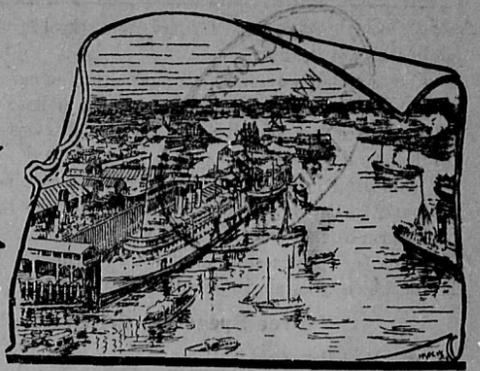


The Week

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



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VICTORIA, B.C., CANADA, March 2nd, 1918

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The Coming World Famine

Whoever You May Be, Your Help Is Needed

The year 1918 will not be a year of merely "DOING YOUR BIT": It will be a year of everyone "DOING HIS UTMOST."

If you are a—
BANKER, you can help by informing yourself as to the world's needs of food: by advice and assistance you can be an immense factor in promoting greater production for 1918.

If you are a—
BUSINESS MAN, you can help to solve the problem of increased production by taking a keen interest in the efforts of your own community and by aiding any organization in your locality to stimulate food production.

If you are a—
CAPITALIST, devote your capital and your energies to the development of food resources. The time is almost here when it will be "food" and not money that counts.

If you are a—
CLERGYMAN, preach production and thrift. By studying the facts of the world food shortage, you can impress upon your congregation the necessity of increased production and guidance, you can help enormously towards the goal of Canada's ambition, which is for those left behind to live up to the reputation of the gallant men who have gone "over the top." Britain expects greater production from Canada in 1918 and Britain must not be disappointed.

If you are a—
COOK, you can avoid waste in the kitchen, by using all leftovers and being careful even of the scraps. You can also prepare dishes which do not require the use of those foods needed overseas. You can use more fish and vegetables and less wheat, beef and bacon, and save all fats.

If you are a—
FARMER, you can put all your effort into the vital work of production. The demands on you are great and you have your difficulties; make them known to business men and others in your locality so that they will feel their responsibility and jointly you can work for greater production. Get in touch with your Provincial and Dominion Departments of Agriculture. Make the best use of the information and experience of others. Plan well ahead.

If you are a—
FISHERMAN, bring in all the food fishes you can catch. Do not waste any. By increasing the supply of food you are doing as necessary service as your brothers on the battleships and in the merchant marine.

If you are a—
HOUSEWIFE, you can study the situation in so far as it affects your own home. You can economize in the use of wheat, beef, bacon, sugar and fats, and use substitutes for wheat and meat. You can take a greater interest in your marketing. You can encourage the men folk to cultivate the backyard and to do their utmost in any campaign for increased food production.

If you are a—
JOURNALIST, you can be of untold service by keeping your readers informed on all subjects of conservation and production. Do not print harmful and critical news and correspondence, unless you exhaust all channels of confirmation and information on the subjects dealt with.

If you are a—
LAWYER, you can use your influence with others to promote the cause of greater production and the conservation of food. You can practice food control in your home and be an example to others. See that the orders of the Food Controller are properly explained and impress upon the public that such orders have the full force of law.

If you are simply—
NOBODY, start in now and do something for your country. Your little contribution is needed and will help.

If you are a—
PESSIMIST, direct your pessimism where it will do most good. If you cannot be cheerful do not make others unhappy at your country's expense. Get in and do something to help Canada.

If you are a—
PUBLIC MAN, and hold any official position, you can be of immense service to the Empire by studying the need of production and doing your full part to influence others towards increased production and greater conservation of foods. The need is grave and you should consider your services commandeered for the national good.

If you are a—
SCHOOL BOY, OR GIRL, you can have a backyard garden and grow vegetables, keep chickens or raise a pig. The food which you raise will take the place of some of the wheat or meat which your folks would otherwise buy. You can produce enough to supply one soldier with food. Every boy cannot fight, but every boy can feed a soldier. Every girl should learn about foods and how to cook them.

If you are a—
STOREKEEPER, you can encourage the use of substitutes for wheat, beef and bacon and get your customers to purchase goods that will release other foods for overseas shipment. Do not overstock or charge undue profits. You can study methods to reduce your cost of doing business and aid in carrying out the suggestions of the Food Controller.

If you are a—
TEACHER, get all the information you can on questions of world production and the need of food conservation. Explain the facts to your pupils and interest them in every possible way. The boys and girls of Canada can and will help if they are shown how.

If you are a—
WOMAN OF LEISURE, you can assist materially by giving of your time to make known in your community the need for food conservation and production. Your example counts for much, and you will help greatly if you take a stand against any waste of food at social functions.

If you are a—
WORKINGMAN, engaged in necessary work, consider that you are doing your duty to your home and country by exerting your best efforts and by practicing thrift whenever possible. You too, can do your part in increasing production by cultivating your own little garden, and in saving the foods needed overseas by eating perishable products. If favorably situated, start a garden and keep a pig or poultry. You will find the benefit in your cost of living.

If you are—
ONLY A CONSUMER, and do not come into any of the other classifications, for the sake of the boys at the front you are urged to save wheat, beef and bacon, by substituting commmeal, oatmeal, potatoes, fish and other food commodities which are not so urgently needed overseas.

Men and Dirt

THE *Times* and the *Colonist* believe in the conscription of men but THE WEEK believes only in the conscription of dirt. Our contemporaries cannot be said to advocate treating Canadians like dirt. Such treatment would be too good for the men and too rough on the dirt. Therefore they favor very strongly that the men of this fair land be subjected to the improving influences of high explosive shells, corrosive gases, and mutilating steel, and that the land itself be carefully shielded from unhallowed contact with the furrowing plough and the harrowing disc. Let such ploughing as is deemed desirable be accomplished on the bleeding bodies of men. The Hun, like the speculator, must have his chance. Let him be given full and adequate opportunity to harrow the gasping forms of helpless Canadian men. If the latter for unimaginable reasons shrink from the process let the slackers forthwith be conscripted. But conscript vacant lots! Oh, dear no! That would be an intolerable infringement of the eternally sacred rights of landed property. Conscription of men is right. Without it cannon might lack fodder and bullets miss billets. Without it the empire might rock and civilization perish. But conscript idle land! That in itself would mark the fall of empire and the irrevocable doom of civilization. Better far let the men in the trenches lack food. An era of high prices is good—for Sir Joseph. Conscription of vacant lots and consequent increased production might throw the food controller out of a \$7,000 job and deprive the newspapers of increased production advertisements. It might deprive a thousand and one busy-bodies of the invaluable opportunity to preach thrift, frugality and carefulness to those whose incomes permit of nothing else. If there is a shortage of food—and we have heard credible rumors to that effect—let the other fellow eat less! If there is still a shortage, let the other fellow be slaughtered at the front! But lay impious and unholy hands on the sacred ark of private monopoly of land! Any such proposition will the *Times* and the *Colonist* fight to the last ditch. Better the Teuton and private ownership of land therewith, than British rule conjoined with conscription of vacant lots. THE WEEK, however, still maintains that there is an

alarming world shortage of vital foodstuffs; that Victoria can best discharge its duty to itself and the empire by raising as much as possible of its own supplies; that the greatest hindrance to production is the evil of land monopoly; that all idle lots should be conscripted in the general welfare and that plenty of land should be placed at the disposal of every willing worker. Conscription of dirt infringes on no right of man and conflicts with no law of God. And unless all the talk of national necessity with which we have been surfeited during recent months is the most arrant humbug, legislators will have no hesitation in demanding that all land be put to its maximum use.

Premier Brewster

LAATEST reports of the condition of Premier Brewster are not at all favorable and THE WEEK sincerely hopes that things are so bad as they appear. Good men are urgently needed in British Columbia today and Premier Brewster is one of them. We trust that he will soon be able to be back at the helm over the Bay.

Labor's War Aims

THE war aims of the English Labor and Socialist Parties have been hailed by the press as "closely following the lines laid down by Lloyd George and President Wilson. As a matter of fact they do not "closely follow" any lines at all. It would be far more correct to say that the lines of the statesmen follow somewhat near those of the Labor Party and there is very little doubt that ultimately they will be the only ones to be considered. When the Pope made his first attempt towards peace, the press made a loud protest. When President Wilson first spoke of "Peace without Victory," there was another howl, but gradually, very gradually, the people have been getting their eyes opened, and the politicians have been whittling and whittling down their aims and it appears as if in the very near future the press will be cheering the very things they howled at twelve months ago. Arthur Henderson, the labor leader, in summing up the war aims of the Labor Party, says: "We are convinced that this world conflict can only be ended in one of three ways—the absolute predominance of militarism; the exhaustion of all the

combatants, or conciliation. We believe that sooner or later the last of these methods must be resorted to by all the belligerents."

This is exactly what the Pacifists said twelve months ago and millions of lives might have been saved if he had been listened to and heeded.

Put what Henderson said along side the statement of the German Chancellor and there appears a ray of hope for the dark days ahead: "The world is longing for peace," the Chancellor said, "but the Governments of the enemy countries again are inflaming the passion for war. There are, however, other voices to be heard in England; it is to be hoped these voices will multiply."

Less Home Work for Children

WE notice with pleasure that the question of school home work for children is coming to the front. Dr. Robinson, Superintendent of Education, in a circular to public school teachers, says that one hour's home work should be the limit for the junior grades and one and a half hours for the senior.

The Doctor is getting somewhere near the mark that we set at the time home lessons bothered us some thirty years ago. We voted the whole thing a jolly nuisance, and we haven't changed our opinion since.

There are hundreds of homes in Victoria where the amount of home study the children are expected to do makes the evenings anything but a pleasant time. The father is tired out with his day's work, and the mother is tired out with hers, and both want to relax. Then comes a hundred and one questions, on grammar, history, geography, literature, etc., not one out of every dozen of which are of the slightest interest to them, but all of which they are expected to answer with intelligence. The result is often anything but pleasant. If the time limit was put at what the Doctor suggests it would not be so bad, but all the teachers seem to imagine that their pupils can put in all the time on their particular subject, and so each one provides enough home work to fill the whole time. As a result the children sometimes find themselves with three or four hours' work instead of one. And in addition to the work itself there is the added trouble of carrying a big

pile of books backward and forward from school, a very unpleasant job in cold, wet weather.

The simplest way out of the difficulty is to cut out home work altogether. If necessary, let the children work an hour extra in school, but when once they are out let all thoughts of lessons be left behind till the next day.

Supposing it takes a year longer to obtain an education? What's the hurry? Better take a year longer and know things than save twelve months and then only think you know them. Besides, as Dr. Robinson says, "Education must not be secured at the expense of health, which, after all, is the child's greatest asset."

"Free Speech in the States."

MEMBERS of the I. B. S. A. are being asked to answer these four questions before they are allowed to address meetings across the line: "Are you a member of the Red Cross?" "Have you purchased liberty bonds?" "Have you purchased thrift stamps or savings certificates?" "Are you whole heartedly and unreservedly backing the Government's war programme?" If these are answered in the negative, they are refused permission to speak. Just how much "Democracy" will be left when Uncle Sam get through saving the world it is hard to say. It appears to us that he is going a very funny way about it.

Rationing

RATIONING is a subject that is receiving much newspaper attention in Canada at present. It is a thing that is as new to us in theory and practice as war was three years and a half ago. That must be the only excuse for some things which are written. The general assumption is that rationing can be carried out just as some people thought price-fixing could, by a mere wave of a magic pen. When it is remembered, however, that Canada's seven and a half million people are scattered over an area greater than Europe the question at once arises: "Who is to see to the carrying out of the rationing scheme?" For rations mean that each family would be under an obligation not to eat more on any day or in any week than a certain set amount of particular foods.

It would not be hard to make a rule that so much bread should be used by each person at a meal. But how many million police would be wanted to attend to the execution of the order? Even the making of orders that would be fair in a large city as compared with a country home offers difficulties little thought of. In the Maritime Provinces fish is plentiful and comparatively cheap as in the West are wheat and beef. But more fish is not needed "at the front" to anything like the same extent that beef and wheat most urgently are wanted.

What rationing plan could ignore the "customs of the country?" Yet immediately here a discrepancy arises. One might prescribe the use of beef and wheat in Canada by decree, but its incidence would be unequal from the first. There is, however, one way in which the food saving could be made which is the whole end and object of rationing. It is by a voluntary pledge of each home. In three words this is nothing else than by remitting patriotic saving of the food-stuffs that are known to be wanted by the Allies. No amount of talking can make up for this. It is not a legal question at all but a moral one, which must be left to the conscience of each household head. There is no better way for the present in which those who cannot go to the trenches can actually help in the fight in Europe for moral uprightness and pure ideals of life than in practicing in each home at all times of the day that honest carefulness to avoid waste which would have to be done under a compulsory rationing scheme.

In a way this is a new factor which hitherto it has not been possible to utilize. The Canadian woman is here especially indicated to aid. So far women's work in the Dominion has had to do with Red Cross and similar works of mercy. This opens out the field enormously. Every woman who saves bread, beef and pork products is in fact and deed wielding an unseen weapon in the war as truly as her sisters behind the trenches are in caring for the broken and the maimed.

Food Shortage

MR. J. C. McINTOSH, M.P. for Nanaimo, who is just back from Ottawa, says that the Imperial authorities had ordered every available pound of beef in Canada to be dispatched across the Atlantic immediately. After an investigation, it was ascertained that there were in the neighborhood of 65,000 head of cattle on the hoof that could be exported, and it is the purpose of the Government to ship this amount within the next sixty days. "That will wipe out Canada's available supply of beef for export until next August," added Mr. McIntosh; "and yet that tremendous quantity will last England only four days."

"The general opinion in the highest Government circles at Ottawa is that the war will go on for two years, and preparations are being made to that end," said the member. "The food shortage, which will sooner or later affect everyone individually and collectively, is arousing the nation to meet the greatest undertaking in its history."

If Mr. McIntosh is anywhere near correct in his statements there is every reason why Mayor Todd should be backed up by every man, woman and child in Victoria in his vacant lot cultivation scheme. We suggest that those who object to the lots being conscripted for the purpose of raising more food be the first ones to be put on short rations when the time comes—and it's not very far off now.

Camouflage

BISHOP MACDONALD writes us another letter on the "Finished Mystery," in which he seems to think that we are attempting to defend it. There is no need for us to do anything of the kind. The I.B.S.A. will look after that. That is their business. What we said in the last issue was that we were not inclined to stand for any attempt to hamper the legitimate work of any body of men simply because some of their literature contained misstatements.

The Bishop now takes the ground that freedom of speech does not include permission to circulate lies.

We agree with him, and agree most heartily. This is what we have been trying to say these many moons.

We ask the Bishop to look up the Colonist of February 26th and read the editorial of the Russian situation and then tell us whether or not the Colonist ought to be put in the same class as he puts "The Finished Mystery?"

Call it Camouflage, call it misstatements, call it lies, call it any

old thing you like, the whole of that editorial is a deliberate attempt to create a sentiment of antagonism to the Russian Government by a system of misinterpretation. If the Bishop is really in earnest in what he says he will jump right in and help to counteract some of the most deliberate falsehoods ever put in print. He will find a far better field for his activities in calling down the daily press which is doing its dirty work every day in the year than in bothering himself with the "Finished Mystery."

SUB ROSA

Every week I decide to write something that is in no way connected with the war. It is impossible. Watch me try again.

Suppose I start out on a personal line of talk and tell you that during the last twenty-three years I have observed eight thousand three hundred and ninety-five meatless days, you see where it lands us. Right off, I am tempted to claim that for twenty years preceding the war I have been training to do "my bit" by going without "my bit of meat." So there you are, whether the theme is doctors, drugs, devils, drink, or diet, it bears some relation to the war.

Personally, I am opposed to the increased production of hogs, indeed if the present supply were suddenly possessed with a desire to rush violently down a steep slope and perish in the sea, I should offer no resistance to their bent. You, might regret such a waste of what you are pleased to term excellent food, but I would merely cross over to Poupard's and order another box of B. C. apples.

Of course, good Bishop MacDonald can justify the killing of all animals and most men, but so also did the cannibal chief "O.K." the cooking of all male missionaries and some tender women. Chief Likeemjuicy did not care anything about my little pet poem which runs something like this:

Take not away the life thou can't not give; For all things have an equal right to live. Kill noxious creatures, where t'is sin to save, T's only just prerogative we have; But nourish life with kindly food, And shun the sacrilegious taste for blood.

It is all a matter of interpretation, and the animal eating visitor was eaten by the man eating resident, until his stomach became weakened by the gospel of substitution of other goods just as good and done up in cans.

One day you are enjoined to avoid all waste. The next evening you are encouraged to keep a pig so that the waste may be transformed into palatable pork. Thus wasters gladly eat their own waste, and help win the war or hasten to meet their own funeral, whichever way you look at it, for what is one man's meat is another man's poison; so you say.

"We fat all creatures else to fat us, and we fat ourselves for maggots; your fat king and your lean beggar, is but a variable service; two dishes, but to one table; that's the end. A man may fish with the worm that hath eat of a king, and eat of the fish that hath fed of that worm; all and only to show you how a king may go a progress through the inside of a beggar."

I am sorry if you do not like this stuff, but I am doing my best to avoid the war. In this connection let me tell you that before the war, the United States used to ship 800 million lbs. of pig to England every year, and included in that weight were the carcasses of 100,000 animals which had had the cancer, tumor, and consumptive parts cut out—PERHAPS!

The other day a woman I know took her children to the doctor. He enquired what she fed them on. They ate pork at six or seven meals a week. It is quite obvious said he, they have eaten the disease they have got; quit pork and bacon and give them peaches, pears, prunes, and porridge.

It is a delusion to suppose that flesh meat of any kind is essential to health. Considerably more than three parts of the work of the world is done by men who never taste anything but fruits, vegetables and fairinaceous foods. There are far more strength producing properties in whole wheat, peas, beans, lentils, oatmeal, roots and other vegetables, than there are in beef, mutton, poultry or fish, or animal food of any description whatever.

Now, forget all about the pig-keeping nuisance. Leave the pig business to the patriotic people of Saanich. Get busy on a city vacant lot. Fighting men may need concentrated food in the shape of flesh to keep up their spirit, but it is not necessary for men around town like

U AND I.

BOYS AND GIRLS CAN HELP

Seventy-one thousand boys and girls of school age last year increased the agricultural output of Ontario to the value of \$125,000. Every farm boy and girl this year should be encouraged to rear a pig, a calf, a batch of chickens, or to grow a plot of potatoes, beans, corn or vegetables.

SHORTAGE OF FEED

According to a recent statement made by Mr. R. E. Prothers, President of the Board of Agriculture, there were only enough oats available in Britain to feed working horses on reduced rations, after making allowance for milling stocks. There was no concentrated food for cattle feeding and this shortage would continue for at least a year, he declared. He was afraid that all carriage horses which had not been sent out to grass would have to be killed, while hunters would have to be sent to grass and kept there.

RED CROSS MUST SAVE.

The executive of the Red Cross Society of Regina, has asked that the advice of the Food Controller be carefully observed at any gatherings in the interests of the Red Cross, and that if the hostess really wishes to serve food she should at least be careful not to use the commodities most needed overseas.

DOMINION ELECTIONS ACT.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the expenses of Albert Samuel Wells in connection with the Federal Election of a member for Victoria City riding held on December 17th last, were \$1,252.47, according to vouchers lodged with the Returning Officer, in accordance with the Elections Act. DATED the 18th day of February, 1918.

PHIL. R. SMITH.

Agent for Albert Samuel Wells.

Sweden by law requires wood alcohol to be colored so that it can be instantly distinguished from grain alcohol.

CORRESPONDENCE

(The following letter was sent to both daily papers. Their failure to publish it illustrates the way the press uses its columns to influence the public against the workers in the strike controversy.—Ed.)

Victoria, Feb. 24th.

The Editor of The Week.

Sir,—In your issue of Feb. 23rd, a correspondent asks the meaning of Shorncliffe soldier.

Well, to begin with, Barrack Square Soldiering and trench warfare are widely different lines of endeavor.

The foregoing titled King George man, through his "guff and goodness" worked himself into the possession of stripes, and is a non-commissioned officer by the time he arrives at Shorncliffe, or in fact any other Canadian base in England. Having risen thus in the ranks, he is aware should he proceed to the scene of action vested with such tremendous authority as N.C.O.'s at the front have, the men there will have none of him. Men in authority there must know their "bizz," and, of course, our Shorncliffe artist is put where he belongs, in the ranks. He must earn his laurels at the front, not back of the front, and especially not in England.

If he proves to be the proper stuff he soon receives his chevrons back to carry on as a real soldier. For that is the land of men of mettle where good work is rewarded only and where results count, nothing else.

And to avoid being slammed back in the ranks, where he very often belongs, he tries to hold his rank and authority by remaining in England in comfort, with a permanent billet and

Victoria's Watch and Clock Repair House

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ALL WORK GUARANTEED. JEWELLERY REPAIRS AND ENGRAVING PROMPTLY EXECUTED. THE CHEAPEST HOUSE FOR WALTHAM AND ALL THE HIGH GRADE AMERICAN AND SWISS WATCHES.

F. L. HAYNES

DEBATE ON

VACCINATION

In St. Mark's Hall

BOLESKIN ROAD

Under the Auspices of St. Mark's Men's Club, March 11, 8 p.m.

Resolved—"That Vaccination is a preventative of small-pox and beneficial to public health."

Affirmative, Dr. Price; negative, Mr. E. S. Woodward.

MR. CHAVE SEAR, Chairman.

C. H. SMITH & CO.

Photographic Supplies Pictures Picture Framing

Other Things Too!

611 Fort Street



SYNOPSIS OF COAL MINING NEGOTIATIONS

Coal mining rights of the Dominion in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories and in a portion of the Province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years renewable for a further term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of \$1 an acre. Not more than 3,600 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the District in which the rights applied for are situated. In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections or legal subdivisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be stated out by the applicant himself.

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

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

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

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

flaunt their luxurious idleness, even in war time, strikes will be justifiable.

So long as the Government of Canada fails to remove all justification for unrest and strikes, so long will they continue an ever-increasing menace to social peace and prosperity, a visible eruptive disease on a rotten body politic.

Strikes will continue, yes; and the time is rapidly drawing nigh when a full realization of the futility of the strike system will inevitably be followed by a more practical, but not less drastic form of Bolshevism in Canada, a condition that neither a union nor any other form or combination of politics can avert; a condition which the exigencies of the war may delay, but will accentuate, by the great and sudden call for reorganization to meet the after war climax.

Canada is on the edge of a volcano. The industrial element, production, is the only real force in Canada or any other country that is absolutely and always indispensable in peace or war, war has proved it as never before. To this and those other forces from the front, who must swell the rank of Canada's great industrial problem, belongs the right, the power, to dictate justifiable terms for the salvaging of a politically wrecked Canada.

Similar conditions exist in less aggravating forms in all the other English speaking countries, but while Canada has sunk lowest in the scale of its public life and accumulated liabilities, she is, of all other countries, by natural resources, best constituted for a re-establishment on a sound productive basis.

As long as the producer, manufacturer, wholesaler, or retailer, can jump the cost of living, as long as the ever-increasing limousine class

War does not change the principles of national honesty, justice, and fair play. It does not affect the fundamentals of life except to render them more vividly intense. An injustice in peace does not become less an injustice in time of war. A graft in peaceful times loses nothing by a change to war conditions, all of which Canada knows well by hard experience.

When graft and injustice, in whatever guise, cease to exist in politics, corporation, commercial, legal, professional and every other department of life in Canada, when Canada evolves honest administration in the form of a truly democratic commonwealth, then, and not till then, will the justification for industrial unrest cease and strikes be a matter of past history.

So long as the power of political exploitation can be built up and maintained by the squandering of public moneys and resources, to the increase of public debt and the cost of living we shall have strikes.

As long as political favorites can pull down big salaried positions, for themselves and their friends, which either are unnecessary, or for which they have no fitness or training; or can hold vast tracks of public lands, timber or other national resources, there will be industrial unrest.

As long as the non-industrial element, as long as any individual or combination in Canada can pile up wealth by the exploitation of the results of industry, through stock exchange speculation, company promotion, watered stock, profiteering, or otherwise, thereby increasing the tax upon production and the cost of living, justification for strikes will continue.

As long as the producer, manufacturer, wholesaler, or retailer, can jump the cost of living, as long as the ever-increasing limousine class

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.)

CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND

Dear Sir:

Your editorial of February 23rd, regarding the above fund, or, more particularly, the \$6,000 which is annually paid by the Provincial Government to the executive of the Provincial Branch for the payment of overhead expenses, such as salaries of officers or stenographers, allowance for travelling, etc. I wish to refer you to the financial report published by the Canadian Patriotic Fund, B.C. Provincial Branch, printed by Mr. W. E. Cullin, King's Printer.

Pages 11 and 12 will give you the receipts and disbursements of the \$6,000 grant. It is not true as you infer that the whole of this \$500 per month is paid to one individual, of course you refer to Mr. F. Nation. Mr. Nation's salary as Secretary of the Provincial Branch is \$3,000 per annum, one thousand of which he returns to the Patriotic Fund.

I hold no brief for Mr. Nation, but it is only fair to him that the public should know what he receives and what he is doing. He organized 150 branches outside of Greater Victoria and Greater Vancouver, and now collects from them \$500,000 annually, whereas, before his appointment, the Fund only received \$75,000 from the same sources.

The Patriotic Fund has done, and is still doing a good work. I am very pleased to know that you will assist us in the Big Drive, which we commence on Monday, March 4th, to collect funds for the Society. We must live up to our promise to the men who left their families and are fighting for us on the battle-fields in Europe. We gave those men a solemn promise that we would look after their dependents, and we must keep faith with these men.

I believe with you, Mr. Editor, and have always advocated that the Federal Government should take over the Canadian Patriotic Aid Societies, and run same as a separate department under its control and direction, supported out of the Federal Exchequer.

I was pleased to see that at the conference represented by all the Provinces in the Dominion, held last October in the City of Ottawa, the Provinces of B. C., and Alberta favored this. The other seven provinces were opposed to it. Under these conditions it would be rather difficult for the government to step in.

In reading the advertisements of the Big Drive in the City of Toronto. In some of those advertisements it was clearly stated that this would be the final appeal, therefore, I take it that the East will agree with the provinces of B. C. and Alberta, but, until the Federal Government does take over the Canadian Patriotic Societies, it is our duty to support the fund, so that the dependents of our brave men who are fighting our battles will be properly cared for.

Yours truly,
J. KINGHAM,
Chair, Campaign Committee.

Free Speech

To the Editor of The Week.
Sir,—There are very obvious limits to the right of free speech. No man living has the right to utter calumnies against his neighbors, whether they be of the blunt and straightforward type, or take the mean and cowardly form of innuendo. And the calumnies of no man, living or dead, have a right to free circulation.

At the bottom of page 524 of "The Finished Mystery," is a calumny of the mean and cowardly sort, against priests and nuns. That it is not specific, but of a general and sweeping character, serves but to render it the more atrocious.

ALEX. MACDONALD,
Bishop of Victoria.

P.S.—I challenge anybody to verify the alleged citation from the works of St. Bridget, of Sweden, given at page 525 of "The Finished Mystery." I do not hesitate to set it down as fraudulent and false. The author, at page 526, cites "De Sanctis" (pages given, but not title of work), as declaring that in the Catholic Church "absolutions are given to robbers, usurers, murderers, without their having made any restitution whatever." That's a lie. The truth is that the priest is bound to refuse absolution if the penitent will not restore.

The foregoing are simply given as samples. "The Finished Mystery"

reeks with misrepresentation and calumny. And the work throughout is uncritical and unscholarly. Citations are made at second and third hand. Seldom is there an exact reference given. Passages are put within quotation marks, and one is left in the dark as to whence they come. The earnest seeker after the truth will not find it in Pastor Russell's posthumous publication.

The anti-dote for error is truth. If as Bishop MacDonald says, "The Finished Mystery" contains false statements the remedy is to publish the facts. The Censorship makes such remedy impossible. Neither The Week nor the public can now verify either Bishop MacDonald's quotations from that book or his inferences. All we ask is that all matters of public interest be left a free field for discussion.—Editor.

Bargain Days

Sir,—As this very paper, The Week, under its old management, was one of the chief agitators in establishing this Dollar Day in Victoria, it is but fitting that it should now take a leading part in having the fraud done away with. I say fraud, advisedly, because seeing that normal prices as a rule are determined by competition, any great reduction upon those prices is impossible, and the fact that such a large proportion of the public expect all those dollar prices to be bargains may well serve as a gauge of the prevailing gullibility.

The worst feature of the whole business is the embarrassing predicament that it places the helpless clerks in, for, in so far, many cases where the question is put "What did you sell this at before?" What answer can they give? At first they are at a loss perhaps and perhaps evade—then equivocate, but in the majority of cases this hesitation soon wears off, and I venture to say that no situation could be devised more certain to make liars and thieves than the one above set forth, and that every repetition of such experience is bound to leave those who promote it worse people than it found them. So I would say to storekeepers "as you value integrity in your assistants and appreciate the confidence of the general public. Cut out these degrading "Dollar Days."

ANTI-HUMBUG.

Feb. 26, 1918.

Tillicum, Wash., U. S. A.,
February 19, 1918.

Mr. W. E. Pierce.
I certainly admire the stand you have taken in behalf of the International Bible Students.

They stand practically alone in the world, as the defenders of true religion of Jesus Christ, and Mr. Chambers' (spring drive) in ordering the ban on our scriptural studies, is bringing us a greater blessing than he ever anticipated, it is giving us a chance to witness for the Lord.

Oh, what joy, to be privileged to suffer all these indignities for his sake.

Faith never wavers, even in face of a firing squad, and they are sending us right into the kingdom where we so long to be. May God bless them for what they are doing.

Very truly yours,
MRS. J. N. INGRAM,
Tillicum, Wash.

Victoria, Feb. 16, 1918.
The Publisher of The Week, 625 Courtney Street.

Sir,—Having much admired the stand your paper has taken in regard to our late modern inquisition movement throughout this free land of Canada, I should like to become a subscriber in support of freedom and justice.

Enclosed, kindly find the amount of twelve months' subscription.

Yours truly,
MRS. E. A. GODDARD,
626 Montreal Street.

Chemainus, B.C., Feb. 20, 1918.
Editor, The Week, Victoria, B.C.

Sir,—Enclosed herewith please find one dollar subscription to your valued paper.

I would especially like to have three copies of the last two issues.

In an age which for its love of darkness rather than light and its suppression of truth and liberty, can only be compared with what we used to term "the dark ages," it is refreshing to find one here and there who dares to stand for some semblance of liberty.

We cannot, however, help but wonder how long the already tightly strained masses will put up with this nibbling at their liberties? It seems to me foolhardy on the part of the government, thus to bait them.

As Christian people who still believe in the omnipotence of the Great Author of all things, we need not however be anxious about the condition of affairs. Our God knows no

necessity, least of all can it ever become necessary for him to break his own laws, to carry out his purposes.

The work that he is doing through the instrumentality of the Christian people will stop when it is finished, as will also the work that he is doing through the instrumentality of the devil and his host of men and angels, so we may have perfect confidence and rest in the sense of his Omnipotence. "Thou couldst have no power at all over me, except it were given you of My Father," said the Saviour. The spectacle of so many well intending men who constitute our governments, being driven to such extremity as is indicated by such feverish action, is pathetic indeed and goes further to demonstrate that the only hope left to humanity is that which centres in the Kingdom of Christ, which we believe will shortly be established upon the ruins of all present governments.

For this we pray, "Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done on earth as in Heaven."

With best wishes,
YOURS AMONG THE WAITERS.

Letter from the I.B.S.A. to Secretary of State

February 20, 1918.

Hon. Martin Burrell,
Secretary of State,
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

My Dear Sir:

Please do not destroy this letter, but carefully read it and hold for future reference. The day will come when it will be so clearly understood that "a wayfaring man, though a fool," will have no doubt about its meaning.

Acting upon the advice of others, you recently issued warrants forbidding Canadian citizens to have in their possession a copy of THE BIBLE STUDENTS' MONTHLY, or "The Finished Mystery," both published by the International Bible Students' Association; and you did this on the theory that the same is German propaganda. In this you have grievously erred and have done a great injustice to the citizens of Canada, to say nothing about the gross wrong done our publications. You did not issue these warrants because you were convinced by primary evidence that the publications are pro-German. The presumption is that you are too busy in your official affairs at this time to give these publications a careful reading and you have depended upon some one else to advise you as to their contents. Whether you know it or not, a certain class of clergymen of Canada are the men who are conducting this campaign of slander and libel against the above publications. The press of Canada, to my personal knowledge, has published statements from various clergymen that these publications would be called to the attention of the Government and suppressed as seditious. Well knowing that they have no answer to the clear truths therein stated, which truths upset their pet theories, these clergymen have immediately "raised a great dust" by crying, "This propaganda is in the interest of the German Government." Nothing is further from the truth.

When Jesus was unjustly condemned before Pilate, that ruler did not believe Jesus guilty, but was influenced in his action of condemning Him by the clergy of that day. History is in a measure repeating itself.

Please understand me, Mr. Secretary, I am not writing this letter in the spirit of anger, but because I see it to be my privilege and duty to call your attention to some things that you have doubtless overlooked, due to the arduous duties of the high office which claims your time.

To say that "The Finished Mystery" and THE BIBLE STUDENTS' MONTHLY containing the article, "The Fall of Babylon," were written as German propaganda shows the absolute ignorance on the part of the party making that charge. Please take time to read the first two pages of the Preface of "The Finished Mystery." There you will see that TWENTY YEARS AGO Pastor Russell wrote that the Scriptures clearly indicate that a great international war would arise between the nations and that this would produce such a condition amongst the people of earth that revolution would be the next in order, and that revolution would be followed by a condition of anarchy, which would result in preparing the people for the Kingdom of God, for which Kingdom, Christians have been praying for many centuries. Can any sane man say that twenty years ago Pastor Russell was writing in behalf of the German Kaiser?

Again, we will observe in the Preface of that book a quotation from the pen of Pastor Russell to the effect that the Gentile Times would end in 1914, and that at that time the Divine power would be exercised against the nations. Mark you that this was written ten years before the great

war began. And true to Pastor Russell's interpretation of the Scriptures, the war began exactly on time in 1914. Surely no one can say that such was written in the interest of the German Government?

I wish you might have time to study carefully "The Finished Mystery," because, my dear sir, it is due you and the people whom you represent, and you know what it contains. Let me assure you that there is not the slightest German influence or support back of it. It is supported only by order-loving, truly consecrated Christian people, who have but one purpose and one desire, and that to please the Lord and render to mankind some good service in harmony with the will of God.

The leading article of THE BIBLE STUDENTS' MONTHLY against which you have issued the order is "The Fall of Babylon." By far the greater portion there published was written by Pastor Russell twenty-one years ago. Then and there, he pointed out that "Ancient Babylon" was a type and foreshadowed the beginning, development and overthrow of "Mystic Babylon." He showed from the Scriptural proof that the systems which had their beginning in the early part of the Christian era—1500 years ago—gradually developed until, by mixing religion and politics, these systems have become the great "Mystic Babylon," the "Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth." (Revelation 17:5.) And, furthermore, he showed that in due time God's indignation would be made manifest against "Mystic Babylon" in a great time of trouble upon the nations of earth, and that Babylon would fall.

Permit me, dear sir, to suggest that the clergy as a class, have assumed to represent the Lord on earth. Amongst these men are two classes—some good and some bad, some faithful and some unfaithful. But, alas, the latter class is now greatly in the majority. As an example: For centuries Christian people have been praying for the coming of Christ's Kingdom. A few amongst the clergy-men have not only been praying for its coming, but have been preaching to the people about the coming of that Kingdom. While on the other hand, a majority of that profession have failed to tell the people anything about the Lord's Kingdom and have scoffed at any one who taught concerning His coming Kingdom, preferring rather to have the plaudits of worldly men than the approval of God. When the British Army wrested from the Turks the possession of Jerusalem (which the Turk never again will possess) some good clergy-men of London, England, marked that event as an evidence that the Lord's Kingdom is near at hand, basing their conclusions upon the Scriptures. According to the London CHRISTIAN WORLD, these clergymen assembled at London and issued a manifesto which was sent throughout the world, to the effect that the great war resulting in the possession of Jerusalem by the English and the avowed purpose of the English and American Governments to aid the Jews in establishment of a free and independent republic there is evidence that the Lord's Kingdom is at hand, and calling upon the clergy to make proclamation of this to the Christian peoples of the earth. The manifesto was repudiated and scoffed at by the great mass of clergymen throughout the world. Such is exactly what the Apostle Peter long ago pointed out they would do. (See 2 Peter, 3:3-6.) Were they faithfully representing the Lord whom they claim to represent on earth and honestly telling the people the truth, they would advise them of the meaning of this great devastating war and the distress that is now upon the peoples, and point out to them God's remedy for the trouble. But, alas, in order to cover their own gross errors and with the thought of holding together tottering Babylon, they willingly brand order-loving Christian people of their own land, as law-breakers. To aid them in carrying out their wrongful course, they influence the civil authorities to believe that these men and women are traitors. These actions are in keeping with the practices of the "Dark Ages," when their same class caused laws to be enacted making it a crime for any one to have in his possession a Bible.

A few fully consecrated Christian people, scattered throughout the world, who have not the slightest sympathy with the German Kaiser and his unrighteous acts, are trying to tell the people—without money and without price—what these days of great distress upon the earth really mean, and to bring some comfort to sad hearts. They have no disposition to interfere with or to attempt to stop the war. They could not do such a thing if they would, and they would not if they could, because it is in clear fulfilment of Divine prophecy. (Continued on Page 4)

The Only Way

An Illustrated Poem of Peace

By W. E. Peirce and Will Menelaws
Published by the Canadian Freedom League



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Royal Victoria Theatre

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

at 3 p.m. Subject:

"RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE"

The Bar to Man's Progress

Speaker:

S. A. CATER, Vancouver



At 7.30 p.m., PRINCESS THEATRE
Yates Street. Subject,

What Is a Christian?

Auspices "Associated Bible Students."

Seats Free No Collection All Welcome



SOTTO VOCE
BY THE HORNET

That the Food Controller's salary is fixed at \$7,000 per annum.

That it figures out at about \$23.50 per day.

That the Hornet grudges no one a good salary—if he is worth it, and

That Mr. Thomson being a very patriotic man, he will no doubt turn \$20.00 per day of his screw over to the patriotic fund and live on the \$3.30; which is about the figure the Hornet has for running expenses.

That Mr. Dobie writes to correct the Hornet about the price of fertilizer.

That Mr. Kingham writes to correct him on statements about the Patriotic Fund.

That he is glad to accept both corrections and give all the publicity he can to them.

That he advises everybody to do their level best for the Fund next week.

That it may be the last Public appeal of the Patriotic Society, as the sentiment in favor of having the whole thing handled by the Federal Government is getting stronger every day.

That the Job of Censor must be a pretty hard one just now—

That it ought to have a big salary connected with it.

That the Hornet would not take it at any price.

That it is not likely to be offered to him.

That it keeps him all his time finding ways of saying what he wants to without getting "pinched"—for doing it.

That there are several people among the "Higher-Ups" who are saying very nasty things about the Week and the Hornet.

That they are entitled to their own opinions, but—

That it is not advisable for them to go too far in what they say.

That if they do the Hornet will be obliged to say some things in self-defence.

That he will also mention some names—and

That he may sting harder than some people like.

That the I.B.S.A. man was fined \$1.00 for having the "Finished Mystery" in his possession.

That he should have offered the Court the copies of the book in payment of the fine.

That Bishop MacDonald evidently has a copy of the book in his possession.

That the H. net would like to know whether the Bishop realizes that he is breaking the law.

That it may cost him more than a dollar if Chief Langley gets to hear of it.

That Chief Langley's name is not on the list of subscribers to The Week, so he may not see this.

That the Hornet won't "split on the Bishop—as he has a suspicion that Mr. H. has a copy somewhere in hiding.

That two men have been sentenced to five years' imprisonment in Calgary for refusing to put on uniforms.

That reports still continue to circulate about harsh treatment of men at the Willows.

That it is high time the officials

came out with a plain denial if they are not true.

That the Hornet hears that there is lack of sufficient accommodation for the sick men there.

That he suggests the Stadacona Park be once more utilized.

That when it was operated before by the V.A.D. it was a veritable haven of rest and comfort for sick soldiers.

That many of them look back with deep gratitude to the women who nursed them there.

That Col. Reppington was fined \$500.00 for saying things contrary to the rules of the censor.

That what he told the English People was already known in Germany.

That he was quite willing to go to Court as it would give him the opportunity to say all he liked.

That Mayor Todd's scheme for conscripting vacant lots is opposed by both the Victoria Dailies.

That that needn't worry the Mayor.

That they have opposed a good many good things.

That they even opposed the Hornet at times, so the Mayor is in good company.

That the Old Lady on Broad Street has always been enthusiastic over conscripting the other fellow—but—

That now she is conscripted she doesn't see any need to conscript idle land to help to feed her.

That its the old story, "Hands off property," but let the men look out for themselves.

That this kind of talk might have "gone down" a few years ago, but won't do now.

That the Hornet likes to see every-one stand up for his rights—but—

That the right to be fed comes before every other right.

That in face of a World Famine such as we are now up against there is only one thing to consider, **How to raise the most food?** and—

That anything that stands in the way will have to back down.

That Mayor Todd is urged to go ahead—and—

That The Week will back him to the limit—and then some.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 3)

The Lord, through the Prophets, points out what will be the result, and how people who heed His teachings may be greatly benefitted. The great majority of the clergy, imbued with the desire for popularity and approval amongst men, seemingly have entirely neglected the duties of the high office which they assume. Instead of aiding in the work of properly enlightening the people concerning the teachings of the Bible, they are binding more fetters upon mankind and further keeping them in ignorance. Thus the blind guides are blindly leading the people on until they all shall fall into the ditch. God pity them when their day of reckoning comes. According to the prophetic statements of the Lord's word, it will be a sorry day for them. The act of denying the people the right to read what they please is one suitable for the "Dark Ages" alone. It is entirely out of harmony with Twentieth Century advancement and enlightenment.

The real cause of the uprising in Russia is that for many years the people have been priest-ridden by a bigotted, self-willed class of clergymen, who have unrighteously and improperly influenced the official powers to deny the people their just rights and liberties. The inevitable happened. The same thing will follow in Germany and Austria, and in other countries.

God foretold through His Prophets that there would be a federation of church systems and a tacit union between ecclesiastical and civil powers. This is now practically an accomplished fact, and the ecclesiastical are dancing before the civil authorities.

Such an arrangement is contrary to God's great plan, unlawful, and an abomination in His sight, as He has plainly declared in His Word, and will bring down His wrath upon both. The civil powers yielding to the importunities of the ecclesiasties to stifle or hinder the free proclamation of the great truths concerning God's Kingdom is despicable in His eyes, was clearly foreshadowed in the Bible record and likewise the result so foreshadowed. Therefore in view of the conditions now prevailing in Canada, I feel it my duty, Mr. Secretary, to call your attention to those things, and will be glad to make the proof more explicit if you desire.

Now, my dear sir, you are unintentionally, breeding revolution in your own country. Please understand me: No Christian, no member of the International Bible Students' Association, will attempt a revolution, but there are thousands of order-loving people who are silently looking on and who hate injustice. The people of Canada are far more intelligent than the people of Russia. They will not submit as long and as patiently as the Russians have submitted. The Canadian people do not need a guardian placed over them to determine what they shall or shall not read. They are intelligent, loyal and faithful; but forbearance sometimes ceases to be a virtue. Do you not see that you are reflecting upon the intelligence of the Canadians to say that a man found with a certain religious book in his home is subject to heavy fine and imprisonment? I suggest, my dear sir, that you trust to the good sense of the people of Canada to read what they please and give them credit for being able to discern between what is loyal and what is disloyal, what is right and what is wrong.

Please take your own Bible and read Chapter 17 and 18 of Revelation and then read the comments thereon in "The Finished Mystery." After you have thus done, then humbly ask the Lord to give you wisdom to decide what course you shall take in permitting or denying the people of your nation the right to read what they desire.

I am not pleading for the Bible Students, nor for the International Bible Students' Association. I am asking no favor in that behalf. I am merely asking you to consider carefully the effect that your action will have upon the people at large. When I have called attention to this, then my obligation has ended. You may not see now that "Mystic Babylon" is composed of the ecclesiastical systems, both Catholic and Protestant, and that the mixing of religion and politics is an abomination in the sight of God, and that the clergy are greatly responsible for the conditions now prevailing; but the time will come—and it is not far distant—when the government officials, together with the common people, will see how they have been deceived; and also mark the result.—See Revelation 17:16-18; 18:17-22.

You will never find a revolutionist or an anarchist amongst the International Bible Students. When you come to a full knowledge of the truth of this matter, you will learn that these publications have been put out by order-loving Christian people, who have sacrificed their hard-earned money for the purpose of enlightening mankind and rendering to them all the good possible.

Briefly summed up, you will find the Scriptures to teach clearly that the Gentile Times ended in the Fall of 1914; that the great international conflict was then due to begin, and did begin; that, according to the testimony of Jesus and many corroborative Scriptures, the war will be followed by revolution, famine, pestilence, anarchy and "great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time—no, nor ever shall be;" that the trouble will humble the haughty of mankind; that then will follow the establishment of Messiah's Kingdom of righteousness, for which Christians have been praying for nearly 1900 years; and that His Kingdom will bring to all mankind who love righteousness and hate iniquity, boundless blessings and happiness.

The Scriptures enjoin upon true followers of Jesus the obligation of announcing the Kingdom of God; and the reason we are calling attention to this trouble is to show that, according to the Bible teaching, it must immediately precede the era of great blessing to mankind.

Canada has sent thousands of her brave young men to the battlefield. Many of these have not claimed to be Christians; yet they are good, honest boys. The creeds of neither Catholic nor Protestant systems hold out any hope for those who have died upon the battlefield who make no claim to Christianity. The Bible holds a wonderful hope of blessing

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SPRING IS THE FAVORITE TIME WITH WOMEN for buying new dress skirts. It's the season when the greatest variety of new styles make their first appearance. The separate skirt makes a fitting and inexpensive form of dress for this season, and can be worn with comfort and satisfaction on practically all occasions. We have received several shipments of the latest models, and they are now displayed for your inspection and early choosing. *All our skirts are stitched with silk.*

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JUST RECEIVED IN WOMEN'S SHOE DEPARTMENT TWO BEAUTIFUL PUMPS

In black kid and patent leather, turn soles and leather Louis heels. These are suitable for evening wear now—and you can wear them out-of-doors with spats. Later, you will prove them just the shoe for summer. Stocked in all sizes and widths, AA to D, per pair, \$6.00. Come in and try a pair on. —*Shoes, First Floor*

BUY YOUR GARDEN TOOLS EARLY

Rakes, 40c, 65c, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25. Spading Forks, \$1.55. Spades, long or short handles, \$1.25.

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for them. It is due the bereaved widows and orphans of Canada that they be permitted to know the true teachings of the Scriptures upon these points, that their hearts may be comforted in this time of great sorrow. Yielding to the influence of a selfish narrow-minded clergy, you are being used to deny the good people of Canada that to which they are not only justly entitled, but that which will bring comfort to their hearts. I am sure you would not wish to do this if you properly understood the matter.

I beg to assure you of my kindest feeling toward you and every one else. You have done a great injustice to us by branding us before the world as supporters of the murderous conduct of the Kaiser. The least you can do is to make known our position to the public and to withdraw the order issued by you and leave the verdict to the good judgment of the honest people of your great nation to determine whether or not these Scriptural explanations are seditious. To aid in reaching this conclusion we offer to distribute free of charge in different parts of Canada 200,000 copies of "The Finished Mystery."

I beg to remain, dear sir, Yours very respectfully,
(Signed) J. F. RUTHERFORD,
President International Bible Students' Association.

1215 Richardson Street, Victoria, Feb. 23, 1918.

To the Editor. I always enjoy the pithy and pungent paragraphs by "The Hornet," and therefore hope he will allow me to correct him when he falls into error. In your issue of Feb. 23, he says: "That \$125 a ton is the price of Fertilizer."

"That this looks like a hold-up." It would be interesting to know what particular brand of fertilizer the "Hornet" has in mind. By far the most widely used fertilizer in B. C. is the "Imperial" Brand, manufactured in Victoria. The cash price of this is \$45.60 per ton. Many of the farmers growing clover, alfalfa, peas and beans, are using Superphosphate of Lime, also manufactured in Victoria. The cash price of this fertilizer is \$26.60 per ton. Finely ground bone-meal is sold locally at \$45.60 per ton. The cash price of Nitrate of Soda is \$120.65 per ton; this high price being due to the scarcity of ocean tonnage and also to the fact that Nitrate of Soda goes in some form into every high explo-

sive. It is scarcely fair to regard this price as a "hold-up." The fact is that the increase generally in the price of chemical fertilizers is less than in any other line.

Yours very truly,
M. H. DOBIE.

God sent me a message today, for a lily was dropped in my way, There were lines traced in gold, thus the fair flower told To His child what the Lord had to say.

I read in this cup of delight, so delicate, fragrant and white, That the Lord He is true, when "from out of the blue"

He should drop such fair things in my sight.

I read that the Lord He is kind, for His glorious infinite mind

Is concerned for the good of a creature who could But die if God's gifts were declined.

I read that the Lord He is fair, when from out of the featureless air He can fashion the bowl of the lily, my soul

To refresh with a joy past compare.

I read that the Lord loveth me, for He made it His purpose to see That my steps should draw nigh His fair gift to espy

And be thrilled with His love, full and free.

J. W.

WANTED—Good, live, energetic BOYS to sell THE WEEK on Saturday mornings in Esquimalt, Fairfield, Oak Bay, Spring Ridge, Victoria West, Saanich, and other outside points.

Keep a Cow

ALD. R. J. PORTER made a common sense suggestion when he advocated the inauguration of a "keep-a-cow" movement. Large numbers of private families could keep a cow on the vacant lots which surround their homes. The cost during the summer would be negligible and the cost during the winter would certainly not exceed the cost of the milk, butter, cheese, and other milk products which the average family consumes. The cow is of all animals the most useful. At a conservative estimate the possession of a cow may be regarded as an addition to income of \$10 per month. A more general interest in cow-keeping will tend to increase the production of beef, fats, leather and other invaluable commodities, and also tend to reduce the cost to the consumer. Therefore THE WEEK commends Ald. Porter's suggestion to the earnest attention of the City Council and the public.