclamation to his job as secretary of the B. C. Federation of Labor.

That that shows he has the full confidence of the labor men, in spite of all the press has said to the contrary.

That the Old Lady on Broad Street does not approve of The Week.

That she refused to insert an ad. stating that The Week intended to publish some information about the treatment of Conchies—and another one referring to anti-vaccination news.

That the Hornet presumes she did so on "moral" grounds, seeing that the ad. was accompanied by good money.

That she still has ads. of palmists, etc., although palmistry is contrary to law here; and

That she still carries half-page ads. for liquor, in spite of this being a dry town.

That the Hornet has great difficulty in following the course of her morality.

That she actually acknowledged the other day that the world's great need today was a "leader."

That she did not think either Lloyd George, President Wilson or Premier Clemenceau could measure up to the standard required.

That he would have to be a common man endowed with uncommon abilities.

That the Hornet agrees with that statement; and

That he would like to know what's the matter with Bowser, or Sam Matson, or Harry Price?

That either of them are common men, and each of them have uncommon abilities.

That if none of these are suitable, it is up to the Old Lady to fill the bill herself.

That some ladies had a "tag day" in Chinatown a little while ago.

That Detective H——went with them as a sort of guide.

That he knows his way around Chinatown pretty well.

That the ladies were quite successful under his guidance.

That at one place there was a little excitement on their arrival.

That the Chinaman in charge exploded something like the following:

Walla matta! Wha' for you come today? We no keep—— Oh! Tag day—tag day! Wha' for tag day? Oh! "Heather" tag day. What you mean "Heather" tag day? Oh! Lady Heather tag day —wha' for? Last week "Inspector" tag day, other week "policeman" tag day. Now you come "Heather" tag day. Me no sabby. Ally samee tag day ebly day!

That the Food Controller will probably get after the Hamsterley Farm for opening up a new candy store on Government Street.

That so long as candies MUST be eaten, the Hornet advocates buying those "made in Victoria."

That the James Bay Debating Society opened up for business again on Thursday.

That the Hornet was not invited to the "opening."

That this no doubt was an oversight.

SUB ROSA

There is a bloated capitalist around Victoria somewhere. I do not know his address, for the newspapers never print it. He apparently stands in well with the local editors; dines and wines them round at the Union Club pretty regular, I imagine! then speeds them home to their respective humble residences in his luxurious limousine, just about 1 a.m., on a Victoria Puritan Sunday. If that is not his method, then he certainly has one that is equally good, for his friend the editor certainly crowds in everything "gold old Walter" writes.

• • •

Walter seems to be annoyed with his friends, Morgan, Rockefeller, Carnegie, Flavelle and company, because they are allowing the working men about enough to feed and clothe themselves at the prevailing war prices. Horrible to contemplate, isn't it, that thousands of common working citizens are becoming millionaires at the rate of $33 per week, while a poor patriotic Scotch capitalist, who owned a forest worth a hundred thousand dollars before the war, has kindly allowed the British Government to take it over for three million and a half! Wool for the fighters' feet is all right, but it's sadly out of place in Walter's eye.

• • •

What's your opinion about parents who put little children to bed, then lock up the house and betake themselves to parties and shows? Children under five years I am talking about; and not just an odd case, but several I could mention. Possibly I am old-fashioned, and this thing is so common that nobody takes any notice of it; but it seems to me a rather undesirable trait in the modern parent.

• • •

The question of the hour is still that of the right of the common man to live his own life and to express what is in him, sitting under his own vine and fig tree, none daring to make him afraid. That question will never be thoroughly settled until war has been abolished and its slavery terminated, until the commercial and political interests in it have been stripped naked and scourged out of society, until the sacrifice of youth for the sins and blunders of age has been branded as the infamy that it is. The securing of justice abroad always means that it is time to set about establishing it at home. Men are heroes in khaki, but what will they be when they don overalls again? Will they still be honored, not any longer as soldiers, but as men that have a right to live? WORKERS AND FIGHTERS, UNITE!

The German Dittman gets five years for aiding the strike in Germany. If the Prussians will ditto the dose to about fifty thousand more Dittmans they will greatly help the progress of the world. Meantime let no Canadian try any Dittman trick in Canada, or he may find the difference in Governments is onry the small matter of a sentence.

• • •

People in England, Scotland, China, Australia, France and the United States have written to me saying how much they appreciate this little paper. They even send real money to pay for it. That reminds me that nobody gets this paper free any more. It costs Premier Brewster and Jim Hawthornthwaite five cents a copy. As for Mr. Bowser, I guess he borrows it from Mrs. Ralph Smith or "Kamerad" Pooley.

• • •

I have not noticed that the Editor of The Week is throwing any very large bouquets to the Brewster Government lately, but I think I can slip this little one past him: "Did you take that job for the Government, Joe?" "Not on your life! There wasn't a thing in it but the salary." That kind of remark has been heard quite often in B. C. recently by

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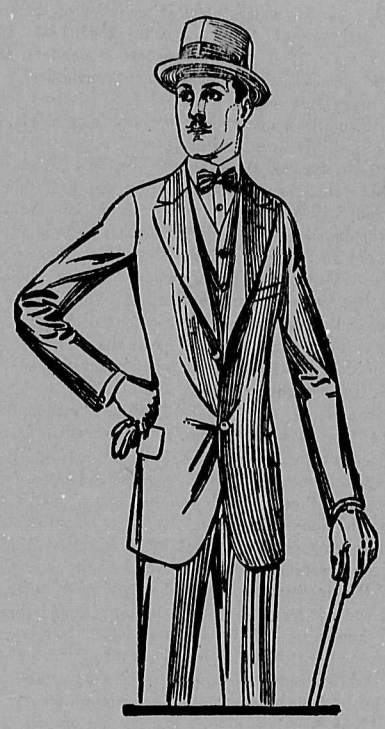

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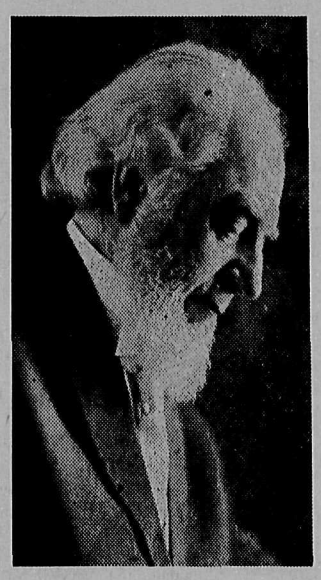

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