No

The Week

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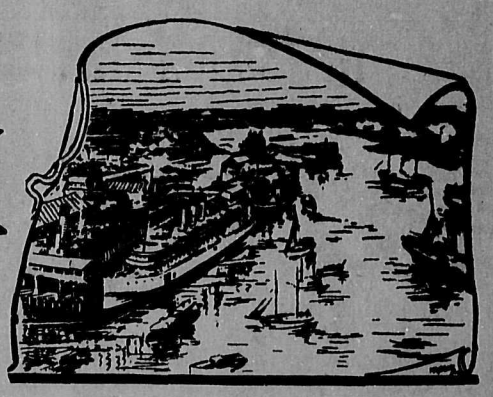

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"A Hugger-Mugger Peace"

A Hugger-Mugger Peace

"THE god of brute force must this time forever be broken and burned in its own furnace."—David Lloyd George.

The lion has been roaring again—and as usual he roars loudest when he is talking of peace.

Lloyd George, speaking at a dinner given in honor of Canadian editors last Saturday, told them that Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Newfoundland are all entitled to an equal voice with the representatives of the British Isles to determine the conditions under which we are prepared to make Peace. The hearts of the Canadian editors, no doubt, swelled within them as they listened, but it is more than likely that not one in ten of them has read the secret treaties or understands what we are already pledged to.

Lloyd George says that we are to have a hand in the making of terms of peace. Wouldn't it be a good thing before he talks about that to let us have a hand in the terms of war? He goes on the assumption that things will be fought out first—and afterwards we will be consulted in the passing of suitable agreements for a permanent Peace.

Oh! it all sounds so nice, and so simple—but Lloyd George has not yet shown his ability either to win the war, or to win Peace. All he can do is to lead the world further and further into hell.

"There must be no hugger-mugger Peace—it must be real Peace. We are not waging war for the sake of killing or being killed but for the sake of establishing a just and durable Peace in the world."

This—with slight variations—is what all Governments are saying, and even while they say it they hold the parties that would make for Peace as far apart as they can. "We are not waging war for the sake of killing or being killed." Very true—truer than many imagine. If the men who are saying this were the actual men to do the killing and to be killed the war would soon be over.

We are not waging war for the sake of killing and being killed. We all want to avoid being killed just as long as we possibly can—but *somebody* is doing the killing and *somebody* being killed—and *killed by the thousand every day*—and so it will continue to the end of the chapter if Lloyd George has his way.

We are killing and being killed because of certain treaties that were made in which Canada had no voice whatever—in which the United States had no voice whatever—and now we are told that we shall have an equal voice in the terms of Peace!

Equal voice, poppy-cock! Talk about not wanting a hugger-mugger Peace! Of course we don't—*neither do we want a hugger-mugger war,* and that's exactly what Lloyd George has given us. A war so confused and contradictory that both sides claim they are fighting in defence of small nations—and both sides call the others "liars." We have got into such an inextricable mess that we at last find ourselves fighting for treaties that had to be made in secret and kept in secret.

Let Lloyd George repudiate the secret treaties and show that we are not fighting for any additional territory and then we will be willing to listen. What's the use of him telling Canada that she will have a voice in the making of Peace when there are clauses in the secret treaties that we would never dreamed of endorsing if we had been consulted? What's the use of him giving a bunch of Imperialistic Canadian editors a lot of bluff, when an opportunity for Peace only a short time ago was turned down by himself and the French Premier without letting Canadians know more than the barest outline of it?

The further on we go, the blacker the outlook seems to become—the more appalling the sacrifice and the less chance of extricating ourselves—and not because there is no way out, but because our leaders refuse to see it. He finishes up his speech with the words: "The god of brute force must this time forever be broken and burned in its own furnace."

It might be as well for him to consider that he has appealed to the same god of force himself. If the outcome of all this holocaust is that this god shall be "broken and burned in its own furnace," then not only the Central Empires, but the British Empire and America too, will come down in the crash for they are all worshipping at the same shrine.

Replies to British Labor Party's War Aims Received From Enemy Countries

THE war aims of the British Labor Party, which we published a short time ago, have been sent into the enemy countries and replies have been received from five of them: The Bulgarian Socialists accepted practically all points, reserving some regarding Macedonia.

The Hungarian Workers have submitted another memorandum much on the same lines.

The Austrian Socialists accept the principles as a basis for discussion.

The German Minority Socialists also submit a statement along the same lines.

The German Majority Socialists forwarded a reply by Troelstra, but the Allies refused him passports and so prevented it from reaching its destination. The summary which has been received show their willingness to take part in an international convention on the basis of the proposals made by the neutral Socialists.

Arthur Henderson, Labor leader and former member of the War Cabinet, speaking at Northampton on Saturday, said: "It seems clear that the German Majority Socialists accept virtually all the principles of the inter-Allied memorandum. They are ready to discuss even the question of the responsibility for the war, although they think that no good purpose could be served thereby. They are ready to discuss Belgium and Alsace-Lorraine, and believe that an amicable solution can be found. They agree to a complete restoration of Belgian independence. They urge that an international conference would be very useful at this time, and finally they declare themselves in favor of a league of nations to prevent aggression upon one power by another."

Now, the question presents itself: *What are we going to do about it?*

It is painfully evident that the present Governments of the world are absolutely helpless to straighten out the tangle they have got into. They can do nohing but drive human beings forward by the thousand to destruction in the hope of somehow, somewhere, bringing the slaughter to an end. "The way to hell is paved with good intentions," and no doubt all the Governments have been doing their best to make the pavement good and broad. The intentions were good,—we do not doubt that,—and the last four years has seen more progress towards the place where the good intentions lead to than any four hundred years previous.

It needs something more than good intentions—and that something more will have to come from the common people this time.

Once more there will have to go up a cry for an international gathering of workers to discuss not war aims but Peace aims. Will the Governments allow this? Will they dare refuse it? So long as Governments speak to Governments we can get no further. All are hopelessly defiant and dogmatic, and in the meantime the People—the real men and women who are bearing all the suffering and undergoing all the privations, are hungering for a chance to talk to one another.

The war element in each country is set on keeping the Peace element in each from finding expression and yet they claim they want to get the ear of the Peace element in the enemy country. There is but one way to do it and that is to allow the Peace elements in each country to come together. It will not take long then to bring their own Governments to their senses.

EVENING AND MORNING

Suggested by a sermon in Emmanuel Baptist Church, preached by Rev. W. Stevenson, Sunday July 7th.

"And the evening and the morning were the first day."—Gen. 1.5.

When first the spirit moved through Dark and Chaos,
And moving, bade the elements obey—
An age-long night gave place to wondrous day-break—
Evening and morning made the Earth's first day.

Not first the morn, and then the shades of evening—
Not first the day, and afterwards the night—
But darkness first; the darkness and the chaos—
And afterwards the wond'rous, marvelous light.

So, through the ages, mankind toiling upward,
Travels the weary road to Peace from strife:
From dark to light, from evening to the morning
From gloom to gladness, and from death to life.

There is no shade that does not tell of sunshine—
No prisoned heart but somewhere is release—
There is no parting but will end in greeting—
No war and tumult but will end in peace.

Courage! brave heart, press through the shadowy valley;
The hills beyond are radiant and bright.
There is no night that does not end in morning—
There is no dark but ends at last in light.

—W. E. P.

Intervention in Russia

IT would be interesting to know what some of the newspapers who are raising such a cry for Japanese intervention in Russia would do in the matter. We are all more or less familiar with the story of the man who started to interfere in a family quarrel and what he got for his trouble. Exactly the same thing might be expected to follow the first nation that starts to butt in on the Russian tangle.

That things are in a state of grave unrest there no one with an ounce of brains will attempt to deny, but the very last thing for us to do would be to interfere before we are asked. Russia must be allowed to settle her own internal affairs, and the party that tries to force its assistance will find itself fighting all the various factors in Russia and Germany as well.

Kerensky may have made a good many mistakes in the past but he was doubtless right when he said that while Russia required all the assistance we could give, she did not want any intervention.

The great danger that confronts the Allies now is that a foolish move on their part may change Russia from being simply of negative value in the war to being an active opponent. This is a real danger and some of our editors are doing all in their power to drive us into it. The cry of the Worker all over the world to all their separate Governments must be *"Hands off the Revolution, or be ready to face one at home!"*

Turning Away Wrath

YEARS ago—just how many we cannot say offhand—there lived a man who was supposed to be the wisest who ever lived. This was before the *Colonist* was published. There are some things he did which in our opinion prove that even he made mistakes. The fact that he took three hundred wives on whom to share his affection was one of them, but this in itself makes us quite satisfied that he knew very well what he was talking about when he said: "A soft answer turneth away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger." He had probably on more than one occasion proved the truth of it.

Whether this is so or not, we believe he was right, and more than this we believe that no sane man or woman today will question the statement for one instant. And yet there is hardly a statesman in the world today, and hardly a newspaper in Canada, that is not acting as if they considered the proverb quoted as so much buncome.

"A soft answer turneth away wrath."

Turn over the fyles of any of the big dailies, either here or in the Old Country, and find out how many soft answers have been made in the last four years. For every soft one found there will be a hundred just as hard as they can be made.

"And grievous words stir up anger."

Oh! What's the use? Soloman may have been all right theoretically, but for all practical purposes he's a back number.

"The Heresy of Forgiveness"

"EVERYONE, therefore, who preaches the heresy of forgiveness is helping the Germans to win the victory and is even making himself an accomplice in their wickedness."—London Daily Mail. Our morning contemporary meed not be alarmed. There does not appear to be any danger of either of the Victoria dailies or the Daily Mail being found guilty of such heresy.

Soldiers' Dependants and Profiteers

PROBABLY no section of the community feels the burden imposed by the ever increasing cost of living more than that which embraces the dependents of soldiers. Letters which have lately appeared in the columns of the local dailies from wives of fighting men bear eloquent testimony to this.

When war broke out and an appeal was made for recruits, the assurance was given by a grateful and professedly patriotic community that "those left behind" would be well looked after and amply provided for. The Patriotic Fund was inaugurated with enthusiasm and at the time it was reasonable to suppose that the obligation would be met in full. Indeed, considering the price of necessary commodities which prevailed, it was generally believed that the soldiers' dependents were assured a tolerably comfortable existence unattended by worries. Many were, in fact, better off than formerly. But this was before the profiteer and his parasitical accomplices had fully launched their odious and criminal scheme to wax fat off the blood and tears of a nation at war. The mean and sordid policy of this degraded type of the species is too well known to deserve more than passing notice. Suffice it to say that he is invariably of that garrulous and effusive type which makes loud and fervent protestation of its patriotism and of its solicitude for the welfare of all who suffer through the present world-wide calamity.

(Continued on Page Four)

THE SECRET TREATIES

By F. SEYMOUR COCKS

(The texts of the treaties printed here are based on the excellent translations published in the Manchaster Guardian.)

THE SECRET TREATY WITH ITALY

This secret treaty was concluded between Britain, France, Russia and Italy. It gives the terms upon which Italy entered the war on the side of the Allies. By this treaty large tracts of Austrian territory were given to Italy irrespective of the wishes of the inhabitants and it was decided to shear away from Austria-Hungary the whole of her coast-line, thus *cutting her completely from the sea.* This agreement is generally known as the Treaty of London.

Terms of the Treaty

The following are the essential clauses:

Article 4.—By the future treaty of peace, Italy is to receive the district of Trentino; the entire southern Tyrol up to its natural geographical frontier, which is the Brenner Pass; the city and district of Trieste; the county of Gorizia and Gradisca; the entire Istria up to Quarnero, including Volosca and the Istrian islands of Cherso and Lussina, as well as the smaller islands of Plavnika, Unia, Canidoli, Palazzuola, St. Pietro Nerovio, Asinello, and Gruica, with the neighbouring islets.

(Note 1.—Here follow the details of the frontier delimitation.)

Article 5.—Italy will likewise receive the Province of Dalmatia in its present frontiers including Lisserica and Trebigne (Trebanj) in the north, and all the country in the south up to a line drawn from the coast, at the promontory of Planka, eastwards along the watershed in such a way as to include in the Italian possessions all the valleys of the rivers flowing out at Sebenico—viz., Cikola, Kerka, and Buotisnica, with all their affluents. Italy will likewise obtain all the islands situated to the north and west of the coasts of Dalmatia, beginning with Premuda, Selve, Ulbo, Skerda, Maon, Pago, and Puntadura, and further north, and down to Melada in the south, with the inclusion of the islands of St. Andrea, Busi, Lissa, Lesina, Torcola, Curzola, Cuzza, and Lagosta, with all the adjacent rocks and islets, as well as Pelagosa, but without the islands of Zirona Grande and Zirona Piccola, Bua, Solta and Brazza.

The following are to be neutralized: (1) The entire coast from Planka, in the north, to the southern extremity of the Sabbioncello peninsula, including this last-named peninsula *in its entirety*; (2) the part of the littoral from a point ten versts south of the promontory of Ragusa Vecchia to the Viosa (Vojuzza) River so as to include in the neutralized zone the entire gulf of Cattaro with its ports of Antivari, Duleigno, San Giovanni di Medua, and Durazzo; the rights of Montenegro, arising from the declaration exchanged by the two contracting parties as far back as April and May, 1909, remaining intact. Nevertheless, in view of the fact that those rights were guaranteed to Montenegro within her present frontiers, they are not to be extended to those territories and ports which may eventually be given to Montenegro. Thus, none of the ports of the littoral now belonging to Montenegro are to be neutralized at any future time. On the other hand, the disqualification affecting Antivari, to which Montenegro herself agreed in 1909, are to remain in force; (3) lastly, all the islands which are not annexed to Italy.

(Note 2.—The following territories on the Adriatic will be included by the Powers of the Quadruple Entente in Croatia, Serbia, and Montenegro: In the north of the Adriatic, the entire coast from Volosca Bay, on the border of Istria, to the northern frontier of Dalmatia, including the entire coast now belonging to Hungary, and the entire coast of Croatia, the port of Fiume, and the small ports of Novi and Carlopago, and also the islands of Veglia, Perviccio, Gregorio, Coli, and Arbe, and in the south of the Adriatic, where Serbia and Montenegro have interests, the entire coast from Planka up to the River Drin, with the chief ports of Spalato, Ragusa, Cattaro, Antivari, Dulcigno, and San Giovanni di Medua, with the islands of Zirona Grande, Zirona Piccola, Bua, Solta, Brazza, Jaklian and Calamotta.)

(The port of Durazzo may be given to an independent Mahommedan State of Albania.)

Article 6.—Italy will receive in absolute property Valona, the island of Sasseno, and as much territory as would be required to secure their military safety—approximately between the River Vojuzza in the north and in the east, down to the borders of the Chimara district in the south.

Article 7.—Italy, having received Trentino and Istria in accordance with article 4, and Dalmatia and the Adriatic islands in accordance with article 5, and the Gulf of Valona, is not, in the case of the creation of a small autonomous and neutralized State in Albania, to resist the possible desire of France, Great Britain, and Russia to repartition the northern and southern parts of Albania between Montenegro, Serbia and Greece. The southern coast of Albania from the frontier of the Italian district of Valona to Cape Stylos is to be neutralized. Italy is to have the right of conducting the foreign relations of Albania; in any case Italy is to agree to the inclusion in Albania of a territory large enough to allow her frontiers to touch those of Greece and Serbia west of Ochrida Lake.

Article 8.—Italy will obtain all the Twelve Islands (Dodekanese) now occupied by her, in full possession.

Article 9.—France, Great Britain and Russia admit in principle the fact of Italy's interest in the maintenance of the political balance of power in the Mediterranean, and her right, in case of a partition of Turkey, to a share, equal to theirs, in the basin of the Mediterranean, viz., in that part of it which adjourns the Province of Adalia, in which Italy has already acquired special rights and interests defined in the Italo-British Convention. The zone which is to be made Italy's property is to be more precisely defined in due course in conformity with the vital interests of France and Great Britain. Italy's interests will likewise be taken into consideration in case the Powers should also maintain the territorial integrity of Asiatic Turkey for some future period of time, and if they should only proceed to establish among themselves spheres of influence. In case France, Great Britain and Russia should, in the course of the present war, occupy any districts of Asiatic Turkey, the entire territory adjacent to Adalia and defined more precisely below is to be left to Italy, who reserves her right to occupy it.

Article 10.—In Libya, Italy is to enjoy all those rights and privileges which now belong to the Sultan in virtue of the Treaty of Lausanne.

Article 11.—Italy is to get a share in the war indemnity corresponding to the magnitude of her sacrifices and efforts.

Article 12.—Italy adheres to the declaration made by France, England and Russia about leaving Arabia and the Holy Moslem places in the hands of an independent Moslem power.

Article 13.—Should France and Great Britain extend their colonial possessions in Africa at the expense of Germany they will admit in principle Italy's right to demand certain compensation by way of an extension of her possessions in Eritrea, Somaliland, and Libya and the colonial areas adjoining French and British colonies.

Article 14.—Great Britain undertakes to facilitate for Italy the immediate flotation on the London market of a loan on advantageous terms to the amount of not less than £50,000,000.

Article 15.—France, Great Britain and Russia pledge themselves to support Italy in not allowing the representatives of the Holy See to take any steps in the matter of the conclusion of peace or the settlement of questions connected with the present war.

Article 16. — THE PRESENT TREATY IS TO BE KEPT SECRET. As regards Italy's adhesion to the declaration of September 5, 1914, this declaration alone will be published immediately on the declaration of war by, or against, Italy.

(To the above memorandum the following is appended.)

Having taken into consideration the present memorandum, the representatives of France, Great Britain and Russia, being authorized thereto, agreed with the representatives of Italy, likewise authorized thereto, as follows:—

France, Great Britain, and Russia express their complete agreement with the present memorandum submitted to them by the Italian Government. In respect of Articles 1, 2 and 3 of the present memorandum, regarding the co-ordination of the military and naval operations of all the four Powers, Italy declares that she will actively intervene at an earliest possible date, and, at any rate, not later than one month after the signature of the present document by the contracting parties.

The undersigned have confirmed by hand and seal the present instrument in London in four copies. April 25th, 1915.

Signed by Edward Grey, Jules Cambon, Imperiali, Benckendorf.

ITALY'S ENTRY INTO THE WAR

Italy came into the war rather late in the day. One of the reasons for this delay was the prolonged nature of the negotiations which were taking place with the object of realizing certain ambitions cherished by Italian Annexationists.

These ambitions consist not merely in the wish to add to Italy the Italian speaking people of the Trentino and "unredeemed Italy," but in the desire to secure for Italy the opposite, or Austrian, coast of the Adriatic, with its magnificent harbours, suitable alike for commercial ports and for naval bases, and thus to enable her to become the paramount power upon that sea.

Such a position, too, would enable Italian Imperialists and Capitalists to foster the scheme of a Danube-Adriatic Railway, which, it was hoped, would open to Italian enterprise the undeveloped mineral wealth of Bosnia and Serbia, the corn-lands and oil-fields of Roumania, and rich opportunities for commerce and investment in Macedonia.

In the situation created by the war Italian Imperialists saw a golden opportunity of realising these desires, and, animated by that "consecrated selfishness (sacro egoismo) for Italy" which the Foreign Secretary, Signor Salandra, said (October 18th, 1914) was the only sentiment which should guide them, Italy's rulers entered into negotiations not only with the Allies, but also with the Central Powers, with the object of securing the satisfaction of their aims.

Eventually, after a great deal of bargaining, the Allies were able to offer better terms than the Central Powers, the secret Treaty of London was signed, and Italy decided to come into the war on the side of the champions of democracy and small nations. The following notes will, perhaps, help to elucidate the provisions of this treaty:

Article 4 gives to Italy not only the Trentino, but the whole of the Southern Tyrol. For the sake of argument it may be admitted that the majority of the inhabitants of the Trentino are Italian in sympathy, even though the district has been separated from Italy for hundreds of years. But the same does not apply to the Southern Tyrol, with its population of hardy mountaineers, famous for their devotion to the Austrian throne. The Tyrolese have been Austrian subjects since the Fourteenth Century. A hundred years ago, so attached were they to Austria, that, led by Andreas Hofer, they actually defied Napoleon and, in their mountain fastnesses, carried on a heroic war against the French troops. Now the Treaty of London proposes to hand over the descendents of this valiant inn-keeper and his companions to Italy. Italy is to be given the Tyrol *up to the Brenner Pass, which would* bring the Italian frontier to within twenty miles of Innsbruck and thirty of the southern limits of Bavaria.

By the same article Italy is given Trieste, Gorizia, Gradisca, and Istria. Trieste is the chief port of Austria. It is the natural outlet for the trade of the whole country for as far back as Vienna and Prague. To bring Trieste within the Italian Customs Union would tend to strangle, economically, the interior and injure the port commercially. Moreover, Trieste has been linked to Austria for 536 years. The population of Gorizia-Gradisca is roughtly 250,000, of which only 90,000 are Italians, or about 36 per cent. East of the Isozo the population is practically entirely non-Italian. As for Istria, the interior is almost solidly non-Italian. The Italians occupy a thin strip along the coast. The total population of Istria is 390,000, the percentage of Italians being roughtly 38 per cent. The cession of Istria would give to Italy Pola, the Austrian Portsmouth, and headquarters of the fleet.

Article 5 gives to Italy the greater part of Dalmatia, with the port of Sebenico, and the large and important islands which fringe the coast. The *Dalmatians are a hardy, sea-faring* stock, and provide the bulkof the seamen of the Austrian navy. The total population of Dalmatia is 635,000. Of this number only 18,000 are Italians or under 3 per cent of the whole. Thus in order to secure Italy's military assistance in the war, the statesmen of the Allies have agreed to hand over to her hundreds of thousands of Dalmatians against their will. In other words, they have signed a treaty which entirely throws overboard those "sacred rights of small nations" for which they are supposedly fighting.

But worse is to follow. According to the same Article and the Note appended to it, after various territories have been allotted to Italy, the whole of the rest of the Austro-Hungarian coast-line is to be torn away and given to "Croatia" (a new State), Serbia and Montenegro, thus cutting Austria-Hungary completely from the sea. This, of course, means the indefinite prolongation of the war, for it is not likely that Austria-Hungary will agree to losing her whole coast-line until she and her Allies are beaten to the very dust. And even if, in the end, these aims were carried out, such a settlement would lead inevitably to future wars—wars for the liberation of Dalmatia, wars to give Austria-Hungary an outlet to the sea, just as in the past we have had conflicts caused by Russia's desire to secure an ice-free port. General Smuts must have had a difficult task in trying—as it is alleged he did—to induce Austria to make a separate peace if these were the terms he had to offer her!

The Neutralization Proposals

Italy, be it noted, is not to have the whole eastern coast of Adriatic. Serbia, Montenegro, and "Croatia," are to have certain stretches of it. But these are to be neutralized. Italy is apparently determined to allow no other power to dispute with her the mastery of that sea, or, as the "Giornale d'Italia" puts it (April 19, 1915) "neither a fort, nor a gun, nor a submarine, that is not Italian, ought to be in the Adriatic." And she has carefully provided that all the chief strategic points shall be in her possession—the islands of Cherso and Lussin, commanding Fiume; Lissa and Lesina, closing the door on Spalato; and Melada, dominating Ragusa.

The "Independence" of Albania

Cynical indeed is the proposed treatment of Albania outlined in Article 7. The Albanians are a brave and attractive race, and in 1913 the Powers set up Albania as an independent State, declared it neutral, and took it under their protection. "More than once," wrote Miss Durham and Mr. H. W. Nevinson (Manchester Guardian, January 31, 1918), "since the beginning of the war they (the Albanians) have been assured by our Foreign Office that they, too, are included among the small nations whose rights are to be recognized." But in Albania there is an important town *called Valona. Valona stands on the* Straits of Otranto and commands the entrance of the Adriatic. Therefore Italy wants it. And by this Article it has been given to her, with the surrounding districts. Moreover, she has already occupied it with her troops. As for the rest of the Albanians, the Allies may possibly desire to "repartition" their northern districts amongst their hereditary enemies, the Serbs and Montenegrins, who can be relied upon to deal gentle (!) with them, whilst the southern parts may be given to Greece. "A small autonomous and neutral State" (Article 7) may be formed in Albania, and Italy is to conduct "the foreign affairs" of this State. And this is all that is to be left of the independence *of a State taken under the "protec*tion" of the Powers five short years ago!

Remaining Clauses

Clauses 3 and 9 dealing with Italy's share in the partition of Turkey, have been dealt with last week; in Clause 11 we get the first official indication that there is to be a WAR INDEMNITY; and in Clause 13 we read that if France and Britain should extend their African possessions at the expense of Germany, Italy shall have *the right to extend her African co*lonial possessions also. Italy's colonial possessions border upon the Soudan, British and French Somaliland, British East Africa, Egypt, Tunis (French), the French Sahara —and Abyssinia, a neutral State. Which of these places is to suffer is left to the imagination. Finally, it is interesting to note that the stipulation in Article 16 that the treaty "is to be kept secret" is now being used by Government spokesmen in *Parliament to cover their refusal to* discuss the treaty at all.

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At The Street Corner

BY THE LOUNGER

I am an uncompromising democrat. I believe in government "for the people, by the people"—nothing more, nothing less.

Nevertheless, there is one matter which I would absolutely refuse to trust to the tender mercies and intelligent judgment of even the most perfect democracy, and that is the arranging of the annual weather programme. I verily believe if the people were granted the privilege of ordering the meteorological conditions, the result would be the precipitation of the most terrible civil conflict imaginable. We would have the country split up into as many factions as there are types of weather. Some would demand perpetual sunshine, some continuous rain, while, of course, there would be the "via media" faction who would insist on a compromise.

Then, again, the matter of temperature would be sure to lead to bloodshed. A considerable, and determined body would favor winters with more or less hard frost and copious snowfall. Opposed to these would be the forces organized in favor of winters of soft sunshine and balmy breezes. I can even conceive of a small but enthusiastic faction who would boost for unlimited thunderstorms and earthquakes, not to speak of those people of naturally tempestuous temperament who would demand periodic *hurricanes and tornadoes.*

• • •

During the welcome rainfall of some two weeks ago, I was wending my way office-wards, attired in my antique overcoat and bearing aloft what remains of my ancient gamp, when I overheard one man remark to another,

"Rotten weather, ain't it?"

"Ye bet ye," was the approving reply.

Further on, another citizen was talking most enthusiastically of the welcome precipitation, while his companion complained because there had not been enough.

So, there you are! Better leave the *ordering of the weather to a higher* Power than any of the so-called "powers that be."

• • •

Personally, I believe the recent rainfall is the greatest benefaction benevolent nature has bestowed upon the community for quite a long time. It has done more to increase production and help the "plot holders" than all the campaigns and platform oratory combined. You have probably observed how rapidly vegetation will respond to the quickening influence of a shower of rain. One hour of Jupiter Pluvius is worth a whole day of garden sprinkler.

• • •

Like myself, my readers will doubtless be glad that the street car service has been resumed . Most of us say we don't mind walking, that it is excellent exercise, and that it's all a matter of habit. All the same, there are few, indeed, who will keep the "habit" going once the care have started running, and they have the necessary "nickel." The increase in wages which the employees have been granted does not place them in the wealthy class by any means. Still, there is not a citizen worthy the name who will grudge the extra few *cents which the increase in fares* will entail, when he knows that this will help a hard-working, courteous and obliging section of the community to partly meet the demands of an ever-increasing cost of living.

There are many to whom an extra cent or the abolition of transfer privileges will work a hardship. these, none will be more willing, though less able than most, to bear it than

THE LOUNGER.

EDITOR NOREN HANDS PLAIN TALK TO MARY R RINEHART

(By Mrs. Mary Roberts Rinehart)

"Had we had universal training for two years, we should not be sitting helplessly by, losing ground that will cost many American casualties to regain. And there is nothing that will so mould this republic into a great nation as to teach it that the liberty it holds so dear is not a gift, but a right that must be paid for. To a nation trained to protect itself the cost of liberty is only that of training. To a nation defenceless the cost of liberty is human life. I appeal to the good sense of the mothers of America to demand this protection for their sons."

• • •

(By Editor H. W. Noren, of the Greenfield, Pa., Buletin)

This advice, Mary, is at least in harmony with the spirit that prompted you to name one of your books: "Long Live the King." Universal compulsory training is a good king-saver. Is that why you want it?

But what is this Mary? You say: "To a nation that is trained to protect itself the cost of liberty is only the training; to a nation defenseless the cost is human life." Was Germany defenseless? For nearly four years the Tory press has told us that the German soldiers in mass formation were being mowed down. Just mowed down. And the Tory press also tells us that the German nation is the greatest military nation on earth.

If the war has cost Germany millions of human lives, then universal training has been, not their salvation, but their ruin.

Why, Mary, do you look at this universal training business only from the kings' side? Are kings the only ones worth saving? You and the kings are a lot, I admit, but there are others, quite a few of us. And believe me, Mary, we are going to rid the world of the king pest in spite of all your wishes.

Don't you think, Mary, that if the nine million dead could speak, they would say: "Oh, yes, universal military training is a splendid thing for kings and kaisers, but it was rather rough on us!"

You say: "Liberty is a right that must be paid for." Who owns liberty that some one should be paid for it? Shall people pay and the kings receive the payment? Shall all the sons of men forever train to slap each other, that kings may walk the earth in liberty?

Go back, dear Mary, to the king-cursed shores of Europe and view the perfect flower of universal military training now in bloom. Watch cannons plow the fields where grain should grow, and see them plant the wooden crosses miles on miles, where hills and dales were filled with children's play and laughter, and happy homes bedecked the country-side! Go and see it now, dear Mary, and stay there and watch the agony and misery and death that universal military training has given them!

You "appeal to the good sense of the mothers of America to demand this protection for their sons," the protection that universal military training gives.

"Protection," Mary? What say nine million wives and mothers that walk the streets of Europe in deep mourning? What kind of protection is it that takes men out and slays them wholesale? What protection is it that kills the breadwinner and starves his dependents?

Will the brand of protection that, after a hundred years' trial, gives nothing but death and torture, appeal to American mothers?

This is your fatherland, but why defile it? Have Washington and Paine and Lincoln and Garrison and George all lived in vain? Must the *holy cause of freedom for which they* lived and died be set aside to make room for royalty's rule by universal militarism?

Universal compulsory military training and liberty can not live together, Mary. If one should live, the other must die—B. C. Federationist.

To reach the Working Men, you must advertise in the Week

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WHAT IS PRAYER?

(CONTRIBUTED)

A chance attendance at a little suburban Anglican Church on Sunday evening was amply repaid by a somereassuring vision of the new and truer attitude adopted by Churchmen of the younger generation towards the problems of the war and the rational international policy of conflicting factions. The Commination Service was the special office employed. The preacher's manner was simply earnest and his voice vibrant with sympathy. The sermon hinged upon the numerous questions and comments of the laity with regard to the value and efficacy of prayer—war-time prayer in particular—its import and its answer. The policy of certain commanders was mentioned who desired that their men should pray when going into action, instancing in the same connection the pungent philosophy of a Cockney Tommy: "Pore Bill 'e prayed—and got 'is 'ead blowed orf." The deductions drawn were: that selfish prayer is not prayer in any true sense, but a craven supplication for better luck than the other fellow—who, must, incidentally, suffer instead. That the only prayer that a true man could pray would be that it might be given him to do his duty.

Tense with introspective attention, it seemed to me that one could trace in the Minister's slightly hesitant periods a sense of the wide avenue of thought which he had opened up: What is the soldier's duty as an individual before his God? What are his personal instincts and his impulses? Do they bid him to kill his fellow man—and, if so, would he dare demand the assistance of the All Father in his fratricidal design? Or was he, perhaps, the ordinary harmless citizen who knew nothing of the diplomatic intricacies which invoked the strife but merely inherited the long-drawn popular rancour imbibed lightly, almost unconsciously, as the years went by—the insideous, pressfed, national antagonism from a commercially polluted source? What then would be his prayer? That he might do his duty?—honestly believing that duty to be to rise at the call of his rulers, and risk or lose his life, his all, to extricate them from an entanglement or, as it would appear to him, to save his country from the unspeakable Hun—but still, to kill his fellow man with whom, personally, he is not even at variance—ergo, to kill or be killed virtually in cold blood? What particular form might his prayer take? Or might he chance to be, perhaps, a man of thought and conscience, perchance a "conscientious objector"—the much despised and ridiculed "Conchy"—a man whose "maudlin sentimentality" would still enable him to meet the shock of advancing thousands and the shrill shriek of shells, erect clear-eyed—without firing a shot—and thus to meet the fate that is no "death" to him. If so, what prayer would be his? Would it be: "Father forgive them . . . ." I wonder? There is worse to face on this sad earth of ours than life's lone halting place called "death"; and after all, a man is not a mere machine, to be worked by the other man in the fair name of "Freedom"; and whatever be the tribute we must render to Caesar—so differently defined in peacetime and in war—well, let us say, that is Caesar's affair; but I seem to remember that it was said by one of old time: "Whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost (the God-spirit in the human heart) it shall not be forgiven him"—so of the three, perhaps the unpopular chance, might be—as usual—"the better part." Unhappily for such, the world only makes these quaint discoveries after men are dead—ah! the hideous pity of it all! the pent up pain and misery! This seemed to me to be the preacher's train of thought; for his lips and manner showed extreme control of mind, whilst woman-like my stress relieved itself with tears.

By natural sequence, as it were, his subject led him to discuss the prospect of a military climax in favor of the British arms and to ask the question: as a nation, would such be good for us? Should we be competent to undertake the vast responsibility of signal victory with moderation and justice to the vanquished and to the world? "What are we doing" he asked "as an Empire and individually, to qualify for such a task? We rightly dread the possibility of seeing a power so pregnant pass into the hands of the Germans!" Yes, what we require is not a peace snatched by force from military rivals at the point of the sword, to endure but a decade or two at most, but a lasting peace firmly established upon the broad basis of international and human fellowship, the rights of nations and the rights of man, ignoring alike the petty jealousies, the political trickery and the sordid commercialism of the fateful past, the blood-thirsty hatreds of the present and the unwise projected rivalries already heralded to come. "The only chance of lasting peace," the speaker added, "is world-wide national federation." A military decision will not bring peace—a lasting peace; for were the decision in favour of the Allies, Germany would be more determined than ever, by all the scientific means, the training and experience at her command, to expunge in a later still more stupendous struggle, the disgrace of a present defeat. The Allies also will be equally alert and proficient to suppress her expected new attempt and both being equally determined the logical conclusion must be that MILITARY DECISIONS WILL NEVER END WARS but simply postpone them while one antagonist waits upon the other. Thus would wars proceed amain and unceasing blood would flow.

The trend of the brief address seemed effectually to prove that we have been getting nowhere in this age of so-called Christianity and Civilization and that the sole result of all our vaunted advancement is strangely expressed in waste and destruction, the sacrifice of the people and the work of their hands, the obliteration of the once sacred charter of their liberties and the reckles squandering of the world's time and energy in every form and degree, as physicially, morally or spiritually defined. The moral to be gathered along these sane and once familiar lines seemed to be this: That had each fighting country devoted even a small proportion of its recent enormous outlay to the purposes of peace instead of war—to training, teaching and discipline—the moral uplift and enlightenment of its downtrodden masses—with equally unwavering, enthusiastic patriotism, tireless energy and, sometimes, compelling force, which this war has called forth—trained them, in face, to LIVE for their country and their fellow man, rather than to DIE for them—the result evoked would have been still as splendid and possibly, equally heroic; for oftentimes, in man and woman too, it may need as brave a heart to stand alone and live and work for what intuitively they know to be right, as any that may be called upon to face wars' fearful odds or gaze unquailing into the jaws of death.

The true conception of Prayer, then—as thus it would appear—has changed from its once spineless form of superstitious significance and the Church has arisen to recognize, in common with other advancing schools of thought: (1) that Prayer is the inspired impulse of concentrated desire for what is best for ourselves or others, supported by and dependent upon the honest human endeavour to bring that desire to material expression, by physical effort and spiritual influence combined; (2) that true Prayer to God must be made by man through the medium of the God-power within himself—the reflex or "image" of God in whose "likeness" he was spiritually created — the "Spirit" who expresses Himself, not independently, FOR man, but naturally, in spirit, THROUGH man—according to his faith and purpose; (3) that Prayer being effective in a manner, not sublime and aloof or subversive of God's own fixed laws, but natural, dependent and consistent with those laws, even such must be the limitations common to all who pray aright; (4) that prayer, therefore, is answered by God, not directly but through the God-given power within man's conscious self.

From salients such as these, which appeal to trained and untrained minds alike, a closer fellowship with the National Church may spring; and meanwhile upon such broad-minded men may public benediction fall: for "Blessed are the Peace-makers," and the simple panoply of one really Christian mind may still assist a laggard Church, which slept when opportunity was knocking at the door, but yet may serve to urge the nation along the path of Peace. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, having done all, to stand."

PRIEST'S PROTEST

Government Statement an Abominamable Falsehood

Rev. Malachi MacBranain, C. C., Caltra, Ireland, writes:—

"As a priest and a member of the Sinn Fein Executive for the past year I give you my word of honour that THE GOVERNMENT'S OFFICIAL STATEMENT that negotiations have been carried out between the Executive of the Sinn Fein organization and Germany IS AN ABOMINABLE FALSEHOOD, and that a German invasion was never discussed by the Sinn Fein Executive."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Letters to the Editor on any subject of general interest will be published in these columns. They must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, which will be treated in strict confidence if so desired. Short letters are preferred.—Editor.)

A Life's Ambition and Disappointment

Editor The Week.

Sir.—It is about 53 years since I started work in the fields in England pulling charlock from the growing grain. For some three years I worked occasionally as required. When not quite twelve years of age I worked constantly for one farmer for about three and a half years. Very early I formed a desire to have some land of my own so I could work it as I liked. I expected with the rate of wages I was getting that I would be pretty old before I was able to get it but I always hoped I would be able to do so by the time I was sixty.

An older brother got on the railway and he got more money than the farmer's men and I got dissatisfied and determined to try and get on the railway too. As the farmer said I had been a good boy while working for him and as I had one or two other recommendations, I had not much difficulty. I had been doing work for a good part of the harvest that a full-grown man usually did and received some extra pay. My usual pay was 4s6d per week, working from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., with one and a half hours for meals. Then I had to go twice Sunday to clean stable, etc. I started on the railway at 10s. a week, but after some time I left the G. N. R. and went on the M. S. and L., then to the Midland, for which company I worked for nearly eleven years as cleaner and fireman.

Wherever I went, I always took an interest in and tried to have a bit of garden, and although my desire lay kind of dormant for a time, it never wholly left me.

In 1887, the Jubilee year of Queen Victoria's reign, occurred the strike of the engineers and firemen of the Midland Railway, caused by the company altering the terms of service so that while we had to be at their call anytime, day or night, seven days a week, they would only pay us just for the time we worked, if only two or three days.

I was getting at that time four shillings per day, working ten hours, and had a wife and child. Very soon after the strike I was standing on Arkwright Street bridge one day when a passenger train entered the station. After the train had gone, we saw one of the officials conducting a bunch of German engineers down to the engine shed to take the places of our engineers on strike.

Of the 672 Members of Parliament, one got up and protested against the company being allowed to import strike breakers from Germany. His name was C. Bradlough, M.P. for Northhampton. The papers—some of them at least—praised the Germans as faithful workmen, more intelligent and better educated than the Englishmen. They did not call them gorillas as a correspondent of the Colonist has done.

Well, some of us got away to Argentine, Chile, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and India.

In the Chilian revolution I had all the experience of war I wanted after the battle of Huara, the only one of importance that the Government troops won. I heard the Commander, El Coronet Soto Mayor, say that if he had only half the number of men and they had any heart in the cause he could have done better, but they had no heart in the cause.

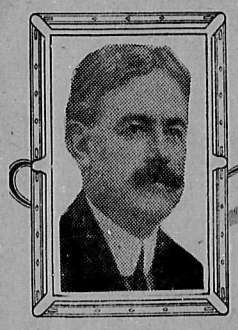
Later I drifted to this country and stubbornly endeavored to accomplish my old desire. Two or three times it seemed to be mine, then slipped from me when in my sixtieth year I appealed to the Land Settlement Board. I was willing to sell or mortgage my lot if I could get a start on a little farm, but they could not help, so I came to the conclusion that it was not for me, that the most I could expect was my little garden. I try to make the best of that and already this year I have sold over ten dollars worth of stuff from my 50-foot lot, besides what I have used for myself.

But there is such a cry for produce, and I hear there is so many acres of unused land, that I wonder if I ought to be content. But the good land is too dear to buy, and I have had too much experience of having the rent raised after improving the land to look with favor on rented land.

What can or what ought to be done is what I would like to know and for which I am watching.

Any suggestion sent in care of the Editor of The Week will be much appreciated.

Yours for a farm,
SUBURBANITE.



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BILLIARDS.- BEST LIGHTED AND VENTILATED ROOMS IN THE CITY.
BRUNSWICK-BALKE AND BURROUGHS & WATTS TABLES.

Cornflowers in Victoria

To the Editor:

Sir.—All true patriots will agree that it is our solemn duty as loyal British subjects to eschew everything connected directly or indirectly with the Hun or his diabolical sentiments. From now on, we must dilligently avoid anything, no matter how trivial, which may be, or may have been associated with the bestial German race.

The other day my wife informed me that she had purchased a new summer hat, and produced it for my inspection, it being my rule that no member of my household shall wear anything without first submitting it to me for approval. To my intense horror and disgust, the hat was actually trimmed with a spray of artificial cornflowers. I sharply enquired of my wife whether she was aware that the cornflower is the national flower of the German people. She replied that she did and, to make matters worse, mumbled as an excuse that her selection of the particular trimming did not appear to her as an act of disloyalty.

I resolved to take immediate and drastic steps to convince her to the contrary. Having summoned the boys, I ordered them to place her "under arrest," and to conduct her to the lawn. I ordered her to put the hat on and told one of them to tie his mother's hands behind her back and to blindfold her. I then deputed the two eldest lads to act as "firing squad."

I may say that I recently purchased a powerful air rifle with which the boys have done excellent target practice. I instructed the "firing squad" to fire as many rounds at the cornflowers in their mother's headgear as would be necessary to completely destroy the offensive flowers. There was practically no danger to my wife, as the boys have become efficient marksmen, and moreover, the situation demanded extra care on their part. Twenty-five rounds proved sufficient for the purpose, and beyond a slight abrasion on the right ear, caused by one of the pellets, my wife suffered no harm. Anyhow, the strain involved was sufficient punishment for her negligence.

As a further reminder, I ordered her to strip the hat of all trimmings, and to wear it without any for the space of two weeks.

I subsequently delivered an address to the entire family, taking as my theme: "Nothing possesses beauty which is considered beautiful by a German." As is customary, we concluded by singing the National Anthem.

I would suggest that we have a "Cornflower Destruction Day" in the city. Groups of loyal citizens could then thoroughly canvas the city and destroy any of the offensive plants they might find in people's gardens.

God save the King!

"RULE BRITANNIA."

SUB ROSA

Keeping to the beaten path of seriousness on which I started last week, I will continue for one week more. First I have something of interest to the ladies. It is merely a little comic incident in a world whose serious business is the reduction of as many human beings as possible into fertilizer. Now, don't get wild, Mr. Super-Patriot. I have supplied just as many relatives for that purpose as you have and I revere the dead a whole lot more than you do some of the living; the Editor of The Week, for instance. For a couple of minutes let's forget about the war which one fool madman started and which looks as though it will go on until we can rear a sane woman to stop it. Well the incident I began to speak about when you interrupted me was about a goat, a four-legged one this time. A man told me just this week that he had seen a goat which was kept slung up in a sling for seven months. This goat was restrained from its natural bent and cultivated as a hair switch producing beast for the benefit of cultured ladies like my wife who want me to look at life seriously. Incidently the owner of the goat got hundreds of dollars for his valet service his hair. Just what I will be hung for his hair, just what I will be hung for I have not yet decided. (By the way, the Provincial Government have a fine booklet on goat raising which they will give you for asking for.) B. C. is a first class place for increased goat production. It is not a very far cry from goats to sheep and right to my hand is the Ottawa pamphlet on the breeding of lambs for fur production. The first aim of the breeders is the successful production of first quality Persian Lambskins. The ladies will be glad to know that to obtain the best skins the young lambs must be killed at least before they are a week old. Only from experience can one know the best time to take the skin, for in some cases the curl will improve during the first two or three days while in others the sin is at its best shortly after birth, and in prematurely born lambs the skin has a peculiar gloss and softness. But why worry about the past life of the things we wear. The great thing is to see that onesself survives as long as possible, no matter what the cost to other men and creatures. Let the young cockrel and the German youth of 18 ask such fool questions as—

If I so soon am to be done for,
What the —— was I begun for?

• • •

For real downright bunkum, I don't think the following can be beat, even by me. It is from an article in a paper that calls itself "The World's Greatest Newspaper." The writer is describing the great improvements that have been made in the manufacture of artificial limbs, and says he "when I gave that wounded man who had lost a leg and a half something of the above explanation, you should have seen him light up. "Do you mean," he said, "that I can walk without a crutch?"

"You can," I replied, "with a scarcely perceptible limp. You can jump, run, even tango—you can perform every activity in life except, perhaps the job of a telephone lineman."

"I wonder," he said, with genuine wistfulness, "if they wouldn't let me back into the trenches?"

A great nation's newspaper diet is surely made up of some wonderful ingredients.

• • •

Habeas Corpus is the word of the hour this week. The Supreme Court of Canada is going to take a hand and it may interest you to know that the said Court is made up of Six Eminent Lawyers. I can tell you their names, but what their type of character, religion and social habits are, I know not. The Hon. Chief Justice Fitzpatrick, with the Honorable Davis, Idington, Duff, Anglin, and Brodeur compose the Court. They happen to be all Canadian-born gentlemen, I believe. The last-named introduced the first naval bill in a Dominion Parliament. Chief Justice Fitzpatrick was a British representative at the Hague one year. He is a specialist on international law, and once read a paper on Peace and Arbitration before the United States Senate which highly pleased that body. I don't know anything about Judges Idington and Anglin but Judge Davies was Minister of Marine and Fisheries in a Laurier Government, and the Hon. L. P. Duff, I am told, practised law in Victoria some fifteen or twenty years ago. He was also President of the Victoria Liberal Club if I am rightly informed. In silence we await the ruling of the solemn Court. May it neither fear for favours nor favour fear.

I. B. S. A. LECTURE

PRINCESS THEATRE
YATES STREET
SUNDAY, JULY 21
7:30 P.M.
SUBJECT:
"THE PRESENT CRISIS IN ECCLESIASTICISM"
SPEAKER: H. A. LIVERMORE
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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. On sale in Victoria by Dean & Hiscocks, Druggists, corner Yates and Broad Streets.

SOTTO VOCE

BY THE HORNET

☛ That Victoria can lay claim to producing citizens who live to a good ripe age.

That in the obituary column for one day five deaths were recorded and the ages were 70, 76, 79, 86 and 88.

That this is a remarkable record.

☛ That straws show the way the wind blows.

That the British Treasury has sanctioned the fusion of the London Joint Stock Bank with the London City and Midland Bank.

That the combined capital of these two banks is $35,000,000.

That the combined deposits amount to about $1,500,000,000.

That if the banks can only clear 2½% on the money they have the use of it will amount to as much as the whole of their capital every year.

That it's about time we established National Banks.

☛ That there is a little mining settlement on the coast of Queen Charlotte Island called Jedway.

That before the war it was a prosperous little community.

That all the available men have been taken for war purposes.

That now the population consists of a postmaster and a policeman.

☛ That the Northcliffe Press continues to urge intervention in Russia.

That British troops have already been landed on the Murman coast.

That the Russian Foreign Office has sent a request that they be re-embarked without delay.

That failure to do so will probably involve us in a war with Russia.

That the Allies being out for the freedom of small nations, Lord Northcliffe evidently does not consider us bound to consider Russia at all.

That she is not a SMALL nation, and—

That we must be very particular as to the KIND of freedom these nations get.

That it must not be the "made in Germany" brand.

That they MUST have freedom. We are determined about that, but—

That we cannot allow them freedom to choose their own kind of freedom.

That it must be the Lord Northcliffe, Lloyd George, Sir Robert Borden—English, French, Italian brand.

That all other nations (especially Russia) must be willing to accept that kind or go without.

That being a simple ignorant lot of people they ought to be very glad to have Lord Northcliffe fix up things for them, but—

That having once got the foolish notion into their head that freedom means freedom, it will be hard to convince them otherwise.

That if they could only come over to Canada and investigate things under "Orders in Council" they would find that the Lord Northcliffe, Lloyd George, Sir Robert Borden, English, French, Italian brand of freedom is only freedom to OBEY—not freedom to choose.

☛ That after July 1st it will cost $1.00 a month more to "hello."

That the Hornet would like to know how the B. C. Telephone Company can legally raise the rate on August 1st when their subscribers only receive the notice to this effect on July 19th.

(Continued from Page One)

The net result of his insidious and abominable trafficking is that the dependents of soldiers especially are face to face with an intolerable situation. Something must be done, and the question is: Who will do it and how is it to be accomplished? The Government at Ottawa, bound hand and foot to vested interests and big business, is the last source from which to look for relief. The "Union" Government was helped into power largely through the exertions of the very men who are responsible for the present state of affairs. And they were assisted—one might almost say whole-heartedly—by the very people who are the greatest sufferers today.

The *Colonist*, in commenting upon the situation, recently stated that the Government would in all probability take over the management of the Patriotic Fund ***next year!***

We fail to see how the situation is to be relieved even supposing the Government took it over next week. There is a strong feeling, which is gaining in support, that nothing short of a scheme whereby the soldier will be paid at a rate at least uniform with that of the skilled artisan is what common justice demands. A general income tax would have to be imposed to meet the extra outlay involved, but we do not think this would entail extra hardship on those ill able to bear it. It would be a means of recovering from the profiteering sharks a part, at least, of their ill-gotten gains. The profiteer must be suppressed. He is the greatest friend Germany has at the present time. *And he is to be found in Victoria as elsewhere.* Don't forget that!

A Labor Parliament

ALTHOUGH the Provincial by-election is now almost ancient history, the unique circumstances attending it have served to increase rather than diminish the interest which it created. In the case of former elections it has been found that the interest attaching to them languished rapidly after the declaration of the results. But the return of the soldier candidate in Victoria possesses a significance the importance of which cannot be over-estimated, hence the sustained interest that is everywhere to be met with.

Mr. Giolma's return by such a handsome majority was not, as some suppose, the result of a passing wave of sentiment. True, it is that public sympathy is overwhelmingly with the soldier, but this arises not from any superficial sentimentality, but from a deeply rooted conviction born of experience and observation that the soldiers and their dependents have not received, and are not likely to receive, the consideration at the hands of the present Governments to which they are justly entitled.

At Mr. Giolma's meeting in the Princess Theatre, one of the speakers rather effectively expressed the general feeling on the matter by stating that the election of the returned soldier would be the first nail driven into the coffin which will ultimately contain all that is mortal of party politics. If the war has accomplished anything of value, it has at least served to demonstrate the absolute failure of party political governments in the presence of grave crises, and the utter ineptitude of the old-time party politician when called upon to handle a delicate or serious problem. The very structure of the orthodox political party is such as to suppress rather than stimulate useful activity. The evidence in support of the belief that we are on the eve of a complete re-construction of the entire political and parliamentary fabric accumulates daily.

In Great Britain the recently issued Labor Manifesto is a proof that there the people are determined upon a more sensible and equitable system of government and representation. If what has happened in Victoria may be taken as indicative of the spirit which prevails throughout the Dominion, there is ample justification for the belief that the personal of the Provincial and Dominion Parliaments will be vastly different from what they now are. It may be safely be presumed, for example, that the returned soldier element will be much in evidence. This latter possibility has aroused in the minds of some unnecessary misgivings. These regard the advent of the returned man into the councils of the nation as a menace that will carry with it a tyranical despotism and will result in general blue ruin. These peoples show needless alarm. It would be infinitely safer to entrust the management of the country to men possessing the ideals and ability of the newly-elected member for Victoria than to those of the rubber stamp species who are nominated by political party conventions, and whose limitations are too apparent to warrant recapitulation.

That the forces of Labor must become indissolubly associated with the returned and disbanded soldiers' organizations is a foregone conclusion. *Their interests are identical.* Moreover, the fact cannot be too strongly emphasized that the majority of the men in khaki are drawn from the ranks of labor and are still members of labor organizations. We would strongly recommend that something in the nature of concerted action and a complete understanding as to the aims of these bodies be achieved without delay. The decision of local labor to support Mr. Giolma was a laudable step which ought to be followed up. The exigencies of the future demand that the people shall be *represented* on the councils of the nation in the truest sense of the word. At present they are either mis-represented or un-represented.

PROFITEERING—EXTRACTS FROM AN ARTICLE BY LA FOLLETTE

To our everlasting shame it must be confessed that the commercial depravity of selfish interests is so base as to make it necessary for the government,—even at the expense of the highest administrative efficiency,—to guard itself every moment of time against the greed and knavery of "100 per cent patriots,"—not "pro-Germans," but plain American war-hogs, wallowing in war profits at the expense of the overburdened taxpayers of the country.

It is a long story of disloyalty and greed for gain which the Commerce Committee, I hope, will bring to the attention of the American people."

Look at the result as measured in the profits of a few of these corporations for the year 1916.

The war profits of those given are for 1916 together with the percentage of such war profits above the average profits for 1911, 1912 and 1913:

American Agricultural Chemical Co., $2,969,918, over 100 per cent.

American Beet Sugar Co., $4,880,027, over 250 per cent.

American Hide & Leather Co.. $1,309,082, over 250 per cent.

American Steel Foundries Co., $2,900,618, nearly 600 per cent.

American Zinc, Lead & Smelting Co., $9,110,584, about 4,500 per cent.

Anaconda Copper Co., $47,151,795, over 400 per cent.

Armour & Co. $15,393,358, over 350 per cent.

Barrett Co., (American Coal Products Co.), $3,025,942, over 200 per cent.

Bethlehem Steel Corporation, $40,518,860, over 1,300 per cent.

Central Leather Co., $12,016,398, over 350 per cent.

E. I. DePont de Nemours Co. (du Pont Powder Co.), $76,581,729, over 1,400 per cent.

Standard Oil Co. of New York, $20,425,510, over 100 per cent.

United States Steel Corporation, $207,945,953, over 300 per cent.

Think of these profits to which the toiling millions of this country were forced to contribute in higher prices, because the trusts were selling everything at robber rates to the unfortunate Allies which it was possible to find ships to carry abroad!

What has happened as to the cost of living since we entered the war?

Let the official figures as prepared by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Labor answer.—

From the Monthly Crop Report Prepared by the Secretary of Agriculture

Articles	Prices 1917	1916
Coal oil, gallon	$ .162	$ .143
Gasoline, gallon	.275	.23
Coffee, pound	.27	.258
Flour, barrel	12.15	9.75
Lard, pound	.298	.199
Starch, pound	.101	.075
Sugar, pound	.10	.082
Tobacco, plug, lb.	.58	.47
Brooms, each	.80	.53
Dish pans, tin, each	.65	.45
Dinner plates ½ dz	.95	.87
Fruit jars, dozen	.95	.60
Kitchen chairs,	1.20	.92
Lamps, each	.83	.64
Stoves, each	37.00	29.00
Tin pails, each	.44	.32
Wooden buckets	.63	.45
Wooden washtubs	1.27	.95
Gloves, pair	1.25	.95
Hats, felt, each	2.75	2.25
Jumpers, each	1.52	1.10
Overalls, pair	1.54	1.14
Men's suits, each	20.75	16.50
Raincoats, each	6.60	5.50
Rubber boots, pair	4.70	4.25
Shirts, flannel, each	2.35	1.75
Shoes, pair	3.70	2.80
Calico, yard	.123	.084
Muslin, yard	.177	.116
Sheeting, yard	.33	.23
Axes, each	1.48	1.12
Barb wire, 100 lbs.	5.40	4.25
Dung forks, each	1.15	.90
Hatchets, each	.96	.70
Lanterns, each	1.10	.85
Nails, 100 lbs.	5.75	4.25
Padlocks, each	.43	.31
Pitchforks, each	1.00	.80
Pincers, each	.82	.62
Saws, buck, each	1.25	1.05
Screw hooks, box	.66	.50
Shotguns, each	19.25	16.50
Shovels, each	1.22	.95
Staples, 100 lbs.	6.20	4.60
Steel wire, 100 lbs.	6.30	4.60
Wire fence, rod	.53	.42
Axle grease, box	.145	.129
Buggies, each	94.00	80.00
Buggy whips, each	.605	.50
Corn knives, each	.47	.36
Churns, each	3.50	2.70
Cream separators	80.00	68.80
Grindstones, each	4.16	3.35
Halters, each	1.52	1.20
Harness, each	22.00	17.00
Horse blankets,	3.65	2.90
Hoes, each	.67	.53
Harrows, each	19.60	14.60
Manure spreaders	155.00	123.00
Mowers, each	65.00	53.00
Picks, each	1.07	.81
Plows, each	19.50	14.25
Cultivators, each	24.70	19.00
Sprayers, hand,	2.30	2.00
Scythes, each	1.41	1.20
Saddles, each	34.00	25.00
Tedders, each	52.00	44.00
Wagons, single,	59.00	55.50
Wagons, double	105.00	84.00
Wheelbarrows, each	4.80	3.60
Carbolic acid, crude	.70	.55
Copperas, pound	.13	.105
Libe, barrel	1.85	1.50
Tiles, 3-in. 100 feet	5.60	4.20
Portland cement	1.05	.85
Paris green, lb.	.61	.43
Bordeaux mixture	.75	.65
Sulphur, lb.	.106	.095
Baskets, ½-bushel.	.55	.43
Milk cans, 10-gal.	4.50	3.10
Milk pails, each	.75	.53
Linseed oil, gallon.	1.50	1.10
Paint, mixed, gal.	2.89	2.20
Paint brushes, each	.91	.70
Rope, hemp, lb.	.315	.21
Sacks, grain, each.	.30	.20
Twine, binder, lb.	.231	.15
Coal, ton	8.20	6.80
Lumber, 1-in. 100-ft	3.10	2.25
Shingles, 1,000	5.10	4.20
Apple Barrels, each	.43	.33
Fertilizer, ton	32.00	27.00
Bone meal, ton	48.00	38.00
Salt, for stock, bbl.	2.30	1.75

I submit further the average prices of certain staple foods on the 15th of February in 1916 as compared with the prices on the same articles February 15, 1917.

The prices are taken from the Monthly Review of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Vol. VI, April, 1918, Number 4, page 138:

Average price, Feb. 15

Article	1916	1917
Sirloin Steak, lb.	$0.257	$0.287
Round steak, lb.	.228	.260
Eggs, dozen	.349	.506
Butter, lb.	.378	.469
Cheese, lb.	.248	.315
Milk, quart	.089	.100
Bread, 16 ounces	.062	.071
Flour, pound	.041	.056
Corn Meal, lb.	.033	.041
Potatoes, lb	.025	.051
Beans, navy	.092	.149
Sugar, lb.	.068	.081

These increasing prices may be in part attributed to inflation. But they are principally due to the unrestrained greed of the profiteers.

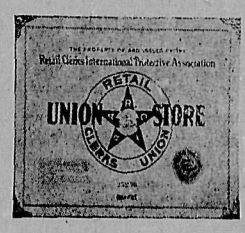
Cost of Living Continues to Rise

Ottawa, July 17.—A continuance of the upward tendency of the cost of living is shown in the Labor Department's report on food prices for the month of June. The average cost of a family budget of staple foods in some sixty cities in the middle of June was $12.77, as against $12.66 for May, $11.89 for June, 1917, and $7.35 for June, 1914. In prices the advance in meat, coal, wood, coal oil and eggs continued.

In wholesale prices the departmental index number was up to 280.6 as compared with 275.8 in May.

EXPENSE FUND

Deficit, July 8th	$ 96.90
Expenses for Week	54.70
	$151.60
Receipts for Week	24.60
Deficit, July 15	$127.00



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO TRADE UNIONISTS

The following firms are fair to Organized Labour and should receive the support of all good Unionists. See that your wife places her orders with them :

J. N. HARVEY, Gent's Furnishings.....614 Yates Street
RICHARDSON & STEPHENS (Fite Rite), Gents Furnishings, Yates and Government Sts.
THE MODERN SHOE COMPANY.....Corner Government and Yates Streets
WESTERN GROCERY COMPANY.....765 Fort Street
McKENZIE STREET GROCER.....335 Cook Street
DAN POUPARD, Fruit Specialist.....Douglas Street
CUMING & CO., Gents Furnishings.....727 Yates Street
O. H. DORMAN, Gents Furnishings.....1328 Government Street

JULY 24: CLERKS' MONSTER PICNIC,
Experimental Farm
Our Slogan: Every Clerk a Union Clerk: All Will Be Welcome!

Watch For the Retail Clerks' Store Card

THE MODERN SHOE CO'Y CARRIES IT

Trade Unionists Welcomed. Good Values, Good Wages, But Low Prices. Every Dollar Spent Here is a Dollar in Aid of the Organized Labour Movement.

Corner Government and Yates Streets