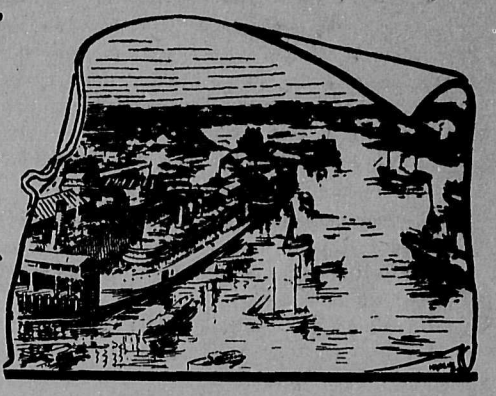
MAY 4 1918

Next Week--"Why Churchmen Should be Socialists" By a Church of England Minister

The Week

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



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What Some Men Are Up Against At The Willows.—*See Page 3*

The Indictment of Capitalism

WERE you to ask the linotype operators employed upon any of our great metropolitan dailies the words mostly used in newspaper copy of today, the answer would be Democracy and Socialism. Test the accuracy of this statement when you take up your newspaper again and it will be a revelation to you how often these words occur. Living in an age where Capitalism is the prevailing method of production, it is worthy of passing notice that the word Capitalism seldom occurs in print or its effects referred to by newspapers supporting this form of industrialism. That the passing of Capitalism is clearly recognized by the money interests and their associates, the trusts, is evidenced by the nature of the fight they are putting up for its retention, for there is no attempt to defend the inequalities inherent in the state of today.

The educational and publicity agencies, the school, pulpit and press are muzzled. Intelligent criticism of the abject poverty of the masses, with its co-committant evils; sickness, ignorance, vice and crime would only serve to fan the fires of rebellion and hasten the passing of monarchial institutions. To the press, the greatest of all forces in moulding the thoughts of a nation, is committed the task of misrepresenting the mission of Socialism, Capitalism's logical successor. Its teachers have been villified, persecuted and socially ostracised. In this Province the worker with Socialistic leanings has been hounded out of the country in order to break up his propaganda and parliamentary aspiration. We have the undisputed evidence of this from a former member of our local legislature, a man whose word neither Liberal nor Tory will deny. What has occurred here is typical of what has been going on all over this Dominion and the country south of the boundary line. It is not the purpose in this article to speak of the relative qualities of Capitalism and Socialism, nor to give an exposition of what Socialism really means; this may be done upon another occasion. Since a very large number of our citizens in their wisdom support the Liberal and Conservative parties, it will be interesting in this indictment to put their faith to a practical test by clearly bringing home to them the code of morals subscribed to.

It may come in the nature of a surprise to many to learn that Capitalism has nothing inherent in itself that is clean, noble and alive. What we regard as law and order is in reality, injustice and social anarchy. Human life and right, which in a truly democratic state would occupy the first place or principle of recognition, is made subservient to the rights of property.

Life itself is dependent upon land and the resources of nature. This is fundamental and not open to dispute. It therefore follows that private ownership of these means gives to the holder, a right or title to the product or wealth created from them. Under such a system, exploitation in its worst form can be legally practiced and defended. It is the intention here to show to what extent this has been accomplished and how it has brought about an event in human relationships of far reaching consequences. A class war exists, for there is war and nothing but war between the privileged class thus created and the deposed, notwithstanding the conventional cant about the alleged harmony of their economic interests. There is no more harmony today between privately owned capital and wage earning labor than there is between the wolf and the lamb.

A Social writer in criticising Capitalism says:

"The modern Capitalist extracts his profits by dint of this economic power, the modern toiler does his share of the work under protest. When he does not strike or boycott or destroy his employee's property, he renders his services grudingly. Instinctively he hates his employer for he feels that the latter is robbing him of a large portion of his legitimate product by means of an artificial social arrangement. The employer feels and fears that hatred and is always on the watch to quell the ever anticipated revolt of his hands by a course of starvation, enforced if needs be by the clubs of the police, the rifles of the militia or by court injunctions. Industrial disputes in peace times are not the exception, they are almost the rule, in the relations of employer and employee. The industrial derangement miscalled system operates through a state of permanent industrial warfare in which the true producers of all wealth are treated as prisoners of war. This general and relentless social strife is not fomented by malevolent agitators, it is rooted in the very foundations of the system of Capitalism and is the most damning indictment against it."

Another writer, criticising the present social order, says: "Capitalism stands for the robbery of, and assassination of the worker. It is worthy of no place in a sane civilization."

Capitalism, then, is social anarchy, pure and simple. It will if persisted in destroy this civilization as effectually as former civilizations have been destroyed. This in fact is what it is now accomplishing through an agency of its own commission: A world war.

INDUSTRIAL AND POLITICAL DOMINATION

It is unnecessary here to go into a discussion of the Capitalists domination of the state, its corruption of politics, or its control of education, religion and the press of the country. If doubt ever existed in these matters, it has been abundantly cleared up in events which have transpired since the war began.

ECONOMIC ASCENDENCY OF CAPITALISM

The Socialist contends that the system of private Capitalism erects an unsurmountable barrier between the workers and their work and the people and their food. The economic ascendency of the Capitalists places them in a position to apportion the annual product of a country among its inhabitants. To be sure, they do not discharge that function consciously or planfully; they operate indirectly, each within his own sphere, but the collective result of the process amounts to an effective division of wealth, periodically accomplished by the Capitalist class. And the plan upon which the division proceeds is exceedingly simple.

The working population as a whole gets just a little less than is necessary to maintain it in physical fitness for its task and to enable it to reproduce the species worker. The balance is retained by the Capitalist as their just share of the national wealth. It is this method of wealth distribution which rears our thousands of powerful millionaires with their grand mansions and dazzling luxury, and it is this method that breeds our millions of paupers, with their disreputable dwellings, their filth and rags. To this system of wealth distribution we are indebted to our libraries, rescue missions and charitable institutions of all descriptions, for our pauperism, child labor, white slavery and other forms of destitution, crime and vice. Some may think these hard words, a little overdrawn or untrue. Let us introduce then other evidence of an indisputable character in support of these assertions.

Let us take the country south of the boundary line, since it presents an example of trust development unequalled elsewhere. We quote now from the Report of the Industrial Relations Commission appointed by the United States Congress to discover the underlying causes of dissatisfaction in the industrial life of that country and to report its conclusions thereon. The Commission was composed of nine persons appointed by the President. Three of these were employers of labor, three the representatives of organized labor, and three, not connected with either interest mentioned, representing the public. There were 230 witnesses examined consisting of Capitalists, Bankers, Lawyers, Efficiency Engineers, Employment Agents representing Employees, and 245 witnesses affiliated with Labor. There were 265 affiliated with neither workers nor employers, a total of 740, taking up a period of 154 days of the Commission's time.

In submitted his report to the 64th Congress, the Chairman says: "The plan of submitting none but undisputed facts in this final report has been faithfully adhered to. No statement or conclusion of fact *adverse to the attitude or interest of any person or group of persons is submitted except as declared or assented to by the person or by the individuals comprising the group affected.* Thus for the first time the facts in relation to the conditions in the industries examined and the relations inquired into are placed beyond the realm of controversy and established upon the solid and scientific basis of ascertained and indisputable fact."

CAUSES OF INDUSTRIAL UNREST

The investigations of the Commission showed the wealth of the country and income which is produced through the toil of the workers is distributed without regard to any standard of justice. The day laborer has less than enough to feed his family, while others who have done nothing live at ease. In the basic industries unemployment averaged twenty per cent of the year's work with hundreds of thousands constantly out of work. The laws are not equally administered, the whole machinery of government having been frequently placed at the disposal of employers for the oppression of the workers. In some states the right of organization or collective bargaining has been denied workers, the loss of social, political and economic freedom, the Commissions state, was destroying the fibre of manhood.

CONCENTRATÉON OF WEALTH AND INFLUENCE

Six financial groups and affiliated interests employ 2,651,184 wage earners and have a total capitalization of $19,875,200,000. They control 28 per cent of the total number of wage earners engaged in the industries covered by the report.

THE POSSIBILITIES

With the inexhaustible natural resources of the United States, her tremendous mechanical achievements and the genius of her people for organization and industry, there can be no natural reason to prevent every able bodied man of our present population being well fed, well housed, comfortably clothed and from rearing a family of moderate size in comfort and security.

ACTUAL CONDITIONS

It was found that the incomes of two-thirds of the families (64 per cent) were less than $750 per year and of almost one-third (31 per cent) were less than $500; the average being $721.

The average size family was 5.6 members. Elaborate studies of the cost of living made in all parts of the country at the same time have shown that the very least a family of five persons can live on in anything approaching decency is $700.

BREAD WINNER MYTH

Seventy-nine per cent of the fathers earned less than $700 per year, thirty-seven per cent of the mothers are out at work; children in the large cities were underfed and ill-nourished.

EDUCATION

One-third of the children in the public schools complete the grammar school course and less than ten per cent the high school. Those who leave are almost entirely the children of the workers who are thrown, immature, illtrained and with no practical knowledge into the complexities of industrial life.

THE INCUBATOR OF CRIME

The unsanitary housing and working conditions, unemployment, wages inadequate to maintain a human standard of living invariably produced the crushed or distorted bodies and minds from which the army of crime and vice is recruited.

EARNINGS OF THE TOILER

Between one-fourth and one-third of the workers, 18 years of age and over in factories and mines, earn less than $10 per week. Two-thirds to three-fourths earn less than $15 per week, and only about one-tenth earn more than $20 per week.

This does not take into consideration lost working time for any cause. From two-thirds to three-fourths of the women workers in the factories, stores and laundries and in industrial occupations generally work at wages less than $8 per week. Approximately one-fifth earn less than $6 per week.

CONTRAST BETWEEN THE EXPLOITED AND EXPLOITER

According to the income tax returns, there were fifty-four families with incomes of over one million dollars each. They performed

BREAD AND ROSES

By JAMES OPPENHEIM

An International Labor Day Song for Women

As we come marching, marching, in the beauty of the day,
A million darkened kitchens, a thousand mill-lofts gray
Are touched with all the radiance that a sudden sun discloses,
For the people hear us singing, "Bread and Roses, Bread and Roses."

As we come marching, marching, we battle, too, for men—
For they are women's children and we mother them again.
Our lives shall not be sweated from birth until life closes—
Hearts starve as well as bodies: Give us Bread, and give us Roses.

As we come marching, marching, unnumbered women dead
Go crying through our singing their ancient song of Bread;
Small art and love and beauty their drudging spirits knew—
Yes, it is bread we fight for—but we fight for Roses, too.

As we come marching, marching, we bring the Greater Days—
The rising of the women means the rising of the race—
No more the drudge and idler—ten that toil where one reposes—
But a sharing of life's glories: Bread and Roses, Bread and Roses.

little or no useful service to the state, but their aggregate income was equal to the earnings of one hundred thousand wage earners at an average rate of $500. Two per cent of this privileged caste owned sixty per cent of the wealth. Thirty-three per cent of a middle caste own thirty-five per cent of the wealth. The poor sixty-five per cent of the people own less than five per cent of the wealth.

AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS

The most alarming fact in America is the rapid growth of tenancy. In 1910 there were 37 tenant-operated farms in each 100 farms in the United States as compared with 28 in 1890, an increase of 32 per cent in 20 years.

No nation-wide investigation of the conditions of tenant farmers has ever been made but in Texas where the investigations of this Commission were through and conclusive it was found not only were the economic conditions of the farmer extremely bad but he was far from being free while his future was regarded as hopeless.

Badly housed, illnourished, uneducated and hopeless these tenant farmers continue year after year to eke out a bare living, moving frequently from one farm to another in hope that something will turn up. Without a large family the tenant farmer cannot hope to succeed or break even, so in each tenant family numerous children are being reared to a future under present conditions no better than their parents if as good.

The condition of agricultural laborers cannot be dismissed without referring to the development of hugh estates which are operated by managers with hired labor on what may properly be called a factory system. The conditions are deplorable because of the low wages paid, 80 cents per day. These estates are a law unto themselves, the absolute dictators of the lives, liberties and happiness of their employees.

THE INDICTMENT STANDS

Enough has been quoted here to justify the statement that Capitalism stands for the robbery of the worker. No more shameless, nay! degrading system has ever been practiced under feudalism. So secure have the courts and legislatures been made in the interests of th exploiter that the worker is without redress, without hope. Justice is a complete mockery, a travesty upon every conception of fair dealing. Nor is the wrong confined to robbery alone. The use of Federal and State troops, the arming of gunmen under the guise of protecting property has placed the disciplinary powers of the state in private hands, a dangerous precedent when we consider the result in Ludlow and other mining camps.

WILFUL MURDER

Perhaps the most glaring example of force directed to private ends is evidenced in the Colorado strike in which an attack was made by mine guards on the Ludlow tent colony. Previous to this massacre, a number of workers were killed and wounded necessitating the removal of workers and their families from the companies houses to the Forbes tent colony, a spot outside of the mining companies holdings. This precaution was taken in order to avoid conflict with the mine guards who had previously threatened to wipe out the workers. Let us take from the report itself the statement openly admitted by the mine officials. On April 20th, militiamen destroyed without provocation, the Ludlow tent colony, killing five men and one boy with rifle and machinegun fire and firing the tents with a torch. Eleven children and two women were burnt to death or suffocated after the tents had been fired. Hundreds of women and children were driven terror stricken into the hills or near-by ranch houses. Others huddled for twelve hours in pits underneath their tents or in other places of shelter while bullets from rifles and machineguns whistled overhead and kept them in constant terror. Having burned and looted the tent colony comprised of over 1,200 men, women and children, the militiamen on the following day maintained a close watch in all directions and fired on all persons who showed themselves in the roads or nearby fields and hillsides. That this was done with the full knowledge and consent of John D. Rockefeller, who owned forty per cent of the company's holdings, is admitted to the Commission, who report him as following step by step the struggle of his executive officials to gain arbitrary power and he supported this struggle in every letter he wrote his agents.

THE RIGHTS OF MAN VS. PROPERTY

In summing up the measures necessary to prevent a repetition of such scenes, the Commission report that the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution, although designed as a humanitarian measure in origin and purpose, has been within recent years practically appropriated by the Corporations. It was aimed at restraining and checking the powers of wealth and privilege. It was to be a charter of liberty for human rights against property rights. The transformation has been rapid and complete. It operates today to protect the rights of property to the detriment of the rights of man. It has become a Magna Charta of accumulated and organized Capital.

PERSONAL RIGHTS SUPREME

In considering the action which needs to be taken, the Commission says: "It has been urged by some that the end to be achieved is to place personal rights on a parity with property rights. It is necessary to render a firm protest and warning against the acceptance of such an ideal. The establishment of property rights and personal rights upon the same level can only leave a constant and ever growing menace to our popular institutions. With the acceptance of such an ideal, our democracy is doomed to ultimate destruction. Personal rights must be recognized as supreme and of unalterable ascendency over property rights.

RELIGION UNDER CAPITALISM

When we consider the form of industrialism a subscription to the Liberal and Conservative parties entails, we must eventually recognize the great wrong we are perpetrating upon an incoming generation. With the social conscience awakened, the moral senses quickened, we are apt to perceive in our religious institutions a perversion of the code they are supposed to teach. How religion can subscribe to an industrial programme out of harmony with its tenets or become national in scope is beyond understanding unless we accept the Socialist's explanation that every historical or industrial epoch carries with it its own moral and religious conceptions. *Religion today is the moral reflex of the system itself.* It must either accept the state of society in which it exists or fight it, and fight is out of the question when it affects the interests of the powerful money group that now control the world's destinies. We find a set of principles preached by the founder of Christianity at variance with the system of industrialism we practice. Christianity will prevail, but not until the present system has been supplanted by one in consonance with its teachings. That system is coming—and soon. When it does, it gives promise of righting the wrong of the ages: Man's inhumanity to man. Let us, with the poet, speaking of the period between midnight and morning, say:—

You that have faith to look with fearless eyes
Beyond the tragedy of a world of strife,
And trust that out of night and death shall rise
The dawn of ampler life:

Rejoice, whatever anguish rend your heart,
That God has given you for a priceless dower,
To live in these great times and have your part
In Freedom's crowning hour.

That you may tell your sons who see the light
High in the heavens, their heritage to take:
"I saw the powers of darkness put to flight—
I saw the morning break."

Red Patriotism

¶ *"The Spirit of Canada, no words of mine can picture — it is patriotism incarnate."*—Sir Robert Borden, speaking in New York.

We heave one big long sigh of relief. Certain articles that have appeared in the local press had led us to fear that somewhere in Canada there was a very dangerous article travelling round known as German Propaganda. Others, written from another viewpoint, have hinted that a good deal that passes for patriotism is only a 5½% imitation. Now that Sir Robert has spoken in these ringing words spoken above, we trust that these writers — all of them — will keep their mouths shut. Any statements such as they have been in the habit of making would tend to prove that Sir Robert was a (deleted) and this would be contrary to the new press regulations. By the bye, we wonder whether Sir Robert thought it necessary to explain to the New Yorkers that he had made it impossible for Canadians to be anything else but patriotic—if they wanted to keep out of jail?

Gompers Again

¶ *"Never in the history of the country have so few men been engaged in disputes with employers as at the present time."*—Samuel Gompers at Ottawa.

This is another sample of Sammy's soft soap.

Sammy! Sammy! Why don't you stick to the truth? Surely you don't expect us to swallow everything you say this side of the Line any more than we expect you to swallow all that Borden says on your side. You and Sir Robert make a great pair—and if you would only stay on this side long enough you would doubtless soon become Sir Samuel.

We don't know how often Sammy is going to trot out his wonderful statement of "can that damn fool stuff." It is getting to be almost a classic, and we may soon expect to see ads for "Gompers' Canned Peace Preserves, 1914 crop." What has often given us cause for wonder is that anything that Sammy wrote immediately before the war should turn bad so suddenly. There must have been something fishy about it.

Fighting and Eating

¶ Sydney, Australia, April 27.—*"The Massey-Harris Company is discharging its unmarried employees declaring it feels bound to release them for the service of the Empire."*

This means, then, that while these men were working for the Massey-Harris Company they were not in the service of the Empire—which is quite an acknowledgement. Somewhere or other we have either read or heard words to this effect: "He that will not work, neither shall he eat." The Massey-Harris Company have evidently revised that by substituting the word "fight" for the word "work."

Should the workers of Australia decide to accept the revised version, the Massey-Harris Company must not be surprised if they go farther and decide on making their own choice as to whom they should fight.

This Comes From Germany

¶ *"If the kings and statesmen don't know how to end this war, ending it in the sense of reconciling all the peoples, then the people must finish the business themselves. I shall bless the day when this is done, the day when the people will take their fate into their own hands against the kings and the statesmen and the militarists, and above all, against the militarists of Germany."*—Oscar Cohn, Socialist Member in the Reichstag.

Isn't this the way we want to encourage them to talk in Germany?

We have been trying to say something like this ourselves for a long time, but it doesn't go down very well. It's only when we hear of them doing it in the enemy country that we get to understand the real meaning of it.

Don't All Speak at Once

¶ *"It is reported that Lord Northcliffe, chairman of the London headquarters of the British Mission to the United States and Director of Propaganda in Enemy Countries, has tendered his resignation on account of ill health."*

We respectfully suggest that the name of the editor of the *Colonist* be at once forwarded to the British Premier as a suitable successor. We know of no one who has shown such ability in scenting out the work of enemy propagandists here. We feel that would be a sufficient guarantee of his ability to act as *director of propaganda in enemy countries.* It would also give him a nice chance to retire gracefully before it becomes necessary for him to explain to the satisfaction of his readers some of the things he has been saying in the last two years.

Handbook by Mrs. C. Spofford

¶ Now that the women of British Columbia have been given the equal franchise, they will want all the helpful information available regarding the political realm in which they are destined to play a most important part. It is no reflection upon the hosts of new women voters if they do not know everything there is to be known about government practices and institutions. In that respect they are no worse off than ninety per cent of the male species who have hitherto had the monopoly of the vote. The woman voter, however, may be expected to show a keener interest in the actualities of the political world than the average male voter has done hitherto. She will want to know the why and the wherefore of her voting power, what use it may be for her own sex so long kept in ignorance and so long at the mercy of the little lords of creation who wag their tongues in parliament. Anticipating this condition of things, Mrs. C. Spofford has just published a little booklet entitled "The Busy Women's Handbook on Civics and Laws." The book gives in a concise but quite lucid form a mass of useful information explanatory of many customs and institutions about which every voter should be informed. We heartily commend this booklet as just the very thing needed by both men and women electors. It may be had at the book stores for the modest sum of ten cents.

Capital Punishment

¶ A bill is to be presented to the House at Ottawa to abolish Capital Punishment. THE WEEK hopes that Mr. Bickerdike will be able to put it through. We have always held that all punishment should be used either with the object of reforming the transgressor or preventing others from transgressing. There is not a single case on record of capital punishment having either these effects. Mr. Bickerdike writes us as follows:—

Montreal, April 12th, 1918.

Editor, THE WEEK.

Dear Sir.—I have been requested to state publicly my reasons for requesting our Government to abolish Capital Punishment in Canada and in reply would say that the death penalty is in flagrant defiance of the Word of God as contained in both the Old and New Testaments, a relic of barbarism and a rebellious usurpation of a power which customs cannot justify.

The commandment "Thou shalt not kill" applies equally to the State as to the individual. That imperative command issued amid the thunders of Sinia leaves no room for debate or doubt; it is succinct, positive, direct, and came direct from the Father. The command is still there, old but ever new, immutable, imperishable, ineluctable, and leaves no space for quibbling or dissembling. "Thou shalt not kill."

In every country and state where capital punishment has been abolished, capital crimes have decreased and society can be just as well protected by sending our unfortunate criminals to penitentiary and putting them to some useful work and placing their earnings at the disposal of those whom he has deprived of a bread winner. This would be more humane than sending their unsaved souls into Eternity.

There is a superstition, older than history, that if you do something as bad to your enemy as he has done to you, you have squared things up, have balanced the account and are ready to appear before the Throne of Justice with clean hands. In primitive times the doctrine of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth was recognized as sound religion and was taught from the pulpit on alternate Sabbaths with the statement, "Vengeance is Mine: I will repay, saith the Lord." Theoretically we still believe in the latter statement. We think that he who taketh the life of another will suffer in the next world and we are impatient with the Lord's slowness; we desire to expidate matters, to help Him out, by sending the offender to his doom as quickly as can decently be done. So we hang him. This would be highly laudable could we exhibit the badge of Divine Deputy Sheriff, but lacking this it is mere meddling with the affairs of the Almighty and raises the question whether we are not collectively as criminal as the fellow whom we hang. And if we analyze our feelings we are likely to find underneath a distorted idea of ourselves as administrators of Eternal Justice, a large residum of that very feeling of revenge which is without reason, the relic of savage impulse and often differing little from the motive of the murderer himself.

Your truly, ROBT. BICKERDIKE.

That Saturday Holiday

¶ *"Nothing is ever settled until it's settled right.*

The truth of this adage is further exemplified by the present position of the vexed half-holiday question. On all sides are heard expressions of discontent with the Wednesday holiday and the long working Saturday. The clerks are more determined than ever to regain the holiday of which they were robbed by chicanery and fraud; the merchants—even those who voted for Wednesday at the recent plebiscite—are disappointed with things as they are and favor a return to Saturday; and the public is too busy attending to increased cultivation to be able to give Saturday to down-town shopping. Everything points to a swing of the pendulum at the next election. In preparation for this event the Retail Clerks' Union is about to organize its forces. Hundreds of underpaid shop-girls will be placed on the voters' list even if they have to pay the iniquitous $2 for which votes are sold in this city. If necessary, the public will be asked to assist in this good work. Political emancipation is but a step to economic freedom. With the vote as their weapon these shop-girls will force terms which a cruel system has denied them. They will demand, and take, the Saturday holiday. They will from time to time force an upward revision of the minimum wage. And further they will not rest satisfied until working hours are so reduced as to conserve their health and strength. This duty they owe to themselves and to the nation. They are the future mothers of the race. Anything which impairs their health is inimical to the welfare of the British Empire. On Tuesday next the Retail Clerks will commence their Saturday Half-holiday Campaign. It will not be won in the weeks which just precede the election. The issue will be placed beyond all doubt long before then. This time they will not rely merely on the justice of their case. To justice they will add eternal vigilance and political wisdom. The combined voting strength of the clerks and their friends will come as a great surprise to the pundits of the Retail Merchants' Association. And although the disappointment of the clerks just now is profound by reason of their lost holiday, they yet live in the sure and certain hope that by this time next year they will be in full enjoyment of paradise regained.

Very Satisfactory

¶ *"Thou shalt not kill."*—JEHOVAH.

"At present both the British and French armies are very busy killing Germans, and killing them at a very satisfactory rate indeed. This, of course, is our immediate object."—A French Officer (*Colonist*, April 30th).

At The Street Corner

BY THE LOUNGER

Many years ago when as a little boy I used to attend church regularly, and like most boys thoroughly enjoy the singing part of the church programme (perhaps for the reason that it was such a pleasant break from the preaching part). One day I was called to order by a "grown up" for *singing a wrong version of* "Come All Ye Faithful." It appears that the verger of the church was rather an obnoxious sort of person, at any rate we boys used to hate him. He was very proud of his family vault in the church-yard. I never queried but that my interpretation of the hymn was perfectly correct, and always used to shout very lustily when the line came "as he abhors the vergers tomb." "Oh come let us annoy him" seemed to be a perfect corrally of my opinion of vergers.

I was almost grown up before I knew that "When He Cometh" was not Winnie cometh to make up her jewels. I always thought that Winnie was somebody who must have had something to do with a jeweller's shop.

I always referred in "God our help in ages past" to "our infernal home."

I never understood what the word was that rhymed to "happy and glorious" in the national anthem. It was always sung "happy and glooorius" and the nearest I could get to it was reign ooooooorius, and I never knew what it meant. I met a little kiddy once who quite seriously told me that he never understood why they called God a halibut. I kept my face luckily when he quoted the second line of the Lord's prayer, "halibut be Thy Name."

"Sonny my Soul" always appeared to me very loving and quite natural.

• • •

I always enjoy a service at the Cathedral—and I enjoy the good Dean's sermons. He says such plain, bold things. On Sunday last in preaching on "New Thought," he made the statement, "That the whole fabric of the orthodox church was built about the Divinity of Jesus Christ, and that IT WAS NOT TO HIS TEACHINGS THEY WERE PLEDGED, but something further—His divine person.

This is something new to the Lounger. He had always been under the impression that the English Church was pledged to the teachings of Christ. The Dean says no, and he ought to know. It comes as a disappointment but at the same time it explains away a good many things that have been hard to understand. It is, at all events, very honest of the Dean to come out so boldly and it leaves it open for him to adopt any other teachings that seem suitable.

Personally, I think that any attempt to place the teachings of Christ on a lower level than His Personality and to honor the Personality more than the teachings is only a form of superstition. "Why call ye me Lord and do not the things which I say?"

• • •

The Pessimist dropped in to see me the other evening. He is a Socialist and he and I don't always exactly hit it.

"What do you think of freedom in Canada now?" he asked as he sat down.

"Freedom," said I, "haven't we got as much as we always had? That is, pretty nearly as much. What's troubling you now?"

"Well, in the first place, you and your Union Government take away a man's freedom to say whether he *shall or shall not fight*. You——"

"Hold on there," I interjected. "We only take away part of it. He is still free—free to make his own choice. *He can either join the* Infantry and go on foot; he can join the Aviation Corps and go in the air; or he can join the Navy and go on the water. He is perfectly free to choose."

"Yes, that may be," replied the despondent one, "and when he comes back he is equally free to take any old pension he can get, or go without."

"Now, then," said I, "don't go critizing the Government or you will be up against it. They'll see that the returned soldier gets all that's coming to him—when they have finished 'winning the war.' You can't expect them to attend to two things at once."

The Pessimist struck his fist on the table. "Now you're talking," said he. "Where's your freedom of speech when you are not allowed to indulge in adverse criticism?"

"My dear fellow," I remonstrated, "we can't expect everything in war times. We are all perfectly free to say anything we like so long as it is favorable to the Government of Canada and all our Allies. Quite free to do this, or keep our mouths shut. What more do you want? When we get through the job of beating these horrid Huns there won't be any need of restrictions at all. We shall be able to say just what we like."

"Yes, if we're alive to say it," answered my friend. "There was a whole lot of boys that went away with the old 88th that won't have any thing to say on that matter. And now look at the latest regulation. If your employer thinks that you are of more use in the army than where you are now he fires you. When that happens, if you don't join up no one is allowed to supply you with a meal or a bed or a ticket for transportation of any kind. How much freedom have you got there?"

"Why, my good man," I argued, "You are still free. Free to join up—which, of course, is the proper thing to do—or free to walk. Isn't that freedom for you?"

"Oh, sure thing," he replied as he got up and reached for his hat. "Freedom to walk. The right to move up and down the public road till you drop from exhaustion. That is all. *Literally and absolutely all.*

HUGHES RESENTS THE BOLSHEVIKS

Much resentment is being caused by the refusal of the Hughes Government in Australia to recognize the Bolsheviki consul-general recently appointed by the Lenine-Trotzky Government.

The new consul-general is named Peter Simonoff, and for a considerable time was a working miner at Broken Hill, a Labor propagandist, and a member of the Labor Volunteer Army formed there to actively resist conscription had it been enforced. *Later on he was the editor of a Russian* newspaper in Australia, which had the misfortune to be confiscated by the Hughes Government a little time ago.

Simonoff is in Sydney at the present time, and has spent a couple of days with the Australian representative of this journal, Mr. W. Francis Ahern, and states he is going to interview Hughes personally and demand recognition in Australia. Unless this is granted him, there is likely to be trouble. Despite his appointment, Simonoff states that he will spend most of his time in propaganda work among the workers of Australia, and will give short shift to the wealthy interests in the country.—B. C. Federationist.

The Voice of the Early Church

By St. Ambrose (Latin) 340-397.

How far, O rich, do you extend your senseless avarice. Do you intend to be the sole inhabitants of the earth? Why do you drive out the fellow sharers of *nature and claim it all for yourselves?* The earth was made for all, rich and poor, in common Why do you rich claim it as your exclusive right? The soil was given to the rich and poor in common. Wherefore, oh ye rich, do you unjustly claim it for yourselves alone? Nature gave all things in common for the use of all; usurpation created private rights. Property hath no rights. The earth is the Lord's and we are his offspring.

The pagans hold earth as property. They do blaspheme God.

Only One-third of Italian Army Fed

In Italy only one-third of the army is being maintained on the battle lines, the official explanation being that there is not sufficient food. The strong Austrian army facing the Italians is said to have received large supplies from Russia.

The shortage of wheat in France has become so serious that the bread ration of the French soldiers has been reduced.

WHAT MEN ARE UP AGAINST AT THE WILLOWS

¶ *"I am up against too big a combination."* These were the words of a soldier who died a few days ago in the Jubilee Hospital, a victim to the severity of military rule as administered at the Willows.

THE WEEK has heard of many cases of brutal treatment out at *the Willows, and has on more than one occasion called attention to* them and given the authorities an opportunity to contradict them if they were not true. This they have never done. Apparently the question as to whether these men were being treated decently did not give them any concern.

Many reports have come to our ears within the last few weeks about conditions here and in Vancouver, and we have refrained from making comment until we had sufficient evidence to warrant us in coming out boldly and letting the public know to what extent some of the military authorities are overriding all the claims of common humanity and justice.

The evidence is at last in our hands. What we have suspected all along is true, and human life is no longer held to be the same *sacred thing we once thought it was. In one case at least a life has* been sacrificed just for the want of ordinary care.

F. C. Howes, of the No. 4 Company, 2nd Dept. Battalion., recently died in the Jubilee Hospital, and this is the history of his case as told by letters written by him and information furnished us by one who was in close touch with him right up to the time of his death. He is described as a man of good character and clean habits—A man whose death was little short of murder on the part of the authorities.

Mr. Howes had frequently made claims to be put on the sick list but without avail and at last he decided to see a doctor for himself and so "broke camp" for the purpose. The doctor told him that he ought to go to bed at once and that unless he did so he would not like to say what the consequences would be. On his return to camp he was sentenced to seven days C. B. and five days pack drill. As was to be expetced, this settled him. He was put in hospital and never *came out alive.*

His letters speak for themselves, and the following history of his case was furnished to a representative of THE WEEK by one of his friends.

History of Case

Pte. F. C. Howes.

Joined two years ago (more).

Came from Massett, Graham Island, where he held a farm. Left that to take on H. M. service.

Was moved about in Engineers, Class C at first, but later classed A2 and put into the Infantry, No. 2 Co., Willows.

Was anxious to go overseas.

Has a cousin named Charles Stillwell, operator on C. P. R.

To this man he assigned as next of kin.

Believed he came from England orginally.

About middle of February showed signs of sickness, but was not allowed on sick list..

On or about 15th February called on a friend who, seeing his condition, took his temperature, which registered 103.

Advised by friend to go at once and report sick.

But went first to consult a downtown doctor, who ordered him to go back, get to bed or consequences would be serious.

In such serious condition, stayed down town that night, probably at the Y. M. C. A.

In morning reported at Willows, and was examined by Dr. Hunter, and clapped into guard house, where he lay for some days.

After this, whilst in a weak and exhausted condition, was given pack drill for four days or more.

Then, in a state almost of collapse, ordered to camp hospital.

Later sent to Jubilee Hospital where he lingered for 10 or 11 days, mostly in a state of unconsciousness and showing symptoms of spinal meningitis.

Died on 8th April, cause of death being given as pneumonia.

Officers chiefly responsible said to be Col. Major who gave sentence to punishment suffered by this man; Dr. Hunter, who diagnosed case at critical juncture, but did not give relief or attention which persons acquainted with the condition of the patient contend should have been given.

The matter was reported by civilian to General Leckie at last moment, and Gen. Leckie believed to have enquired into the case, but result not known.

Attention of authorities at Ottawa should be drawn to this case with a view to thorough and impartial enquiry by disinterested persons given *powers to compel and take evidence* under oath.

Object of such enquiry to promote greater care and attention to soldiers when reporting sickness.

Apart from humanitarian considerations, such treatment of members of H. M. Forces as alleged in this case causes unnecessary waste of valuable manpower at a time when the Government is calling for every available man fit to serve in the cause of the Allies.

PTE. HOWES' LETTERS

Willows Camp, Victoria,
March 6th, 1918.

I received your letter and ——'s today and I am glad to know that you are all in good health. I have no news to tell except about myself and the camp and I believe I could talk for a month on conditions in camp before exhausting the subject.

I was out without leave on the night of the 15th February in order to see a doctor. I came back the next day, Saturday, and was put in the guard house till Monday morning when I was before the Company Major and, to my surprise, found I was also charged with trying to break arrest after getting back, which was not true.

Of course, I owned up to being away without leave and I suppose I was a little too plain spoken in telling them why, so I was put back in the guard house and the next day brought before Col. Major. He obliged me with the information that he had been making inquiries about me and had found out I had a very bad character. I told him right away it was a lie and couldn't be proved but he seemed quite willing to believe some person who could not say it openly.

In addition to the time I was in the guard house, I was fined two days' pay, seven days C. B., which means *answering every defaulter's call*, five days pack drill, and all the extra work they could find of an evening, and with physical drill, squad drill and route marching away past the other side of Mount Tolmie, they fixed me so that I am not fit for any real work at all.

The men in the Company are friendly. Every day they want to know why I can't get into hospital. They say I look the sickest man in camp. The cook is very good and fixes me up something extra good for each meal, but I have no appetite for anything that is put up here.

Five men have died since I came here and I believe through carelessness or ignorance on the part of Dr. Hunter.

We had only two military funerals today. There were three new cases of measles in No. 4 Company, and a *case of mumps, and it is reported one* man is down with smallpox.

The ambulance came today and took a man to some hospital in Victoria, *so you can imagine how we all* feel. We look on the ambulance as if it was a hearse. I am not writing this letter with the idea of getting any help because I feel certain I am up against too big a combination and the two daily papers do not print a word of what is going on here, and they must know. Well, this is enough trouble for one letter. I hope I have better news next time.

• • •

Willows Camp, March 6, '18.

Your letter did me more good than all the medicine the doctor has given me. I have no infectious disease. I am all wasted away to skin and bone, and I am just as weak as a cat. I am sorry to hear of your accident while riding Mr. Cleaves' horse. Please ride a quiet, reliable one after this, as you know most people only break their necks once in a life-time and just to oblige me wait till I am dead first. I think another month of this will finish me, if there isn't a sudden improvement.

Do you remember out at Sidney I was able to jump on Billy bareback without any help? Well, last Friday *morning I had to drop out of my physical drill.* I couldn't run a hundred feet and in playing leap frog I couldn't raise myself to the back of *the smallest man there. They have* given me the job of night fireman for the two barracks of No. 4 Company. I keep six heaters going all night and light a fire in the Sergt.-Major's stove in the morning. Then I try to sleep in the day time, but the place gets so filthy and noisy it's hard to get much rest. If I ever get out of the army, I am going on the farm and stay there and anyone who wants to take me as a volunteer or conscript, I'll meet with a double barreled shotgun. The way I'm living now is ten times worse than Pergatory. There is one thing you might do for me, although you may think it's a crazy idea. I have no appetite for food and my eyes are too sore to read but I have an idea I would like some preserved ginger like we bought one day for your mother. I imagine it would help me drive out the rotten taste I have in my mouth all the time through breathing in so much dust off the floor. You can get some of my money from your mother and if *you have time and it's a fine day I* would like you to bring it down on Sunday afternoon about 3 o'clock. Go around the same way as the street *car, back of the Arena, and I will* be by the fence opposite the tents you see there inside the fence.

If I do not show up, go and inquire at the main entrance, and the guard will send a man to find out whether I am in hospital or on duty. Tell them I am in No. 4 Company. I'll try and write a better letter next time.

• • •

Willows Camp, March 12.

Very many thanks for the parcels you sent me. The ginger did me more good than I thought it would. It put some real warmth into me. We are not supposed to have any extra food, but so far I have kept it hidden under my mattress. If you had made a few more guesses you might have guessed right. I have influenza and acute stomach trouble. I often vomit up my breakfast, but am getting over that now. There are four of us in this hospital tent. One man just the same as I am, influenza, etc.; the other two have been here some *time and will be discharged out of* the army when the quarantine is lifted.

Every day a doctor examines my *chest and lungs with a stethescope.* I think that's the right name. He doesnt' say much except that I am not dead yet, and I should have been here a week ahead. Of course, I know that much myself. It is clean and quiet in here and I have a good bed to sleep in and plenty of blankets. For breakfast I get two small pieces of toast, at noon we have some mashed potatoes and beef, supper is the same as breakfast. That is all I manage, but there is tea at each meal and porridge in the morning, but they taste too sickly for me. I drink water instead. So you see there is not much danger of me getting enough temperature for the measles. I don't know how long they will keep me in here, whether it's six days or six months. Some fellows are kept here a week, then sent back to their Company, and in three days are back *in hospital again. One of the men* here, who is being discharged, has been in and out of hospital four times, which must have been rather monot*onous. No. 4 Company that I belong* to, has the worst reputation of any Company in camp; that is, amongst the officers. I have several good yarns to tell you when I see you again. Our Sergt.-Major was arrested last Saturday afternoon for disobeying orders and insulting Major Bullock-Webster. He has his discharge from the Imperial army and was only hired by the day at the Willows. When brought before Col. Major he gave him a good calling down. He said he had thirty years' service in the army and had never seen a camp so badly managed as the Willows; that they treated the men as if they were dogs, but not quite so valuable, etc. An hour later the Sergt.-Major was dressed in civilian clothes, and although the guard tried to stop him he broke out of camp, and I hear he has gone to Camp Lewis, Washington, where they offered him $8 a day.

• • •

Willows Camp, March 18.

I received your letter Saturday evening. The hospital orderlies call only once a day, 6 p.m., for the mail.

I think I have got over the influenza alright. I hear the Doctors thought for a few days it would develop into tuberculosis of the lungs. I have rheumatism in my back and legs.

When I came in first they told me the pain was one of the symptoms of influenza. Only thing that worries me is I seem to be getting weaker each day. I am going to ask the Doctor today when I can get into the "Blues." You are allowed to walk around all day in the blue uniform. One of the Orderlies gets three bottles of milk for me each day from the canteen and heats up a bottle for me each meal. I pay for the milk.

We were moved from the hospital tents last Tuesday to No. 3 Company *barracks. You know all the infantry* moved into tents the day before I went into hospital. They are out on the open grassland, south or west of the camp. I don't like it as well as the tents. It hasn't good ventilation and they seem scared to open the windows.

I am much obliged to Nurse for remembering me. I wouldn't mind trading places with her for a month, I believe she could stand the hospital diet far better than I can. I hope you all had a pleasant drive out to Prospect Sunday.

The weather is very changeable. I suppose that is a sign of spring. Do you think you will get your garden in in time for the first brood of chicks?

Please excuse this style of handwriting but I seem unable to get myself into a comfortable position. If ——— hasn't finished her letter yet, will she tell me how ——— and ——— are getting on, and how long since she saw them.

I do not think there is anything I want the ——— to bring up. I finished the preserved ginger, and believe it did me good, but it caused the Orderly to worry too much. He *thought he'd get into trouble.*

There is one thing I should have put right. It is my number, 2138647, added together makes my present age.

There were no fresh measles yesterday, and but one Saturday so it may be quarantine will soon be lifted.

• • •

Willows Camp, March 25.

I am sorry to say I am still in hospital and weaker than ever. I vomit up nearly everytihng I take, which is just a little milk. I have a new Doctor now. He says I can have anything I want, so if you could manage it I would be much obliged if you send me some preserved ginger and some Phenacatine tablets. I have a taste in my mouth as bitter as gall and get hardly any sleep owing to the perpetual headaches.

I heard today, I may be moved to another hospital Wednesday.

Will, *this letter has taken me all* the morning to write, through getting cramps in my fingers, so it's about time I finished.

I would like if you could tell me whether ——— got the cheque.

If it didn't come, I want to write up north about it. I am sorry about the wood pile, but just wait till I get out again. I'll see what I can do about it.

YPRESS

Shell-torn and battle-scarred.
Ruined and wholly marred!
Unfortunate, desolate
Spot, that will ever be
Famous in history.
For all the world to see!
Many have died for thee,
Gallantly! Gallantly!
Canada will ne'er forget
Her sons that died there! Yet
Heaven and hell mingled, met
In Ypres! 'Tis a mystery!

Maple Bay, near Duncan, B.C.,

Bargains in Homes!

5-Room New House (Victoria West); basement, good plumbing, house well finished; lot 46 ft. x 112 ft. Near car and school. Price $1,300; $250 cash; balance to arrange.

4-Room New Cottage (Oak Bay); basement, house is well finished. Lot 50 ft. x 140 ft. **Near school.** Price, $1,650; $450 cash; balance to arrange.

3-Room New Cottage (Victoria West); with chicken houses and outbuildings; some fruit trees. Lot is fenced. Lot 45 ft. x 118 ft. **Near car and school.** Price $1,200; terms to suit purchaser.

5-Room New Cottaga (Oak Bay); basement, house is well finished, and is in a very good part of Oak Bay, close to car and school. Lot 41 ft. x 128 ft. Price $2,300; terms.

Currie & Power

1214 DOUGLAS STREET
PHONE 1466

In answering this ad say you it in The Week

SOTTO VOCE

BY THE HORNET

That the correspondence column of the daily papers is often the most interesting part.

That sometimes it is the most amusing.

That Mr. Dooley and Walter Foster have done much in the last few years to encourage a smile to appear where a frown used to be.

That the former gentleman raised a kick the other day because a writer in The Week put his name in the same sentence as the Bishop's.

That no offence was intended—to either of them.

That The Week is now open to receive kicks from the other gentlemen.

That Dooley is to be congratulated on his last letter on "Capital."

That he shows that it is not absolutely necessary to have leisure to have brains, and—

That you can't always tell the amount of a man's intelligence by the cut of his clothes.

That Mr. Gadsden also writes interesting letters.

That he complains that certain valuable timber limits are still held by Aliens although the dues on them have not been paid for a long time.

That the Government has not seen fit to cancel them.

That there must be a reason.

That the Registrar of Mortgages might be able to tell us.

That a mortgage on the Alvensleben Company, Limited, holding these concessions in favor of Senator Barnard for the sum of $10,860.05 might possibly account for something.

That the Hornet suggests that a bill be brought before the House at the next session authorizing the Government to pay off these little family affairs so as to let the law take its course.

That this would make everybody happy and contented.

That Prohibition is supposed to be in force.

That a strict observance of the law might reasonably be expected in the Parliament Buildings.

That the pressmen didn't look at things in that light.

That on the last day they left five empty bottles in the press room.

That "Black and White" seemed to be the favorite—there being three of those, one of Johnny Walker and one Old Highland.

That the Hornet believes that none of the local reporters were responsible.

That the bottles were left by those men that came from outside.

That the local men probably did not leave theirs—because they were not empty.

That the new press regulations are not strict enough.

That they prohibit us from making false statements about any of the Allies.

That this is all right, but why discriminate? Why allow us to make false statements about anyone?

That a heavy penalty for making ANY false statement would be more honest, and—

That it would enable us to collect a good many more fines.

SUB ROSA

From time to time I have made many foolish suggestions. That, of couse, is easy for you to believe. No matter, I think right now is a suitable time to repeat one of them. When I lived in England I suggested that the United States be brought nearer to Britain. Quite easy; let Ireland seek admission to the American Union. England would be able to take her army home, and America could grow all her own policemen entirely. That was in the old days, but now that Ireland wants to become a Republic, I think the idea is most apposite. Mr. Wilson, Lloyd George and the Lord Mayor of Dublin please copy. The Irishman of the State of Ireland would not object to being drafted along with the Irishman from the State of Illinois, for don't you know there is more family mail exchanged between New York and Queenstown than between Liverpool and Belfast. The United States and the United Kingdom need to get better acquainted with each other, and why not a joint suzerainity over Ireland as a starter.

* * *

Some months ago I wrote of the Kaiser listening over the telephone to the Police Court trial of one common German, entitled to be called a man. Here is what Edith M. Thomas sings about Liebknecht the author of "Militarism.

"We Germans in Prussia have three cardinal rights; the right to be soldiers, to pay taxes, to keep our tongues between our teeth. . . Consider well the facts: as long as the German people do not rise and enforce their own will, the assassination of the people will continue. Let thousands of voices shout: 'Down with the shameless extermination of nations! Down with those who are responsible for these crimes!' " ("In Militarism.")

Liebknecht, alone you chose the freeman's way—
You would not keep your tongue between your teeth;
Like a bright sword, whipped sudden from the sheath,
Flashed that edged word of yours in dangerous play!
Hence do you suffer civil death today.
Yet, for that word you did to them bequeath,
You LIVE—while your compatriots sunk beneath
A despot's will in spiritual death decay.

What thoughts are yours—past outer sight and sound—
A heavy toil, in penal silence drear,
The while the wheel of Moloch still goes round
And men are broken on it? . . . . Can you hear
(As do our Indians, stooping to the ground),
Oncoming tumult overlords must fear?

* * *

Ever hear of that U. S. A. weekly called "Life"? It is a most inconsistent paper—naturally. Walk to and from work one of these fine days and buy a copy with the ten cents. It often devotes a whole issue to one particular subject. I offer the suggestion that "Life" publish a special "Death" number. There are pictures in the paper, which is what you pay for; the reading matter is thrown in, for of course anybody can write—better than the fellows that do write. Allow me to inject The Week with a jolt from "Life." Keep still now, it won't hurt you; here it is:—

* * *

Why Is My Soldier Sick?

Extracts from an Open Letter to Edwin Ralph Estep

Those who are looking for the true answer to the question of why there is so much sickness among the soldiers, will find it in the fact that they have been **pumped full of disease by compulsory serum inoculations and vaccinations!** His powers of resistance have been so lowered by this systematic and excessive blood poisoning that any and all disease finds him easy prey.

According to the recent statement of a lieutenant from Massachusetts, his regiment received "six inoculations in one day, and the men fell like dead men on the floor, as they were trying to get to their beds." Not a few, but many, became dead men. On one train coming east from Kansas a man reported eight dead soldiers. These men were husky Kansas farmers—before inoculation!

The thousands of deaths deliberately inflicted upon our soldiers and sailors has passed the scandal line—it has become a tragedy!

We hear frequent mention made of war profiteers — there are so many already it is deplorable to have to add another name to the long list, but rarely are the manufacturers of disease mentioned in this class to which they properly belong. Do the people of this country realize that millions of dollars are invested in serum-vaccine producing plants, that they are licensed by the government to manufacture disease to be put into the blood of the race, and that millions of dollars are made each year by the sale of these serums and vaccines? The writer visited one of the smaller disease factories, and was told by the person in attendance that they had furnished "four million inoculations already and the season was only half over"! Are these disease manufacturers in the business for anything but profit?

Why is there so little mention made of this most conspicuous cause of disease among the soldiers?

JESSICA HENDERSON,
Recording Secretary, the National Anti-Vivisection Federation, Inc.

THE BREAKDOWN OF WAR

From Sermon by Rev. Haynes Holmes

One thing, hardly to be described as an event, and yet destined to be regarded perhaps as the most signicant fact of this one enormous year, I must mention, at least briefly, for your final mediatation.

I refer to what I would call the breakdown of war as a method of settling disputes between nations. It will be conceded by us all, I imagine, that nobody anticipated, when this war began, that it would last so long or cost so much. It was in Germany that the hopes of swift and complete victory in 1914 were soaring highest. Her armies were to take Paris in six weeks and thus destroy France, turn swiftly to the east and conquer Russia, then battle with England at their leisure. The prospect could not have been brighter. But look at the reality! For three years and four months, Germany has been fighting unremittingly. She has been triumphant on nearly every field, and now occupies thousands of square miles of conquered territory. But her enemies still stand in their arms against her, and victory is as far away as ever. The Allies on their part had no such hopes in the beginning as the Germans. They realized that they had a long, hard fight ahead, and set themselves grimly to the performance of a terrific task. But the longest time set for this task was Lord Kitchener's three years, and this distinguished soldier was almost alone in making such a forecast.

Today, however, the three years are gone, and more than gone, but still the overthrow of Germany has not been achieved. Especially has this year 1917 been to both sides, from the military point of view at least, a year of bitter disappointment. Vast offensives have been projected, by the Germans in Italy, for example, and by the English at Cambria; these offensives have been carried through at vast expense of men and ammunition, and then in every case have been halted or have broken down. Everywhere the operations of this year seem to bring confirmation of the thesis of the great expert, M. de Bloch, that the defense in modern warfare has been strengthened so vastly at the expense of the offense, that military victory is rendered so difficult as to be almost impossible. The Germans have to all appearances given up hope of winning a military victory and the best soldiers of the Allies are talking of a victory achieved only after a period of from three to a dozen years.

* * *

Now all this has brought about certain very definite results. In the first place, the Allied Governments are talking much more moderately today than in the beginning of the struggle, and men are constantly appearing, like Dr. Eliot in our country, and Lord Lansdowne in England, to urge the possibilities of a negotiated peace. What is going on in the German government is indicted by the peace terms submitted to the Russians on December 27—terms which would have been unthinkable from such a source two years, or even one year, ago. In the second place, the undecisive character of the war is stirring up a degree of popular discontent that is a source of very genuine alarm in all belligerent countries. Revolution is nowhere impossible at the present time. Lastly and most important, this fact of an unfinished war is convincing people of all classes, of all countries, of all varieties of opinion, that war has become impossible in modern times. Its destructiveness is beyond all control. Its cost surpasses all estimate. It enlists every man and every dollar in its support. If now we add to these facts the further fact that war must today be indefinitely prolonged if victory is to be achieved by the stronger over the weaker side, the conclusion is inevitable. War has simply broken down as a method of settling disputes between nations. Nothing is settled by such a method save death, destruction and endless misery. War and civilization, in other words, have become an impossible combination. They cannot longer exist together in the same world. One or the other must go, and the choiec between the two cannot be difficult.

* * *

It is this great fact, that war must be banished if civilization is to endure, that the victory of this war shall be the end of all war, which turns the darkness of 1917 into the light of a new and better day. This year may mark the turning point of history. It may stand forever in men's minds as the last year when man met man in battle. Such glory may be still too good to be true. Mankind, for all its woes, may not yet have learned the lesson. But I at least shall dare to hope. I listen and shall listen to the end, for that "mystic Trumpeter" of Whitman sounding no longer "War's wild alarums," but "a higher strain than any yet."

O glad, exulting, culminating song!
Hymns to the universal God from universal man—all joy!
A reborn race appears a perfect world—all joy!
War, sorrow, suffering gone—the rank earth purged—nothing but joy left!
Joy! Joy! in freedom, worship, love, joy in the ecstacy of life.
Joy! joy! joy!

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.)

"Sheriff's Act"

Victoria, April 25, '18.

Editor The Week.

Dear Sir.—I herewith enclose in printed form a matter that should interest you. In fact, to my mind, it is a question the general public should take up.

That the Sheriff is allowed to defeat justice and to defy the Courts is, to say the least, more than "scandalous."

Yours truly,
R. T. WILLIAMS.

From the Daily Colonist of Sunday, February 10th, 1918:—

"The Act to amend the 'Sheriff's Act" now before the Legislature will meet with general approval, for in effect it makes salaries officers of these appointees of the Crown, whereas formerly they were financially interested in demanding and taking rewards which were often out of all proportion to the services rendered. In future the bulk of these fees will form part of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and the people will benefit proportionately. In some of the States on the American side similar legislation has been enacted, and we believe with satisfactory results.

"And in a number of those States it is specified that no one shall hold the position of sheriff, or that of any of his assistants, who has unsatisfied judgments standing against him in any courts. This is clearly a wise provision for it does not create a healthy feeling if any officer of the Crown is himself within the toils of the law of which he is the agent of enforcement on others."

(The suggestion contained in the last paragraph is not in the new act. —R. T. W.)

In the Supreme Court of British Columbia. Judgment oft he Honorable Mr. Justice Clement. Williams vs. Richards:

"I must give effect to the objection that this application is made by one only of two plaintiffs: In re Wright (1915), 2 Ch. 747; 65 L.J. Ch. 37. The way out of this difficulty is perhaps indicated in Butlin vs. Arnold (1864), 1 H. & M. 715; and Seal vs. Kingston (1908), 2 K.B., 570.

"There is absolutely no merit in the objection. As I have had occasion to remark before, the attitude and conduct of the defendant in this case has become, to my mind, a public scandal. His refusal to answer on his examination as a judgment debtor was, so far as I can see, quite improper. He desires to raise now questions which should have been raised in the action.

"Aplication refused without costs.
(Signed) W. H. Clement, J."

Victoria, B.C., 28th February, 1918.

Potato Cultivation

Be wise in time, and if you are cultivating potatoes send to the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, for Bulletin No. 90. This bulletin is calculated to prove an invaluable aid to the potato grower, whether amateur or professional, whether cultivating field or vacant lots. It tells how to prepare the soil, how to fertilize, how to select good seed, how to plant, how to tendt he plant, how to spray, how to dig, etc., etc.

INTERESTING LECTURE

THE WORLD ON FIRE

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LAND REGISTRY ACT.

Section 24

IN THE MATTER of the Northerly 50 feet of Lot 2, Block 1, Map 1220 A, Victoria District.

PROOF having been filed in my Office of the loss of the Certificate of Indefeasible Tible to the above mentioned lands, Numbered 14188I in the name of Duncan Stewart and bearing date the 19th day of December, 1913, I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE of my intention at the expiration of one calendar month from the first publication hereof to issue to the said Duncan Stewart a fresh Certificate of Indefeasible Title in lieu of such lost Certificate.

Any person having any information with reference to such lost Certificate of Title is requested to communicate with the undersigned.

DATED at the Land Registry Office, Victoria, B.C., this 10th day of April, 1918.

J. C. GWYNN,
Registrar General of Titles.

Apr13-May11

LAND REGISTRY ACT.

Section 24

IN THE MATTER of part, 6.25 chains by 32 chains containing 20 acres more or less, of Section 6, Range 1 East, North Saanich District.

PROOF having been filed in my Office of the loss of the Certificate of Indefeasible Title to the above mentioned lands, Numbers 477I in the name of George G. Sayles and bearing date the 10th day of July, 1908, I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE of my intention at the expiration of one calendar month from the first publication hereof to issue to the said George G. Sayles a fresh Certificate of Indefeasible Title in lieu of such lost Certificate.

Any person having any information with reference to such lost Certificate of Title is requested to communicate with the undersigned.

DATED at the Land Registry Office, Victoria, B.C., this 10th day of April, 1918.

J. C. GWYNN,
Registrar General of Titles.

Apr13-May11

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Loafing Is Now Illegal

All persons domiciled in this country are now supposed to work or show cause why they are idle, according to the new Order in Council. The law applies to all between the ages of 16 and 60, and heavy penalties are imposed against offenders.

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 thatI, 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.
June 22. Victor Vigelius, Agent.

MINERAL ACT

(Form F.)

Certificate of Improvements

NOTICE.

Safety Mienral Claim, situate in the Victoria Mining Division of Sooke District.

Where located: On lot 93, Sooke District.

TAKE NOTICE that I, Harry D. Reid, of Victoria, B. C., the lawful holder of the above named mineral claim, Free Miner's Certificate No. 17199-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.

HARRY D. REID,
Owenr.
June 22. Victor Vigelius, Agent.

MINERAL ACT

(Form F.)

Certificate of Improvements

NOTICE.

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

Where located: On lots 93 and 153, Sooke District.

TAKE NOTICE that I, Annie M. Maxam, of Victoria, B. C., the lawful holder of the above mineral claim, Free Miners Certificate No. 17197-C, intend, sixt 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.

ANNIE M. MAXAM,
June 22. Victor Vigelius, Agent.

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF NAME

NOTICE is hereby given that the Jas. A. Cavanagh Finance Company Limited intends, after the expiration of one month from the first publication hereof, to apply to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies for approval of the changing of its name to The International Brokers, Limited.

JAS. A. CAVANAGH,
Apr6-5t Managing Director.