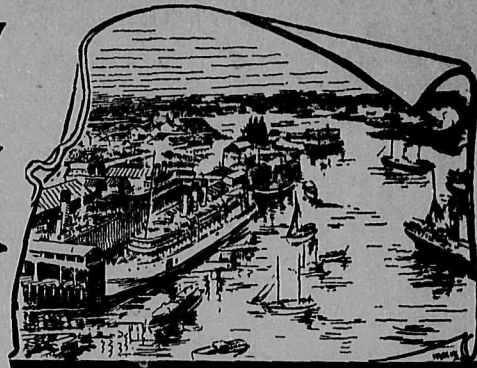




NEXT WEEK---International Labor Day

The Week

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Temperance, Single Tax and Sane Socialism



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"OH! CANADA"

Plain Talking—and Talking Plainly

The time has come in this fateful struggle for the plainest of plain speaking.—Colonist, April 20.

FOR once we heartily agree with our morning contemporary. "The time has come for plain speaking," and we propose to do our share of it—and to ask the *Colonist* to come out straight and say what it has to say and not be continually making suggestions that it cannot possibly back up. Over and over again the *Colonist* has hinted at pro-German propaganda in Victoria. It did so last Friday and Saturday but it does not dare come out with a statement of who the propagandists are. This is not plain speaking. It is only insinuation. If the *Colonist* knows of a single case in Victoria of any one who is engaged in German propaganda or has received a cent of German money let it come out boldly and say who he is and THE WEEK will join in an effort to run him to earth. The *Colonist* can do nothing of the sort and is afraid to do the plain speaking it talks about. If it means by its insinuations that any of the staff of THE WEEK are pro-Germans and are receiving in any whatever German money for their work, we brand the *Colonist* at once as a liar.

The *Colonist* is so obsessed with the idea that patriotism consists in blindly following our leaders, no matter where or what they lead to, that it has lost all sense of discrimination. What it needs is not so much plain speaking as a little plain thinking.

Mr. William Hard, in his article, "Down With Talk! On With the War!", in the May *Metropolitan*, says all rulers like to attribute their failure to the propaganda of the enemy. When there is a strike in any German munition plant, the German Government attributes it to American propaganda. Every country has its "propaganda." We have ours. "Doubtless the "German propaganda" in Italy was excellent. But no "propaganda" does any good unless it has some local discontent, some local distrust to feed on."

This is what the *Colonist* fails to recognize. The grave unrest that exists in every country on the face of the earth. It sees this unrest in Germany, and every effort of the Socialist Party there to overthrow Prussianism is hailed with keen delight, and yet at the same time it argues that the American Socialist Party, which it claims is only a branch of this same German Socialist Party, is working against the Allies in favor of the Hollenzollerns.

This is not plain speaking: It is plain poppy cock.

Before the *Colonist* is entitled to expect "plain speaking," it must learn to "speak plain."

We would recommend the *Colonist* to read the whole of Mr. Hard's article. It is not a pacifist article by any means, but it is full of sense—and that is what we are after. He points out the difference between the statement of war aims as laid down by the Versailles assemblage and those of the British Labor Party.

The former reads: "The Supreme War Council decided that the only immediate task before them lay in the prosecution of the war with the utmost vigor and the closest and the most effective co-operation of the military efforts of the Allies until such time as the pressure of these efforts shall have brought about in the enemy governments and peoples a change of temper which would justify the hope of the conclusions of peace on terms which would not involve the abandonment in the face of an aggressive and unrepentant militarism, of all the principles of freedom, justice and respect for the laws of nations which the Allies are resolved to vindicate."

There you have a statement that sounds fine but gets us absolutely nowhere. As Mr. Hard says: "It is the sort of definition that any set of diplomats can put together at any time, for any side in any war. It is a definition in the diplomatic sense—in common sense it is no definition at all."

Compare it with that of the Labor Party. They laid down certain ideas with regard to conquered territories. They laid down certain ideas with regard to colonies and dependences. They demanded the absolute freedom and integrity of Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro and Roumania. They contemplated certain territorial changes. They outlined a League of Nations. They sketched through the League an international co-operation for the reducing of armaments. They proposed a vast reorganization and reconstruction, democratic, of which "the peoples themselves must be the guarantors." And they spoke as the representatives of a great and powerful organization, so great, so influential, politically, that no government could or can prevent them from speaking.

"We stand for the immediate establishment actually as part of the treaty of peace with which the present war will end, of a universal league of nations, a supernational authority with an international high court to try all justiciable issues between nations and an international legislature to enact such common laws as can be mutually agreed upon, and an international council of mediation to endeavor to settle without ultimate conflict even those disputes which are not justiciable. We would have all the nations of the world most solemnly undertake and promise to make common cause against any one of these that break away from this fundamental agreement."

Will the *Colonist* try to prove that this is pro-German or can it understand talk as plain as that?

Look What We Are Up Against—

This Is the Law

(1) It shall be an offence:

(a) To print, publish or publicly express an adverse or unfavorable statement, report or opinion concerning the causes of the present war or the motives or purposes for which Canada or the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland or any of the Allied nations entered upon or prosecutes the same, which may tend to arouse hostile feeling, create unrest, or unsettle or inflame public opinion.

(b) To print, publish or publicly express any adverse or unfavorable statement, report or opinion concerning the action of Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland or any Allied nation in prosecuting the war.

(c) To print, or give public expression or circulation to any false statement or report respecting the work or activities of any department, branch or officer of the public service, or the service or activities of Canada's military or naval forces in the prosecution of the war.

(d) To print, publish or publicly express any statement, report or opinion which may tend to weaken or in any way detract from the united effort of the people of Canada in the prosecution of the war.

(e) To print, publish or publicly express any report of or to purport to describe or to refer to the proceedings of any secret session of the House of Commons or Senate held in pursuance of a resolution passed by the said House or Senate, except such report thereof as may be officially communicated through the director of public information.

(f) Without lawful authority to publish the contents of any confidential document belonging to or any confidential information obtained from any government department or any persons in the service of His Majesty.

(2) Any person found guilty of any offence hereunder shall upon summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for not more than five years, or to both fine and imprisonment.

Now, then, everybody join in the chorus. Look out for the high note and don't laugh when you come to the last line:—

*Oh! Canada, we stand on guard for thee,
And with our lives we'll guard thy Li—ber—ty.*

Here is something tangible that anybody can understand, something that the people of any country will be willing to stand behind in earnest and say: "We will agree to this and the governments that won't agree will have to get out."

But killing of Germans, as Mr. Hard says, whether in millions or tens of millions, will not do any good. When we are through with this killing business—when we have wiped off the earth every man in the German Army—and swept from the sea every man in the German Navy, we shall still have the German Nation to settle with, and if the spirit of domination does not then exist there it will only have been transferred to some other nation. It will still be just as necessary to form a League of Nations for the world's protection; and we shall then have to do exactly the same thing that we might do now.

The *Colonist* seems to have got it into its head that the way to make the world safe for humanity is by silencing those who dare to disagree with the Union Government. This accounts for whole-hearted approval given to the new press regulations.

We willingly give it credit for being in earnest in the matter. So are we in earnest—very much so. We are just as ready as anyone to fight Prussianism to the last ditch, but unlike the *Colonist* we do not discriminate between the imported and the domestic article.

Some little time ago a certain doctor of law is reported on pretty good authority as saying in reference to some men who were being

bitterly persecuted: "Refrain from these men, and let them alone; for if this council or this work be of men it will come to naught; but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God."

The advice of Gamaliel is as good today as it was then.

The undercurrent of Pacifism that is permeating the whole world today is not German propaganda—Germany has nothing to do with it—it is the voice of God himself, the still small voice speaking through the common people. It may be possible by Act of Parliament to silence the speakers. It may be possible to destroy them altogether. But the voice itself can never be silenced. It will continue to speak until its message is heard and heeded by every government on earth.

Bolsheviki

Its Programme and Possible Influence as an Industrial and Political Factor

The condemnation by the subsidised press of this and other countries (Germany included) of the Bolsheviki should incline one to a calm, dispassionate study of its purposes and more especially as its influence and growth is attracting world-wide attention and interest.

Facing a break-down in the present system of industrialism or social order which is daily manifesting its inability to meet the ever changing conditions brought about by the world war, any contribution toward a solution of our present difficulties should receive at least a respectful hearing.

With this object alone in view, The Week presents to its readers the salient features of the Bolsheviki programme, compiled from information supplied by one of its adherents, a gentleman in close touch with Petrograd.

It is not until an examination and analysis of the social structure under capitalism and Bolshevism is made that one is able to discover the apparent reason for the hostility and alarm, the latter has occasioned in financial and administrative circles or the reason for refusing to give the Bolsheviki recognition by the Governments of Great Britain, France and the United States.

Before entering upon the subject matter of this article, it might be well to point out that the peace pourparlees of the Bolsheviki have been practically reaffirmed by the Allies as an acceptable basis of negotiation. The spread, however, of this new doctrine among the workers of Europe presents a greater menace to the present order of industrialism than any issue which may have led to a conflict between the world powers for world domination. It presents an open challenge to capitalism and seeks to remove the evils inherent in that system by an immediate overthrow of the system itself. In doing so it presents the worker with a formula for acquiring control of the industrial and political machinery from those now in power. It claims to be constructive in purpose, determined and uncompromising in the manner in which these changes should be made, international in its workings and humane in its application. It infuses the warmth into its administrative machinery which is absent today. Proclaims for universal peace and understandings instead of war and the debauchery of the workers. It is for happiness and prosperity as against poverty and uncertainty, attaining this through a systematic, scientific application of industry to the needs of the people. Bolshevism is a combination of the Socialists' and Syndicalists' platform, political action and industrial control by the workers themselves.

THE BOLSHEVIKI

To fully understand the Bolsheviki (Russian word for majority) and its social programme, it would be necessary to understand the government that preceded it. In this way only do we gain a proper historical perspective which will enable us to judge for ourselves what relationship the Russian social upheaval bears to similar upheavals in England when Magna Charter was demanded, or again, when Cromwell broke the Arrogance of the British monarchy, or again, when the prospering American Bourgeois capitalists threw off the yoke of George III. In order to understand the social system of any given period in the evolution of human progress it is necessary to examine the fundamental economic structure on which that social organism is based and to enquire into the method of administration. By economic aspect it means the method employed in securing a livelihood (food, clothing and shelter), in other words, the method of production.

By the administrative aspect is meant the governing or method of administering the productive forces so as to insure a continuous subsistence with the greatest amount of leisure for the ruling class, and the establishment of laws, rules, morals and customs therewith. To simplify this reasoning we will draw a simple diagram of the feudal system as it once existed in England, in France and in Russia on the outbreak of the present war.

FEUDALISM.

ECONOMIC ASPECT.

Land is the dominant factor in production and the chief source of subsistence.

The land is owned by big landlords and agriculture is carried on by peasant communities, who work for a bare subsistence, being slaves to the land which they do not own.

Eighty-five per cent of the population is engaged in agriculture and the remaining 15 per cent constitutes the professional and middle classes and the rising capitalist and his wage workers. These latter are virtually slaves to the industry they do not own.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECT.

The administration of feudal rule is conducted by a Czar or autocrat having arbitrary power and supported by a caste of nobles who share in the system of private ownership in the essentials to life and gain subsistence therefrom. The nobility performs no useful labor, but holds in its command the army and navy, which constitutes the force necessary for the protection of their interests.

In opposition to this system stands the rising bourgeois or capitalist, who, having acquired wealth and power from his private ownership and control of industry, seeks now also to control the government, to make laws and to establish customs for the conservation of his own interests as opposed to those of the feudal caste.

The agitation for reform and political representation is carried on against the Feudal regime by the rising commercial element, or capitalist, and in order to strengthen their position they enlist the moral support of the large mass of peasantry by promises of land grants, and the support of their wage workers by promises of political liberty, freedom of speech, of the press and public assemblage. By this means was established the first Duma or People's Parliament in opposition to the old order of things. As in England, in France and in America, feudal power is finally overthrown and the power usurped by the capitalist, who, having now acquired complete economic power, dominates also the administrative function and proceeds to make laws in his own interests, disregarding the interests of producers and consumers entirely. Such a government was established under Premier Rodzianko, and later perpetuated in a milder form under Kerensky. This form of society was not acceptable to the Russian working class, who perceived its failure as an alleviator of distress in countries where capitalism held full sway, as in England, France and the United States.

The economic and administrative aspects of Russian capitalism were identical with those of Canada, the United States and England, as shown by the following diagram:—

CAPITALISM.

ECONOMIC ASPECT.

The dominant factor in production, namely, land and machinery, is operated socially by the working class and owned privately by the capitalist class for production for profit (dividends) in the following essentials to life:

1. Manufacturing industries.
2. Agriculture.
4. Transportation and telegraphs.
5. Distribution as wholesalers, commission merchants and middlemen.
6. Government services, soldiers, police, hospitals, jails, etc., etc.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECT.

While such industry is managed by the individual owning it, or by a board of directors, a special political administration is necessary for making laws, etc., in the general interest of a capitalist class.

To accomplish this, the capitalist calls a convention by means of his various associations, such as manufacturers, grain and fruit growers, railroad owners, wholesalers, etc., and then nominates from among his number certain individuals for political office, to represent his interest in Parliament. Such nominees are relegated to certain territorial districts or geographical constituencies in which electoral contests are held. The voting is done by an organized mob of men and women, who are swayed by prejudice, political promises, trickery and sentimental clap-trap. The candidate so elected is not responsible to the electors, but to the capitalist class who nominated him. When the electors manifest their displeasure with him, he will refer to the mass as a howling mob, and his press and pulpit show their contempt for the voters by using this same term. The candidates elected, whether Liberal or Conservative, represent the interest of the capitalist only and are of their own number, and they become the recognized government of the country.

The above diagram of society represents the present state of affairs, and it will be seen how little use is the political liberty accorded the working class without a corresponding liberty in the ownership and control of essential industries. Hence it becomes imperative if the workers are to accomplish their historic emancipation that they organize themselves on the economic field into powerful industrial units with the avowed purpose of gaining complete possession and control of the economic power. Such organization implies a complete change in the administrative function, as will be seen by the following diagram of the new order known as

BOLSHEVIKISM OR SOCIALISM

ECONOMIC ASPECT.

The working class, owning all the essential industries, not only continues to operate them socially, but proclaims them social property, owned and controlled by the working class.

Production is carried on for use, not for profit, the organized

ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECT.

The political administration formerly instituted as an adjunct to class rule ceases and an economic administration of labor takes its place.

Instead of holding elections in geographical districts or constituencies, the elections are held in

workers receiving the equivalent of all they produce.

Machinery for the first time is employed as an emancipator of mankind, making possible a higher and nobler existence for all.

Under Socialism, the principal labor organizations are grouped as follows:

1. All industrial workers and their affiliations.
2. All farm workers.
3. Miners, smelter men, etc.
4. Transportation and telegraphs.
5. Distribution workers, as retail drivers, hotel and restaurant workers.
6. Soldiers, government service, jails, police, hospitals, banks, schools, etc.

the various economic organizations of labor, where recognized merit and ability is nominated and elected to a local board of directors, known as Soviet, or local soldiers' and workmen's council.

The council or Soviet truly represents the interests of labor in every occupation, and the former owners of industry, once known as capitalists, are invited to join the ranks of labor, to float or sink according to merit and ability, and they will be accorded equal privilege with other toilers and paid in accordance with their service to society. They also shall receive the full product of their toil.

These local Soviets choose other delegates to the national administration, which becomes the government of the country. Under this administration, rent, interest and profit cease. The workers own the industrial machinery, and consequently the manufactured products, and the selling price represents the value of labor expended in their manufacture. Church and state become completely divorced.

The legal fraternity and judiciary are abolished. Criminal offenses against the state are tried by a local jury, which impose the sentence. Capital punishment is also abolished. Banks and bank deposits are proclaimed state property and become an adjunct to the national industrial fabric. Depositors are compensated on sums up to \$5,000.

All national debts and obligations contracted by the old regime are repudiated and all legal papers based on the private ownership in the necessities of life become null and void.

In Russia, the arming of the working class soldiery furnished the means for their emancipation, but not without fierce opposition from both feudal lord and capitalist, supported by loyal Cossacks. In Germany, Austria and the Allied countries the hostility toward the Bolsheviks by the capitalist (his press and pulpit) is equally marked. To crush the Bolsheviks has become the chief war aim of the international capitalist class, and it should be the aim of the international Socialist movement to prevent this.

Not only is the Bolsheviks menaced from the rear by the armed supporters of the old regime, but he is simultaneously confronted by the blood thirsty, rapacious Hun and his loyal imperial troops, who are determined to crush the working class. If under such conditions the Bolsheviks is compelled to sign a treaty of peace, it will be a treaty extorted under painful duress, and consequently null and void by the code of international law and the German law as well. An agreement to be binding must be entered into by parties who are free and equal, not by an armed highwayman compelling a signature from a defenceless being at the pistol's point.

Whether the Russian Socialist republic is to be carved up between Germany and Japan at the request of the international capitalists remains to be seen. Of this we are sure: The economic oppression which has created Bolsheviks and Socialists will continue to create Bolsheviks and Socialists. The germ of knowledge and discontent is not destroyed by oppression but husbanded and cultivated thereby. It will eventually sweep the ruling class into oblivion. "Without the capitalist ploughman the Socialist farmer could not succeed."

Criticizing Russia

ACCORDING to the new regulations, no one is allowed to "print, publish, or publicly express any adverse or unfavorable statement, report, or opinion concerning the action of Canada, Great Britain and Ireland or any Allied nation in prosecuting the war." This leaves it open for us to say all we like about Russia. She is no longer an ally and she is not "prosecuting the war," so we presume we may be permitted to criticize her to our heart's content. In doing so, let us make it perfectly clear that it is Russia we are criticizing and not any other country.

A short time ago—about a month as near as our memory serves us—our morning contemporary made the statement that the present Russian Government (or misgovernment) had amongst other equally atrocious things gone to the extent of seizing all the press in the countries and suppressing all those who were publishing anything that they considered likely to endanger the Russian Revolution. That they had in fact simply put the screw on any publication which they thought represented the old capitalistic regime. THE WEEK joins with Auntie in saying "Naughty, Naughty" to the Bolsheviks. How could you do such a thing? No truly democratic government would ever dream of it—and no free country ought to stand for it for an instant. But then, of course, the Russians are only a very simple folk who need to be "shown how" by more advanced countries—like Canada. We don't do things like that. If we did the *Colonist* would be up in arms at once.

The great fault we find with the foolish Bolsheviks is that they condemn other people for doing the same thing they do themselves. Evidently they consider that right and wrong is more a matter of geography than morality.

Then the Russians are so careless about the rights of property. When they want a thing, if we can believe the reports as they come through our truthful dailies—they simply take it—that is if it is a "thing" and not a "person." A little question like the conscription of vacant lots would be settled by them in less time than it takes the editor of the *Colonist* to sharpen his pencil—but then, of course, they don't know any better.

According to the New York *World*, in certain emergencies the Bolsheviks are as capitalistic as anybody else. For example, "When they are short of money they raid the banks, and some of their more enthusiastic disciples make levies upon stockings." Oh! Russia, Russia, what are you coming to? Have you no regards for the rights of property? We don't do things like that in our country. We protect the poor little banks and don't allow the cruel public to get after them.

But this statement of the New York *World*, means if it means anything, that it is a capitalistic characteristic to raid banks—and we are not inclined to quarrel with the definition. We sympathize with the poor Bolsheviks who unskilled in currency manipulation, take the crudest way of securing bank assets. It is capitalistic in a small way, no doubt, but as bank raiders the Bolsheviks have a good deal to learn from some of our modern financiers.

New Press Regulations

THE WEEK is not yet in receipt of an official copy of the new regulations dealing with the printing and publishing of seditious literature. This will no doubt come to hand in due time and in the meantime we must presume that the copy as issued in the daily press is correct.

The *Times*, in commenting on it, says that, "It does not think that the press of Canada will stand for it for ten minutes—that is, if it is interpreted literally."

If it is subject to their interpretation they are quite satisfied with it.

This is a very good way of looking at things. Taken literally we can't stand for these regulations, but let us all put our own interpretation on them and we will O.K. the whole lot.

The *Colonist* endorses them holus bolus, of course. Anything that come officially from Ottawa must be swallowed in British Columbia without a word of protest.

THE WEEK refrains from making any comment until it is in receipt of the official copy.

In the meantime it defies the owners of either of the local dailies to allow their respective editors to say just what they like for a week. Our armies in France are hammering away at the poor German soldiers because that is the only way they have of striking at Prussianism. We also hammer away at our local editors because that is the only way we have at hitting at Local Prussianism, but we have no animosity against them personally and would be only too delighted to hear them speak out what they really think themselves. We feel sure it would cause quite a flurry in Victoria.

Going Forward—Not Backward

DESPITE appearances, the Russian revolution is not fighting for its life; that is an illusion; what is fighting for life is the thing that opposes it; that is the fact that underlies the appearance. Twelve months from now the Russian revolution will be just that much farther advanced than it is now, and it will, besides, have infected to a far greater extent the proletariat of all other lands, including that of the autocratic enemy, though the present agony of the Russian people may be even increased rather than diminished. It will not even be left to fight its own fight unaided, for the entire "civilized world" is, though unintentionally, fighting its battle. Let us remember, while recalling the tremendous events of the last twelve months, not only in Russia, but throughout the world, that that world, after all, never goes backward; that progress is the reality; retrogression the illusion.—*New York Call*.



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.)

From Darkness to Light

To the Editor of The Week:

Sir—Since the hypocritical clergy has taken action to stop the true gospel from the people, I call to your attention some of the dark doings with which they hold the people in ignorance.

A structure of enlightenment is to be built in this land, which, to finish, every man of intellectual power must contribute. For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.—Habakkuk, 2:14.

The structure which I refer to is the structure of "Spiritual Liberty," as the spiritual part of man must have room to expand and grow, the same as any other God given privilege that man is blessed with. God who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the accurate knowledge of the truth.—I. Timothy, 2:4.

Unless we grow in faith we become dwarfs in the worship of God. Those who go forth into the world and profess to be the teachers of men should be giants of intellect and fully prepared to contribute to this monument of spiritual liberty. But we are not so doing; instead of preaching the gospel of glad tidings some of them have preached recruiting.

Many say they do not feel that they possess the ability to contribute to this structure of spiritual liberty, but I say none who possess the power to reason are exempt, for if they cannot place in the arch of this structure the golden keystone, which is Jesus Christ, that shall securely bind this structure together, they can carry mortar or stones, which are as imperative in this structure is the polished "capstone" which completes this

great pyramid of emancipation.

I do desire to contribute my mite towards the completeness of this grand structure of free thought, which when completed will stand out upon the horizon of time as a towering monument to Christ and His cause.

Roman Catholicism, as taught by our modern priests and inspired by the papal power at Rome, is naught but the distant rumblings of an antiquated chariot of darkness.

No wonder Apostle Paul said: For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.—Acts, 20:29.

These are the words of a man who had been a Roman Catholic priest for thirty long years. He says: "I was bound to this bewitching spirit of darkness by the cords of superstition, and never dared to look above my blind superiors for wisdom until a 'something,' which I will call fate, broke the wisdom's dungeon and permitted the light of spiritual liberty to filter through my being, which awoke reason and common sense."

A. SUTHERLAND.

Mr. Dooley on Industry

'Tis a strange thing when we come to think it that th' less money a man gets for his wurruk th' more necessary it is to th' wurruk that he shud go on wurrukin'. Ye'er boss can go to Paris on a combination wedding an' divooree thrip an' no wan bothers his head about him. But if ye shud go to Paris—excuse me f'r laughin' meself black in th' face—th' industrues iv the counthry pines away.

MINERAL ACT

(Form F.)

Certificate of Improvements

NOTICE.

Arrow Mineral Claim, situate in the Victoria Mining Division of Sooke District.

Where located: On lot 93, Sooke District. TAKE NOTICE that, Wallace C. Munkley, of Victoria, B. C., the lawful holder of the above named mineral claim, Free Miners Certificate No. 17198-C, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant for the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37 must be commenced before the issue of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 24th day of April, A. D. 1918. WALLACE C. MUNKLEY, Owner. Victor Vigilius, Agent.



That it will be time for us to quit when these other two parties "butt in."

That readers are asked to watch for announcements of the next meeting of the new Labor Party.

That Dooley says "Workers of the world unite! You have nothing to use but your brains, and you haven't got any."

Dr. Naumann, in his Berlin paper writes this: "The great majority of the German people do not desire revolution if it can be avoided by timely measures. It would be fatal, however, to believe that the revolutionary wave from the East can be stopped either by the police, the censor, or the pressure of Government. When the caldron is beginning to bubble over there is no means of stilling it except by quenching the fires which are the sources of its agitation, and they cannot be quenched by a counter irritation which would only add to their fuel until the whole system is ablaze."

A few more miles of copy like that and there will be hope even for the Germans.

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

(From a sermon preached by John Haynes Holmes at the Church of the Messiah, New York, December 30, 1917, published in full in Unity, January 17th, 1918.)

A third happening of 1917, and this the most important of all, still remains to be spoken of. I refer, of course, to the Russian Revolution, which I believe to be the greatest event of modern times. I realize that it is unpopular these days to wax enthusiastic over this vast overturn of the Romanoffs. The drift of public sentiment in regard to this Russian Revolution is following exactly the same course today as the drift of public sentiment in regard to the French Revolution a century and a quarter ago. When the French people took matters into their own hands in 1789, the people of England went wild with enthusiasm. Delight was only increased by the burning of the Bastille in July, and the abolition of class privileges in August. As the Revolution, however, marched on, and came more and more into the hands of what was called the mob, sentiment across the channel began visibly to change, and it was not long before England was not only opposing the Revolutionists, but actually taking up arms against them.

So with the Russian Revolution! At first, everybody was overjoyed by the overthrow of the Czar, and the triumph of the people. Then, in Russia, as earlier in France, we began to discover that these people were different people from what we had imagined. They had ideas which we could not accept, and were doing things with their country which seemed highly reprehensible from our viewpoint if not their own. Steadily, therefore, during the past six months our enthusiasm has been cooling off; and while we are not ready as yet to regard the Russians as enemies, we have long since ceased to think of them as friends. Now all this to my mind is inexcusable. We are blind leaders of the blind, indeed, if we cannot see what is going on in Russia, and have confidence in the ultimate outcome. My faith in the wonder of the great movement is absolutely unshaken, in spite of all follies and disasters, for a variety of reasons.

In the first place, I believe that we must give the Revolution time to do its work. What right have we to demand, what has never yet been accomplished in the history of mankind, the successful organization of a great people, suddenly emancipated from tyranny, in a period of half a year? Recall, if you will, the chronology of the French Revolution. It was on the 14th of July, 1789, that the Mob of Paris captured and burned the Bastille. It was more than three years later, in September, 1792, that the Revolutionary armies met the invaders of republican France on the field of Valmy. It was exactly five years later, in July, 1794, that Robespierre was guillotined, and the Reign of Terror brought to an end. We are expecting the Russians, in other words, to accomplish in six months, under the most unfavorable conditions, what it took the French almost as many years to accomplish! Or take the chronology of our own American Revolution. The fighting ended with the victory of Yorktown in the fall of 1781. Two years later, in 1783, came the treaty of peace between England and America. Then succeeded six long years of disorganization, confusion, lawlessness, with no central government of any kind to hold together the thirteen separate colonies. In telling the tale of this unhappy period of our history, John Fiske entitles one of his chapters, "Drifting Toward Anarchy," and the story of disorder which he there narrates, is one which we find it most convenient to forget. Not until 1789 was the constitutional convention assembled in Philadelphia, and national sovereignty at last established. It is well for us to be patient with the Russians. If they do as well as our fathers did, in a period not of months but of years, they will be doing well.

Secondly, I have faith in the Russian situation, because the Revolution is a fundamental thing. All the democracies which the world has seen thus far, have been exclusively political democracies. Economic and industrial conditions have remained absolutely autocratic, with the fatal result of "a house divided against itself." Now the wonderful thing

about the Russian Revolution is that it is economic as well as political. The Russians have gone to the bottom of democracy, and are dealing not merely with the question of political institutions, but with the questions of land, of industrial employment, of public ownership, and so on. That they will be able to answer all of these questions today, or even tomorrow, is of course impossible. But they are facing them as an essential part of the social problem, and are thus at least well started on the way toward the establishment of the first real democracy the world has ever seen.

Again, I have faith in the Russian Revolution because I have faith in the Russian people. No race in the world is possessed of finer qualities of genius. Especially is this true in the higher fields of moral and spiritual life. No people in modern times has produced such literature and music as these Russians. No people has dreamed such dreams of the new and better day of brotherhood. No people has kept so close to the springs of mystic experience, and drunk so deep of their living waters of the spirit. Especially has no people so suffered and striven and sacrificed for freedom. Tried in the fire as silver is tried, they have come forth a people cleansed in hope, redeemed for the patient toil that must still be done. These Russians will not fail, we may be sure. To have accomplished the Revolution is in itself a sufficient guarantee of what they are!

And lastly, may I say, that I have confidence in the Russian Revolution because I am not at all sure that the Russians have not got hold of the right psychology even for the present situation. The embarrassment of the Germans on the eastern borders is quite as apparent to my mind as the military weakness of the Bolsheviks. We have at least witnessed the ironic spectacle of this hopeless and helpless government at Petrograd extorting from the Central Empires the only concrete terms of peace which have appeared from that source since the opening of the war. Why such terms should be offered to such an enemy, unless Germany, in the present condition of her people, has quite as much to fear from revolutionary agitation in the East as from military offensives in the West, I cannot imagine!

All this is the veriest surmise, of course; but it fits in strangely well with the Christian teachings of a man named Tolstoi, and justifies us at least in asserting that there is an experiment being tried here, which is not necessarily doomed to failure.

I believe, therefore, in Russia and the Revolution. Those of us who disbelieve are moved by the unfortunate relation of the whole stupendous event to the military fortunes of the Allies. This aspect of the matter I would not ignore nor underestimate. But I must insist, on the other hand, that this question be judged first of all in the light of the former anomalous situation of an alliance of democratic nations in a democratic cause with the government of the Czar; and secondly, in the light of those ultimate destinies of humanity to which we are told the operations of this Great War are all the time directed. We are seeking a free world, let us remember, and here in the twinkling of an eye, is a great nation of 150,000,000 people, enslaved for ages, suddenly free! What is this, I ask you, but the accomplishment of the very thing we say we are after! And can we expect to have this thing without its price? And shall we not get the price back again in the end? Present military advantage, for whatever it may be worth, is undoubtedly lost, but the spiritual gain of both the present and the future is incalculable.

Produce Is the Call

"Whoever makes two ears of corn or two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before deserves better of mankind and does more essential service to his country than the whole race of politicians put together."—Swift.

Plant Every Acre

Every extra acre of wheat farmers can put in this spring will save somebody from starving. Europe is short about 500,000,000.

DON'T MISS THIS

CAPITALIST PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR GETS A GLIMPSE OF WHAT IS COMING, AND SOUNDS THE ALARM TO HIS CLIENTS

The following article has come into our possession. It speaks for itself. It is a circular headed "Batometer Letter" and is prepared by the Babson's Statistical Organization, Inc., and has been sent as a confidential communication to the big financial corporations in the United States and Canada. Where black type appears in this article it was written in red in the circular:—

What Shall We Do With the Radicals?

Under various names the radical movement advances. Somebody ought to tell the truth about it! The war in all countries has pushed this movement ahead. The United States has seen less of it than any of the warring countries, but in all lands the movement is immensely stronger than it was three years ago. The prime example is Russia. There the Radicals are supreme. They are all Radicals. Between Kerensky and Trotzky the difference is only one of dates, so far as a capitalistic country is concerned, there is little choice. These men and their "Comrades" all over the world care not for Russian or any other nation, but only for **The International!** They care not for the Russian revolution or any other specific revolution, save it is as a part of the revolution. They all seek to organize the proletariat, or wage earners of the world, as opposed to the propertied classes, to wipe out national lines and to put the proletariat into possession of everything.

No Possible Compromise

This movement is not government ownership, or abolition of inheritance or any of the things that we think associated with it. These are only the fringe of the garment of Radicalism. Radicalism is this system referred to above which is to be substituted for the present social order. **There is no possible compromise between the programme and the present social order. It is one or the other. It cannot be both, or part of each. The Co-operative Commonwealth will co-operate with nothing except itself!**

Let this fact be impressed upon us by the spectacle of our own Mr. Francis threatened with being held as hostage for Berkman and Goldman. See it in the club held over us today by Russia in the Mooney case. See it in the fact that Bolshevik representatives are to be in attendance on the trial of the I.W.W.'s in Chicago, to see that "justice," from Russian standards, is done these men. See it in the appointment of John Reed, of "The Masses," and under indictment for sedition, as consul-general for New York City by the Bolshevik Government. Or think of Trotzky, of New York's East Side, now the head and front of Russia! The great men of this Radical movement the world over would be in jail if they were in this country.

Want to Keep Property Titles

The main difference between us Americans and our European friends is that they see and appreciate this menace, while comparatively few of us appreciate it. It's one of the most powerful and important elements in the world at the present moment. It has put Imperial Europe at stand and attention. It has spread rebellion through Germany. Recently it has made clear, through the publishing of State papers, that world financiers met at Berne last September to bring about peace. **The reason they did so was their fear of the growth of this Radical movement if the war went on.** The same thing is back of Lord Lansdowne's letter. The landholders want to keep their property and titles. They see both menaced by Radicalism if the war keeps on. The world

is moving very steadily and rapidly in this direction. Mr. Schwab sees it. It is to be suspected that President Wilson sees it. The fear pulls at the nerves of the world's biggest financiers and leaders. Russia has gone. Germany trembles. England heads mightily in the same direction. Italy's temperament lends itself to the same thing. France will go if the others do.

Dumb and Stupid Middle Class

What about the United States? Two things may save it. One is the possibility of an early victory over Germany. The other is the large mass of "dumb and stupid" middle-class people in this country. We use the words "dumb and stupid" from the standpoint of the Radicals. American workers have very little class consciousness. A long war would give opportunity for the Radicals to indoctrinate our people. Here is a vital reason why we must now give our maximum efforts to winning the war in the shortest possible time. But whether the war is long or short, we have something to fear from unemployment that will follow the conflict. What can we do, if anything, to stem this tide? The propertied class has had its innings, and in having it has succeeded in getting the hatred, or at least the suspicion of the working classes. **Are they going to have their inning now?** The wave may not reach the United States this time, but it will reach us sometime. Nothing can satisfy the workers but to try it out for themselves. If they should profit by the mistakes we and our fathers have made and run the country for the common good, they would succeed and keep control of things. If they go to extremes there will be another reaction.

Facing a World Movement

The course that we have most faith in by which to offset these convulsions is the development of as large a class as possible of property owners. This is one reason why we have championed the providing of homes, the selling of stock to employees, and the admission of employees to share in management. **The more people we have in this country who are real owners of property and the fewer people we have who are absentee owners, the stronger will be the buffer which we can put up against this radical regime.**

This is what we have continually urged in our Confidential Labor Bulletins. We feel, however, that it is due to all clients, to present to them the real facts about this situation. We are facing a world movement which is bigger than any country or any class.

Stock Market Affected

This movement will have a vital bearing on general business and investments. Everything depends upon the vision which we exercise in dealing with the situation. If American business men and investors will wake up to the situation and work along the lines suggested we believe that there will be comparatively little to fear during the next few years. If, however, we persist in ignoring the facts, or dreading to deal with them, we wait fear-stricken for the calamity to overtake us, then we have only to look at Russia to see what will happen in the United States. **Already the above situation is a factor in the stock market, and in all business circles. Clients should watch this situation above all others. Unless definite action is taken to offset it, we must prepare for the hardest siege United States business has ever known.**—From "The Canadian Forward."

You are only playing at food saving yet. In England and France they are "doing" it.

National Kitchens in England

England is to have national kitchens. Public baths and park buildings will be turned into kitchens and town halls into dining halls. Street cars and omnibuses will carry the finished product to thousands of small distributing stations. Varied meals will be provided for everybody at the lowest possible price and there will be special invalid kitchens.

Don't Grumble to Waitress

Don't grumble when you are told in the restaurant that you can't have this, that or the other thing because it is against the new regulations. Get used to them and be glad you're having things so easy.

A back yard can grow a crop as well as the rural garden. Some people have an idea that a poor soil will not produce a crop. This is a mistake. Dig it well and fertilize it with leaves and street scrapings.

SUB ROSA

Last week I referred to the miscarriage of justice carried out under the ordinary procedure of the law. And I deprecated the attitude of sundry so-called ministers in calling for summary vengeance on their fellow creatures suspicioned of possessing undesirable streaks in their make-up.

Now we have the report that the hanging of the miner, Robert P. Prager, in Illinois, was, as mostly is the case, a little bit hasty. The Coroner tells us the leader of the mob was well (or rather ill) filled up with whisky; and that the victim had previously posted proclamations of his loyalty in several cities in the coal belt; that just before he was hanged he said: "All right, boys. Go ahead and kill me, but wrap me up in the flag when you bury me."

This man Prager may or may not have been worthy of death, I know not; but one thing I know; that when I hear of any minister being hanged by a mob because of loyalty to his personal convictions I will let you know all about it.

Here let me break off this serious stuff and sing with Gilbert:

Things are seldom what they seem;
Skim milk masquerades as cream;
High-lows pass for patent leathers,
Jackdaws strut in peacocks' feathers—

Very true; so they do.

Also last week I made an innocent remark about the civil service bill and who should be chosen to operate it. Now comes car-loads of advice from a delapidated place somewhere in the neighborhood of this city. Saanich, I think, it is called. Anyway these fellows inform me that it would be just as well if I were to mind my own business and not write about things that are entirely their preserve. It seems from what I can gather that there are six thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine electors on the voters' list out there, and with the exception of one they are in entire agreement in supposing that they possess the representative who is pre-eminently fitted to fill the position of Civil Service Commissioner. Moreover should the Government venture to go outside the Province for a man, they assert that Borden will be called upon to read the riot act. (All right, Mr. Censor, I am referring to the Hon. Reeve Borden.) And you, Gentlemen of Saanich, I thank you; and when I meet Premier Oliver on a Zeppelin trip to Europe I will lay your views before him.

Oh, yes, two other fellows got after me this week about Mr. Bowser's remarks on the patriotic fund. They say he said that some civil servants hired by the new Government are not contributing to the fund. They say this is not so, but that the boof is on the other foot, and that they know of conservative employees who have been in the service for years who are not responding to the solicited deduction from their pay checks. In the opinion of several of my Liberal and Conservative friends, Mr. Bowser is a great variety of unprintable things.

Now, my good friends, please do not be alarmed for my safety, for that large, almost all embracing order in council from Ottawa does not take Provincial politicians under its protective care.

SOTTO VOCE

BY THE HORNET

That Shakespeare said, "The quality of Mercy is not strained. It droppeth as gentle dew from heaven."

That William could not say this about the new press regulations.

That the Hornet would like to know what he would say about them if he were alive now.

That most likely it wouldn't be fit to print.

That the strict enforcement of them will put a lot of writers between the devil and the deep sea.

That Henry David Thoreau said: "Under a government which imprisons any unjustly, the true place for a just man is in prison."

That Wendell Phillips said: "If there is any thing that cannot bear free thought, let it crack."

That Thomas Jefferson said: "The tree of Liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. It is its natural manure."

That what these men said may be of interest to our readers and it may not.

That the Hornet hopes it won't worry any of the staff of our two great dailies.

That The Times has been copying the typographical style of The Week.

That it is quite an improvement.

That The Times might copy other thing from The Week—which would also be improvements.

That the hard worked legislators over the Bay finished their labors on Tuesday.

That as a parting shot they voted \$5,000 to Lady McBride and \$5,000 to the Brewster family.

That this was not a wise move on the part of Honest John.

That the Hornet fails to see any reason for such a grant.

That the late Sir Richard McBride had an income quite sufficient to provide for his family and that there is no reason why his widow should receive any more consideration than the widow of any common soldier.

That a tag day would have been in order but that a vote of public money was not.

That for everything Sir Richard did he was paid fully ten times over during his life time.

That there is nothing to entitle his dependants to any special consideration.

That this being the case, any grant to them is only charity.

That the dependents of Sir Richard and those of the late Premier, are entitled to AS MUCH CONSIDERATION as the dependents of Mr. Tommy Atkins AND NO MORE.

That so long as a tag day is good enough for the one it ought to be good enough for the other.

That speakers in public sometimes say more than they mean.

That Mrs. Ralph Smith, at the High School on Friday, is reported as saying: "There is no power in Heaven or Hell that can break through the British lines."

That this may be true but the Hornet would like to know how Mrs. Smith found it out.

That he was not aware we were in danger of an attack from either of those quarters.

That he thought we were only fighting the Central Powers.

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