

"Commerce and conquest have always been the main causes of war. Back of most slogans of strife has ever been the commercial watchword—'trade follows the flag.'—The New York World.

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Appeal to Reason

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What was hastily begun as a war of autocracy is not unlikely to end as a war of revolution, with thrones crumbling and dynasties in exile.—Editorial in New York World.

THEY HAVE OPENED HELL!

THE rude god of war gallops across the world in a saddle of steel and sneers and laughs in savage glee. He wades in blood. His own sweet music is the rattle of rifles and a million sobs and groans from broken hearts. Brute force rules supreme, and to the roar of Christian cannon thrusts brotherhood off the stage. Morally capitalist civilization stands ragged, bankrupt before the world, mockingly mumbles a prayer for help and grinds its sword for the throat of labor. The Hague Peace Conference is a drooling, stuttering bankrupt. The Christian church is palsied, staggering in its tattered poverty of influence to stop the blood gushing from a million wounds, while Christian cannon are battering down the Christian spires and altars of Europe. Capitalism wallows in the stinking filth of its own chaos. Apty may the Devil sneer at the pomp and parade called civilization now in sudden and shameful collapse.

These are the saddest and the bitterest hours in all the tragic upward climb of the human family from savagery to the dawn of the New Time. A few million of the proletariat, scorning creed, color, race and national boundaries in this sublime new day, were learning to utter a new cry, an international call, the blood-brother call, "Comrade!" This call froze Caesar's heart with fear and cruelty. And here is Caesar's order "Kill that call of brotherhood! Down with the proletariat! Down with the International! Stifle the new hope and purpose in a national delirium called patriotism! To hell with the Socialist movement. Choke it! Strangle it! Let the proletariat cut its own throat!"

These are indeed the saddest and most shameful days in human history. Jealous groups of greedy parasites in Europe are quarreling, fiercely, ferociously quarreling—to hold stolen lands, to get more lands, to have more subjects, to have more creators of wealth, to secure more wage slaves, to secure more markets, to get more profits, to get more honors, more glory, more wealth, more power, place and plunder.

Crowned ruffians and greedy Caesars of industry have given the order, the foul and cruel order. Millions are in arms. Millions more are springing to arms—for the honor and glory and enrichment and fattening of these jealous groups of social parasites. Millions more are steeling their souls for the carnage. Millions are shaking the earth with their heavy tread as they rush across the world in ferocious lust of blood.

What shall we do?

Millions of the world's choicest sons and fathers are torn from their homes for deeds that will make mankind blush with shame for ten thousand years. Millions of wives and mothers and fond old grandfathers and prattling children are in tears. Starvation now cruelly clutches for the lives of a million dimpled babies of the poor. Millions sob in the despair of supreme grief.

What shall we do?

The god of war is kicking the pregnant wombs of women while in hellish glee he spits in their faces and hammers their sweet breasts with his iron fists.

These are awful hours and at such a time the supreme question is: What shall we do? We must not sit in dumb silence and in stupid selfishness.

Some things have been done. Some things have yet to be done—and done now.

To the Appeal Army I suggest, I advise, I urge, that they seize the Appeal as a vast megaphone to warn the proletariat of the United States in these supreme hours. Never was the public mind so wide open as it is NOW. Never were the average workingman and woman more easily approachable and teachable than NOW. Never was the workers more greedy for interpretation of the meaning of war and militarism.

SEIZE THE APPEAL—AT LEAST TWO MILLIONS A WEEK—AND POUND HELL OUT OF CAPITALISM. Explain hell by explaining capitalism, and explain capitalism by explaining war and militarism. Bombard the capitalist idea of patriotism and teach an international patriotism. Rouse, comrades, rouse. Dismiss any fool feeling you may have of security against the agony in which our class now writhes in Europe. A powerful capitalist press could rouse a savage in the average breast in one week with the false cry, "National honor"—the same cheap yell that now huris millions of our rage-blinded brothers across national boundaries for foul and awful slaughter. Beware. THIS IS YOUR HOUR for the greatest work yet done for rousing of the oil-dulled multitude, for their own protection against the hell that yawns so easily, so suddenly, so all-engulfingly for the hope and joy of the working class. Courage, imagination, infinite boldness—this tragic hour is crammed with INCOMPARABLE OPPORTUNITY—and demands defiance, the daring of your soul.

Get on the firing line. Today—not tomorrow or next week.

By George R. Kirkpatrick

Author of "WAR..."

Now, Writers are ready to furnish ye... guns of the Appeal for weeks to come the hottest... vilest shots ever fired into the rotting carcass of...

Get on the firing line. The... ready to load itself to the muzzle. With two mil... a week we can reach five million minds per week... The Socialist movement of the entire world. And... ready to serve. Write or telegraph today that ye... Appeal used as a hundred-gun battery of gattling... a sixteen-inch cannon against war and militarism.

USE the present awful... Use this crime! Defeat Caesar, and MAKE USE of his most vast villainy to help drive war from the world.

Comrades, ten thousand cannon are roaring along the false frontiers—that separate brothers and sisters of the working class. Ten thousand gatling guns are pouring a flesh-ripping steel sleet into the faces, breasts, stomachs and thighs of millions of toilers. Get on the firing line with the PROLETARIAT'S GATLING GUN, THE PRINTING PRESS. The night sky is red-flashed with the flame-glare of burning public buildings, of homes, granaries and fire-blasted crops. The sun is darkened at noon with a pall of smoke heaving upward from the steel lips of millions of mortars, rifles and cannon—leaping upward from piles and piles of oil-soaked corpses of toil-worn men and boys—leaping upward from fire-swept civilization reeking with the face-blanching odor of roasting flesh of betrayed men and boys of the working class.

What shall we do? Get on the firing line and challenge every silk-hatted, dollar-lusting looter of the welfare of the workers of the world to the battle line where your ideas may crush his capitalist chicanery.

They have opened hell—that's true. And they have also unintentionally and FORTUNATELY OPENED THE PUBLIC MIND. What shall we do? Pour in the light. While the campaign with cannon lasts in Europe make our political campaign with war and militarism the supreme issue for discussion.

Are you as great a man—are you as heroic a woman—as this crisis calls for? Answer! Answer to your own soul! Answer to the millions who bleed! Answer to the millions who weep! Answer to the children who starve and whimper under the heel of the god of war! ANSWER!

The Conspiracy Not at An End

THE conspiracy that brought the European war as a means of crushing Socialism is not at an end. Indeed, J. P. Morgan, condemned in the New Haven investigation as an arch conspirator, and part originator of the Aldrich-Vreeland currency bill, together with other Wall Street "authorities," is being called into consultation by the president and congress. It would require wisdom and patience to avoid danger in America with them left entirely out of it. With them as advisers, the danger is grave indeed.

The capitalist conspirators first wanted to make loans to France. But the president thought this would mean complications that might bring the United States into the war, and persuaded—think of the president humbly begging a convicted criminal—to not make the loan. Then they began to ask that Uncle Sam buy vessels to enable them to carry on the trade of the nation and send their goods to Europe; to insure the vessels the capitalists owned, and their cargo, against capture by hostile powers; to aid them in their designs upon the workers of South America. They did not mind that this might bring complications and involve America in the war—the fact that it meant profits for them was all they took into consideration.

Then, they conspired to raise prices. There was such a protest that the president interfered, making the charge directly. Said Mr. Wilson, in a letter to his attorney general:

The rapid and unwarranted increase in the prices of foodstuffs in this country on the pretext of the conditions existing in Europe is so serious and vital a matter that I take the liberty of calling your attention to it. I feel that this is a matter which we cannot pass by without trying to serve the country. Certainly the country ought to be defended, if possible, against men who would take advantage of such circumstances to increase the price of food and the difficulties of living.

Just who it is that are advising the government in this crisis is revealed by the following extract from dispatches printed in the Chicago Tribune: Many speakers, including J. P. Morgan, James J. Hill and other financiers, pointed out that Great Britain, France and Belgium already had provided for government war insurance of their merchant shipping.

In other words, they wanted the United States to take the same position in times of peace that these nations did in war, placing

this country practically on a war basis and setting aside peaceful methods. But the Tribune says in another dispatch:

The business men were told that the government is eager to co-operate with them in solving the pressing questions of transportation, shipping, and exchange. The same spirit of co-operation prevailed among the 42 representatives of business who responded to Secretary McAdoo's invitation. Besides the business men, those who attended the conference were Secretary of Agriculture Houston, Secretary of Commerce Redfield, Assistant Secretaries Newton and Malburn of the treasury department, Controller Williams, and the members of the federal reserve board, Messrs. Hamlin, Harding, Miller, Delano and Warburg.

You see who the advisers are. Now notice how they give their advice—behind closed doors. We quote from a dispatch:

To insure freedom of discussion, the conference was held behind closed doors, but the resolutions adopted and some of the proceedings of the conference were made public in a statement issued by Secretary McAdoo.

This in itself sounds like conspiracy. Senator Cummings made a statement in the senate that the ship registry bill asked by these capitalists played into the hands of the big capitalists, and might lead to complications that would bring the United States into war.

The capitalists are being joined in their onslaught on the government by naval officials, whose business is war. A Washington dispatch says:

With war raging in Europe and threatening to spread to the Pacific ocean, naval and military officials are urging the Wilson administration to take immediate steps to place the American navy and army in the best possible shape to deal with possible eventualities.

The report continues that the president had opposed the massing of the navy in the east, but that, under pressure, had consented to have the vessels withdrawn one by one and sent out under secret orders.

And not only this, but the army officials also are getting in their work. Another Washington dispatch says:

Army officers are striving to obtain the army numbering 118,000 men, limited by law to 100,000 men.

Trying to exceed the force authorized by law in times of peace! What can it mean but a conspiracy to bring the United States into the war? Well, it may come.

As appears from other parts of this paper, the masters are conspiring to shoot down the workers. They are importing private armies of gunmen even where the federal troops are in charge. Federal troops are forbidding picket-

ing. The coal king's judges are jailing those who dare to exercise their constitutional rights in criticism of them. The plot is clearly to force conditions in which the workers may be shot into obedience by federal armies and private gunmen.

You wonder that President Wilson submits. The dispatches indicate that he does object, and sometimes obtains concessions. But his party is not loyal to him, and he is as helpless before the conspiring capitalists as though he were hog tied. He is doing all a

good man who believes in capitalism can do against the game of grab that he sanctions yet would limit, but events are proving that

As Capitalist Editors See the Issue

The Capitalist Motive—Profit.
America has a wonderful opportunity offered it. The distress of Europe is our chance. Wise and vigorous effort will put us in an impregnable position of world leadership. It is for the business man to do his share in the work of promoting commerce now.—*Detroit Free Press.*

they who favor capitalism at all are utterly inadequate in this crisis. Only Socialism can meet the situation.

The Socialist Aim—Peace.
It can be depended on that if the rulers of the great nations drench a great continent in human blood, they will have an unparalleled wave of Socialism to combat in the coming generation. For the war that it makes on war is one of Socialism's most conspicuous features.—*Pittsburgh Press.*

"Starve the War and Feed America"

THE thing that interests you is the fact that sugar has doubled in price; that meat and flour and canned goods are up; that you are going to have to pay more for nearly all the things you must use this winter. The president tells you that much of the advance in price is due to the greed for profits of big business. He is probably right. But whether right or wrong, the one big thing that faces you is that you are going to have a hard time to get through this winter. It is not the people of Europe we are talking about now, but your problem here in America.

It is going to be a hard winter for millions right here in this country. You know this statement is absolutely true. You know that it touches you, wherever you may be, or whatever your own condition may be.

Now, what is going to be done about it? Congress is making a pretence of "investigating" the advanced cost of living. But it is just before election, and they bid for your vote with this pretext of doing something for you. What does an investigation amount to? They investigated West Virginia, finding the mine owners guilty—and nothing was done. They investigated Michigan, laying the blame for the civil war there on the mine owners—and again nothing was done. They investigated Colorado, blaming the gunmen of the Rockefeller for the Ludlow massacre of women and children—and nothing was done. They investigated the New Haven steel, pronouncing it the most stupendous piece of criminality on record—and no one has been punished for it. Instead, Morgan, head of the New Haven, is advising the president in this crisis.

What can be done? There is only one thing that will go to the root of the matter. That is partly expressed in an untimely issued by Walter Lanferseik, national secretary of the Socialist party:

We demand that the government, as an emergency measure, seize the packing houses, cold storage houses, granaries, flour mills and such other industries as may be necessary to safeguard the food of the people.

But you say this cannot be done in times of peace. If the government can seize on the wireless telegraph in times of peace, as it has done, it may, as a measure calculated to prevent overcharge and disaster because of a foreign war and home conspiracy, seize on any property that has been used in the line of fostering the conspiracy against the people's welfare.

It can do more. It can make the postal savings banks, banks of deposit without limit, and use the money deposited with them, up to a safe banking margin, in employing the idle at public work that needs to be done, without a penny of public indebtedness.

These two things—lowering the cost of living and finding employment of the idle at useful labor—will solve the problem and make this an easy rather than a hard winter.

Demand this of congress and the president. We are approaching an election, and they will be amenable to suggestion, if forced on them, even though they are inviting to consultation the Morgans and other capitalists who have brought the disaster, and not one worker from the mines and mills, not one tramp from the roadside, who understands the situation better than any of them. You have a right to be heard. See that you are heard. That is the way to solve the problem of how you are going to live this winter.

How to Stop Starvation—By Alfred Russel Wallace

It is a strange thing to me, and must be so to many others, that in this most wealthy country a powerful government, long pledged to social reform, cannot or will not take any immediate and direct steps to abolish the pitiable extremes of destitution which are ever present in all its great cities, its towns, and even its villages! The old, complex and harsh machinery of its poor laws has become less and less efficient. Enormous sums spent in various forms of charity do not prevent starvation, do not appear to diminish it. The cause of this almost universal apathy is the very persistence of destitution and its obscurity. The various forms of charity are more conspicuous and more obtrusive, so that people are quite unable to realize that starvation is still rampant to a most terrible and most disgraceful extent all over our fair land.

In 1898 I published in my volume on "The Wonderful Century" an appendix on "The Remedy for Want in the Midst of Wealth," but, thinking that the general scheme I proposed was too advanced for immediate adoption; I also gave a plan, headed "How to Stop Starvation," which began with these words:

But still some such method is demanded by public opinion, and its adoption forced upon our legislators, the horrible scandal and crime of men, women and little children, by thousands and millions, living in the most wretched want, dying of actual starvation, or driven to suicide by the dread of it, must be stopped!

We will now proceed to consider how the government can itself lead the way towards that new organization of society which will afford a permanent remedy for labor unrest, and satisfy the just demands of some considerable portion of the workers of our country.

The workers are now steadily more conscious of their own power at the polls, and they will no longer support a government which confesses itself impotent to lift them out of the terrible quagmire of misery and degradation into which the present economic system is steadily forcing them. The time for conferences and discussions and for petty alleviations which are wholly useless is gone by. What the workers now demand is that the

government shall begin to act so far as it possesses the power to act; that it must raise the wages, provide decent houses, establish shorter hours of work, give suitable holidays, and establish liberal pensions, for every one of its own employes.

As the avowed object must be to make government employment at once an honor and an advantage, and also that it may serve as a model for all other employers of labor, everything must be done to promote the health and contentment of the whole body of public workers. In order to give effect to this declared purpose, a considerable portion of them should be gradually trained in some alternative employment, especially in those that give healthy outdoor occupation, such as the various building trades, and, preeminently, in some kind of agricultural work. It will thus be rendered possible, whenever we cease to expend so many millions annually on purely destructive ships and weapons, that the surplus men engaged in our dockyards and various factories of war-material need not be discharged and create a new army of the unemployed, but he gradually drafted into an army of true wealth-producers.

Another important feature of this new departure in the organization of the extended Civil Service would be the gradual removal of all factories and workshops from towns and cities into the open and healthy country, where large areas of land can be obtained sufficient to produce most of the food and clothing for its inhabitants. Large estates of several thousand acres are constantly in the market, and are often sold at from \$10 to \$20 an acre.

An additional means of obtaining such estates would be a short act giving the government power to take death-duties and land-taxes in land at the taxation value whenever it is suitable for the purpose. Of course, acting on the general principle of making its own employes and laborers the best and most contented of all the working classes, the government must at once make arrangements for giving up its contract work.

Preparing to Restore Gunmen Rule in Colorado

By telegraph to Appeal to Reason, Trinidad, Colo.—Company A of the Colorado militia is reorganizing in Trinidad and will march through the city's streets uniformed and armed. The above statement was made by Colonel James Lockett in command of the federal troops in the strike zone to newspaper men and citizens. It was this Company A, composed of 136 men picked from among the hired thugs of the coal companies, that massacred the women and

children at Ludlow. Officers of Company A met in Trinidad and planned the reorganization. Lieutenant E. K. Lindersfelt is expected from Denver to take command when all is ready. He is who beat the defenseless union prisoner, Louis Tikas, over the head with a gun, the man being afterwards murdered by militiamen. Federal soldiers say they will leave soon. All Trinidad fears renewal of deadly strife.

JOHN MURRAY.

Class War in Michigan

BY JOHN KENNETH TURNER.

After I left the train at Hancock, Mich., the first thing that attracted my attention was a banner, leaning against the brick wall of a business house. The inscription on the banner reads: "Socialism is anarchism; they are loafer agitators." Decidedly ungrammatical, but there was no question as to the meaning.

Directly across the street from this banner was a tiny store. Instead of merchandise in its single window, I saw an American flag, a lettered card, "Citizens Alliance," and a "bulletin" scrawled in a black pencil beginning: "Agitator C. E. Russell is a bigger liar than the red editor of the Miners Magazine."

As the congressional committee was just then in Hancock, listening to testimony on the copper strike, an unusual number of strangers happened to be in town. Yet I noticed various persons on the street staring at me, as if to determine whether I might be a spy of some hostile army about to invade the country.

At the hotel I picked up a local newspaper and read an impassioned dissertation on law and order. Opening another local publication, I perused an editorial appealing eloquently to patriotic citizens to rally 'round the flag and save the copper county from the "foreign agitator."

Daily, as long as I remained, I ran across evidences of a holy war of extermination against a certain hideous monster that had recently appeared in that region—namely, an assertion of the right to organize by some thousands of human beings who worked in the mines.

Moreover, this holy war was not all of banners, impassioned editorials and suspicious glances. A professional gunman, returning to New York after a season in the copper country, told of riding horseback beside James McNaughton, general manager of the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company. According to the gunman's story, McNaughton commanded another armed guard to kill a certain organizer, which he did—and a second miner with him was killed for good measure.

I have been unable to find any confirmation of this tale, and believe it to be a fabrication of one who only wished to boast too well. But the point is—it could have been true. For James McNaughton was—and is—in a position to order the killing of miners and to feel no fear of the consequences. Indeed, miners were killed by James McNaughton, vicariously; that is, by persons in his employ or over whom he exercised control.

President Moyer of the Western Federation of Miners was certain that the individual who went through his pockets at the railroad station, after Moyer had been shot, kicked, beaten and dragged through the streets—the individual who was addressed as "Jim" and who apparently directed the mob from his automobile—was none other than James McNaughton. McNaughton "proved" an alibi that passed muster with the newspaper correspondents. But it did not pass muster with the miners. Listening to the testimony before the congressional committee, I learned of others whose deportation had been decreed by McNaughton, and of still others who were forced to work for him at the point of guns.

But no one thought of punishing McNaughton. For it was all a part of a war, and a patriotic and holy one.

In the war of the copper country powers upon the human right to organize, constitutions, statutes, oaths of office and established notions as to right and wrong, were contemptuously swept aside. Previously it was permissible to quit work when one wanted to, to walk quietly upon the streets, to rent a hall and meet in it, to own a pistol and keep it in one's own house; suddenly these became punishable offenses. Previously it was crime to shoot defenseless and unoffending persons upon the public streets, to drag women about by the hair, to force the doors of private homes without legal process, to seize property and carry it away, to drive men to work at the rifle point; suddenly these things became permissible, provided they were done in opposition to that assertion of the right to organize.

In other words, over night and without a single political change or legislative enactment, what was once lawful became lawless; and vice versa, what was once lawless became lawful. The change was brought about by the toilers in the mines, in insisting on the right of association. Once they took that step, they became outlaws; and open season for them automatically went into effect.

Many writers and others have expressed surprise and indignation that, on the outbreak of the copper strike, the duly constituted authorities of the state of Michigan and the copper country, instead of enforcing the laws in ac-

cordance with their oaths of office, threw the machinery and the weapons of the law into a brutal and lawless warfare, under the name of law and order.

What surprises me is that anyone who professes to be well informed should be surprised at this. For Michigan is the rule and not the exception. In not one case in fifty where an industrial struggle is at all stubborn and prolonged does the state remain neutral, and in not one such case in ten does it fail to go through the performances similar to those of Michigan.

The logic of it all is very clear. In spite of some enactments intended to safeguard human rights—which the masses through centuries of struggle have succeeded in making a part of the written law—society is based primarily upon profits. Government is primarily a repressive scheme for the protection of profits. Any organized effort of workmen to improve their condition is an attack upon profits, and, therefore, an attack upon government. Few are the office-holders who do not know their masters—and those few are soon shifted to the discard. As between profits and constitutions there is no choice. To the office-holders and to society as it is an attack upon profits is an attack upon the flag. It is treason; it is anarchism. Patriotism is to crush any person or association that endangers profits. There crime becomes honorable, murder holy.

A strike is, in every real sense, an assault upon capitalistic law and order, an insurrection against the capitalistic state. Among "the best people," not only of the copper country, but everywhere else, respect for law and the flag in any other sense than this does not exist; patriotism except for profit is a monstrous hypocrisy. When workers go on strike—when they suffer long and are true—American history gives them no right to expect anything from the state except a war of extermination, such as they encountered in Michigan.

When I was on my way home, after my travels in investigation of government by gunmen, I met a well-known Socialist lecturer—also on his way home—who remarked of my discoveries: "These are only isolated cases. This is not general; it cannot become general."

I answer that government by gunmen is general. It is not applied to the business classes—no; but it is applied everywhere to all workers whatsoever who are struggling to gain better things through organization. While the worker is quiescent and uncomplaining the gunman works in the shadow, but the moment he strikes or threatens to strike the revolver and black-jack appear. Michigan is only one instance, and while the story of Michigan is a vast and awful tragedy, still it is not the worst.

REVOLT HAS BEGUN

Second Phase of the War.

Ready for Revolution. Rome.—Reports received here indicate that Austria is now facing a revolution in Herzegovina that may seriously retard any operations against the combined Serbian-Montenegrin armies in Bosnia. It is stated that the Herzegovinian people are well supplied with arms and ammunition that have been smuggled across the borders and that hundreds of them are already in the field against the Austrian garrisons, which have been greatly weakened through the withdrawal of troops for action on the Galician frontier.

Fear Revolt in England. London.—What is virtual martial law was proclaimed in a special issue of the *London Gazette*, which gives a long list of new rules for the public. Here are some: Private persons may not light a fire on a hill. May not spread alarming reports. Must, if ordered, keep in doors at specified times. Must, if ordered, keep all lights out.

The authorities may order the destruction of any house or property, and finally, the power of court-martial is given the authorities in certain cases.

Prussian Poland to Revolt. London.—The *Times*, in commenting on the czar's proclamation for an autonomous Poland, says that complicity in the partition of Poland has been the chief bond among Russia, Prussia and Austria since the close of the eighteenth century. Russia has now burst this bond, so that it can hardly be rebuilt, the *Times* says, and continues: "The czar's appeal, if effective, will make the quarrel of Russia with Prussia and Austria inexplicable. It is the most signal proof that Russia could give that she means war to the knife."

Dispatches from Copenhagen quoting Berlin dispatches say that the czar's proclamation has caused great concern in Berlin, where it is feared that it will cause a revolt in German Poland.

Revolution in Poland. According to the *New York Call*, Russia's offer of autonomy to her Polish subjects in exchange for their loyalty is a blind to cover the real situation. "A number of Poles in this city, well versed in the affairs of that stricken country," reports the *Call*, "said that Russia's declaration can only mean one thing—that the

The great number of telegram orders that have been coming in for the WAR EXTRA NUMBER is a splendid indication that it is the right stuff for distribution. There should be a copy of it in the hands of every voter in the United States. Please get your order in NOW. While WAR is in the air spread the Socialist's opinion on the subject.

turbulent volcano of revolution in Poland is on the verge of an eruption, if the eruption has not already taken place.

"Before the censorship of all European news was in force an authentic report filtered over the cables that a revolt, the magnitude of which has never been seen before in Poland, had broken loose. This naturally was branded as a false rumor by the Russian government, and all communication with Poland ceased from that day.

"Poland is aflame," was the cry last night among the revolutionists.

"The czar's manifesto is only a blind to cover the facts. With Russia weakened by the war we may see a free Poland."

Riot in Rotterdam. Rotterdam.—Sixty thousand persons in Rotterdam face starvation. War-time prices prevail and food is unobtainable by the masses. Provisions are disappearing and there is little prospect that fresh supplies can be brought in for weeks. Thousands of stranded tourists are suffering. Long lines stand before the shops that have supplies left and fight in an effort to get the most meager rations. Wealthy residents take their turns. Throughout the streets the poorer classes are marching. Dumps and other refuse places are sought by the famished hordes fighting with the dogs for castoff supplies.

If Carranza carries out his program, Mexico will soon abolish that relic of a decayed economic system—private banking. The government will conduct all banking business, issue all money and attend to its distribution. Is it possible that the United States, with its hundred years of public schools and advantages of science and education, must learn the rudiments of real civilization from a country whose population is composed mostly of ignorant peons and half civilized Indians?

Mine Worker for Governor.—Paul J. Paulson, international executive board member of the United Mine Workers for Wyoming, has been nominated by the Socialists for governor of that state.

War on Workers in Colorado. Trinidad, Colo.—Federal troops have driven union miners from picket lines around the railroad stations. Wives and daughters of the miners have taken the places of the men to keep non-unionists away.—John Murray.

Truth About Socialism, by Allan L. Benson. The clearest statement of Socialism ever written. Regular price of this book is one dollar but we will mail you a copy for a dollar and in addition send you two Appeal subscription cards.

London.—All the London newspapers published cable dispatches from America indicating an extraordinary advance there in food prices. The *Daily Telegraph* says that in some instances the advance amounts to 20 per cent, and records an advance in the price of beef of 5 cents a pound.

The comment here is that the wholesalers and retailers are combined to afflict war prices on America just as England is afflicted. It is evident that in America, which at present cannot export her great quantities of foodstuffs, dealers are taking advantage of the high English prices, and are making Americans also pay high for their food.

War on Workers in Colorado. Trinidad, Colo.—Federal troops have driven union miners from picket lines around the railroad stations. Wives and daughters of the miners have taken the places of the men to keep non-unionists away.—John Murray.

But that is not all it is. It is the most splendid opportunity that ever faced a people in any land or in any age. Small as are our numbers, the fate of the world hangs on us. We are the Spartans who must turn back the horde of the invaders from the pass that we can hold. It is necessary that we have the courage of Joshua who declared in the face of evident discouragement: "We are abundantly able to do it."

We are able to do it. Socialists of Europe have been temporarily overwhelmed. But we are free to work. After while they will rally and the forces of reaction and conspiracy will be beaten back. Already there are indications of what is coming. The enemy is already explaining and apologizing. Their fear indicates that they know the weakness of their cause. The sentiment we have already created cries out against war from thousands of unexpected sources. The weight of the world's advance has suddenly fallen entirely on the Socialists of America. We have not been crushed by it. Let this fact arouse us to realize that we can win. The glory of success will be ours. The value of success will be great by all.

Armed for the Fight.—I am still at the old trade of scattering Socialist literature, although I am on the home stretch of 72 years. I don't go around much soliciting subs; I attach their names to my list and send them in. Will send more soon.—George Stewart, Sr., Kentucky.

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They All Want the Appeal.—I met one of my old hardshell republican friends

and he said to me: "Say, you know it used to make me awful mad when you sent me one of those d-d old Appeals; but I want you to save me the next copy; I want to see what the Appeal has to say about the war situation."—J. H. Sell, Hooper, Wash.

More than 100,000 extra copies of No. 977, Anti-War Edition, have already been sold. Getting Results.—Our local takes a hundred Appeals each week, which we know are accomplishing wonderful results. It increases and stimulates our endeavors for Socialism. It is a primer, easily assimilated, renews the lost hopes of the too patient worker, and is the most powerful antiseptic to destroy the foul virus of capitalism.—Helen M. Camp, recording secretary, Seattle, Wash.

Enlists in War Against War.—I have never done much for the little old Appeal, but I cannot remain idle any longer, so here goes \$2 for twelve subscription cards. If I am successful in disposing of these it is my intention to keep a dollar invested in them permanently, or until the inauguration of the new regime. I suppose this may be considered an enlistment in the Appeal Army.—Philip U. Stone, Waterbury, Conn.

GENERAL FAMINE COMES

Hunger and Profits Contend.

From a Hungarian letter written from Budapest. Poor people are starving. They can't raise even enough money to buy bread. People are reproaching themselves for not having emigrated to America. Everybody cries all day long. The privation is horrible, horrible. People are sick with excitement and exposure. Men were hardly left in the city. The stores are closed, only the pawnshops are left open. Everybody stands in line for hours until his turn comes and he can pawn something. Everybody goes there who has anything he can pawn.

In the whole city there are only eight policemen left, and they are all old men. All the younger ones are gone to the war. The letter carriers are boys of 13 to 15. Hospitals have been made from schools and barracks.

Workers Suffer in Vienna. Rome—News received here from Vienna says the city is half deserted. The worst feature of the war to those in the capital is the lack of money and the fact the prices of food have risen enormously. The public services are paralyzed and women are taking over the work.

Newspapers throughout Austria-Hungary print scarcely anything except official news.

Children Starve in Belgium. Brussels.—Six thousand children are being fed daily, and the number is expected to be increased soon to 10,000. Meat and vegetables contributed by the generous tradesmen are made into soup in huge cauldrons and sent out in wholesale quantities to each school, where distribution is made.

Some schools have been turned into provision centers where the poor can buy flour, cheese, macaroni and sugar at ordinary prices. Later, when distress becomes acute, food will be distributed free.

Capitalists Conspire in England. London.—All the London newspapers published cable dispatches from America indicating an extraordinary advance there in food prices. The *Daily Telegraph* says that in some instances the advance amounts to 20 per cent, and records an advance in the price of beef of 5 cents a pound.

The comment here is that the wholesalers and retailers are combined to afflict war prices on America just as England is afflicted. It is evident that in America, which at present cannot export her great quantities of foodstuffs, dealers are taking advantage of the high English prices, and are making Americans also pay high for their food.

Gunmen Massing Again. Pueblo, Colo.—The miners' delegation from Trinidad states that within the last three days company gunmen have been pouring into their city from every direction. They fear the worst.—J. M.

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Forecasts a Short War. Paris.—M. Caparra, a famous aeronaut, has recalled curious prophecy, coming from the Cologne Courant in 1793. It runs: "When men fly like birds, ten great kings will go to war against each other. The universe will be under arms. Women will bring in the harvest; they will begin the

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It's got to come; nothing on earth can stop it. Since I've been converted to Socialism I've hog-tied a couple dozen Henry Dubbs.—F. L. Hurley, Camden, N. J.

Seventy-two and Still in the Fight.—I am still at the old trade of scattering Socialist literature, although I am on the home stretch of 72 years. I don't go around much soliciting subs; I attach their names to my list and send them in. Will send more soon.—George Stewart, Sr., Kentucky.

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Old Swenson is the name of one of the boys selling the Magazine and News edition of the Appeal. He lives in Hollandale, Wisconsin. Last week was his first week on the job and this is what he writes: "Sold the ten papers right away. Send me 25 more papers with the 10 free copies." Come, boys, wake up, and let us hear from you. You can do as well as Ole. Are you going to let a boy with a name like that get all the "grapes"? It doesn't cost you anything to get started. Let us send you the "dope." Address Editor Magazine and News Edition, Appeal to Reason, Girard, Kan.

No Money for Peace. Editorial in Kansas City Star.

Two weeks ago every nation of Europe was in its more or less chronic state of not being able to provide for its poor. An old age pension of a few shillings a week was considered a great oppression. A budget like that Lloyd George and Winston Churchill have at various times "brought in" for England has made "the poor little rich men" shave themselves to cut down expenses.

Assertions, even in America, that poverty was unnecessary has been regarded as absurdly "Utopian." The extension of social service, the greater expenditures for schools, for commissions of industrial control, for the newer activities of society—these have been pointed to as a reason for world panics. When prosperity has induced unusual industrial and commercial bustle, the warring of an "undue expansion of credits" has been sounded and usually has been justified by the results.

Yet suddenly war throws a financial burden on these same nations incredibly greater than the most extraordinary burdens of peace. Not alone in the terrible expansion of credits for war debts; but in the paralysis of trade and manufacture and farming. This war cost is fifty-four million dollars a day, say the experts, in addition to the greater and inestimable cost of that paralysis.

Of course this awful burden is met by "discounting the future." More ages of poverty are enforced to pay for the brief "luxury" of fighting. The fact remains that the burden is met. Enormous sums are raised for a purpose that destroys prosperity by the same people who "haven't got the money" for much smaller investments whose result most likely would be to increase prosperity.

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Significant News Notes

Won Their Fight.—The free speech fight which the Socialists have been waging in Lincoln, Neb., has been won by the test case being discontinued.

Candidates for Congress.—Victor I. Berger and Winfield R. Gaylord will again be the Socialist candidates for congress in the two Milwaukee districts. Government Railway Projected.—The Chilean government has placed orders for railway equipment for new roads under construction to the amount of \$8,240,000.

State Convention.—A special call for the state convention of Michigan has been issued and the convention will convene September 28, at Lansing, in the Odd Fellows hall.

Socialist Elected.—J. M. Salter was elected commissioner of public works at Everett, Wash., in a special election held there. He won by 850 majority over his nearest competitor.

Led the Others.—At the primary election at Nellida, Okla., Socialists polled 21 votes, the democrats 20 and the republicans 6. Two years ago Socialists polled only 8 votes.

St. Louis Labor Won.—St. Louis Labor, the Socialist paper that was used for \$200,000 damages for a report of a strike in the glass works at Elizabeth, Mo., is now free from prosecution. The suit has been withdrawn.

Into Receivers Hands.—The International and Great Northern railroad has gone into the hands of receivers. This road, too, will be reorganized, the small stockholders' funds and bonds issued against it later on.

Won a Measure.—The Socialists of Oregon have succeeded in getting their "right to work" measure on the ballot and it will be voted on this coming election to see whether or not it becomes a part of the state constitution.

Boycott Helps Socialist Paper.—A boycott was instituted by the Jingons against Elora, the Hungarian Socialist daily of New York because it opposed war. The result, of course, has been a tremendous increase in its circulation.

War—What For? Even the capitalist press freely admits that this is the best thing ever written about war. George R. Kirkpatrick is the author. The regular price is a dollar, but we'll mail the book and two Appeal subscription cards for a dollar.

Blacklisting Texas Workers.—A blacklisting program directed at railroad shopmen of Texas has been exposed by a Socialist. It has created a sensation in railroad circles. In one shop the blacklist acted as a boomerang. The foreman is a Socialist and is only employing those honored with a blacklist.

Going into the Coal Business.—State Auditor Donahay has outlined a plan for the state of Ohio to enter the coal and oil business, through mining and digging wells on school lands. There are said to be 5,000 acres of school land belonging to the state that are underlaid with four feet of coal. Other territory is surrounded by private oil wells.

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vintage, but the men will complete it." The latter prophecy is comforting, as the vintage in Europe is complete before the end of October.

While America is "investigating" food prices in the usual way, the Canadian parliament with its usual promptness has given its officials full power to regulate food prices.

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ABOVE ALL THINGS, FAILURE

The one thing that stands out above all others in every aspect of the European war is that the men of every race are capable, but that in every nation the system under which they operate is a failure. Failure of the system is written all over the situation.

The war is not primarily about the assassination of a prince. As far as Austria is concerned it is because the emperor is 90 years old, the crown prince was dead, half the population is composed of slaves ready to revolt, and the emperor well understood that Austria-Hungary would fall in peace, with a possibility of maintaining its integrity in case of war.

Germany is not merely running amuck. The country is hemmed in on three sides by different races. Russia occupies a sixth of the whole territory of the world and has nearly a sixth of the world's population. Germany correctly saw that unless something was done the fate of the Tunic race was sealed. War could not injure it as a race, though half the people were killed, while it might enable it to hold its own or more.

Russia, on the other hand, big as it is, is hemmed in to the ice bound sea. It can never be big in the world's affairs until it gets a southern outlet. For more than two centuries it has been seeking this outlet. The Japanese war was fought to get such an outlet through the waters of the Pacific. The recent Grecian war so reduced Turkey, and so many Russians settled in Austria and the Grecian states that it seems possible to obtain such an outlet now. If it gains that, Russia will probably be the strongest factor in history in the world. It is, from its viewpoint, well worth the effort.

England is allied with Russia, yet if it wins it will have created the strongest rival it ever had, and failure will threaten the British government.

All over the world there was a financial depression. The crimes of capitalism had been revealed until it was thoroughly discredited before the people. There had arisen a world-wide revolt in the form of Socialism and the Socialist agitation. Capitalism was on the point of collapse, not only in the United States, but also throughout Europe. A war might prolong its life by forcing destruction of property, artificial demand for products without a corresponding increase of them, and the possibility of floating a great mortgage on the future in the way of bond issues. The war is all that saved capitalism from total destruction because of its own failures.

So on every hand there is observed a failure of prevailing systems. Capitalism was unable to rally along normal lines. Nations were not safe under the present competitive and racial organization. There has been no failure of manhood itself. Germans, Belgians, French, English, Austrians, Servians, Russian, all, have fought with skill and vigor, even as they before this had shown ability to produce in abundance. The failure was entirely with the systems. And they have proved themselves total failures. Whatever may be the outcome of the war, their failure will only stand out the clearer after it is all over. If the people have not failed and if the systems under which they have lived have failed, the next thing that will force its attention on the world will be the supplanting of the competitive, exploiting, racial system by a co-operative, honest and humane system. The conclusion cannot be escaped. Capitalism and kingcraft and all exploitation are murdering themselves in every nation. Workers are dying to be sure, but this time they are not the only thing that dies. War and poverty and autocracy also are being slain.

WILDCAT BANKING.
Speaking of Wall Street's proposition that bank notes shall be substituted for gold in maintaining the 25 per cent reserve required by law, the *New York Sun*, a capitalist paper, says: "Wall street owes an apology to Kansas. Nothing that populism ever demanded in the name of fiat money surpassed this. The bank notes are a liability against the bank, and if a liability can be turned into a reserve against other liabilities, wildcat banking was a scientific currency system which ought never to have been destroyed." The bankers have themselves set aside the gold standard. They have a money based entirely on bank credit, instead of the money based on national credit, which the populists wanted. The war has been made an excuse for the greatest swindle of all times, and all but six members of congress voted for it, while the president authorized it.

ENGLAND at war is arranging to take charge of all food stuffs and feed her people, while America at peace is arranging to let the ghoulis of capitalism make millions in profits while her people go hungry. The indications are that there is going to be more suffering among the poor in America at peace than in England at war.

WHEN a man thinks freedom he is in a way to gain freedom.

LATEST news from the European war — the workers are getting the worst of it.

THE beef trust appears to own the cow that jumped over the moon. And she is still jumping.

TAKING advantage of the war, a convention of American designers has decided to formulate fashions of its own. This is war that will count more than war with bullets.

WORLD capitalism is figuratively sitting up nights figuring out ways and means to make profits out of the slaughter of European working men. And they call this civilization.

IN populist days the bankers told you how disastrous fiat currency would be. Yet these same bankers have just "induced" the government to issue a billion and a half of fiat currency.

THE cunning financiers who are trying to profit by the war by manipulating war loans and boosting prices are well named by an exchange, F. W. W.—Financial Workers of the World.

FOR years it has been dinned into our ears that great armies and giant navies were the best assurance of peace. Socialists in their ceaseless war against war have had this hurled at them over and over again. What say you, you capitalist wisecracks?

THIS seems to be a case of "Onward, Christian(?) Soldiers" with a vengeance, and those who have been inducing the youth to sing that song in Sunday schools and have been organizing boy scouts must bear some of the blame and shame of the carnage.

WORKERS of Belgium last year went on a strike for manhood suffrage and were promised their request. They have since been tricked out of their right. They are now fighting for the fellows who cheated them and betrayed them.

ARMOUR & Co. have sold two million pounds of dog meat to the French government. It may prove a violation of neutrality that will bring the United States into the war, but what does Armour care? He has got rid of a lot of refuse which Americans hesitated to take.

THE bill authorizing the issuance by the banks of a billion dollars of clearance house certificates passed congress by almost a solid vote. Only six voted against it and five refrained from voting. Remember this when you vote this fall.

PRESENT events in this country as well as in Europe remind one of a saying Carlyle put into the mouth of one of his unique characters, Teufelsdröck, the old shoemaker. Said the shoemaker to his son: "My son, go out into the world and see how little are the brains that rule it."
It is a tremendous indictment against Christianity that a whole continent should be embroiled as Europe finds itself today without a serious effort at pacific adjustment.—*Christian Herald.* (And the *Herald* might have added, arrays itself against the only political force in the world that is opposed to war at all times.)

SINCE the European war certain gleams of intelligence is beginning to appear in the capitalist sky. A number of capitalist editors are grudgingly admitting that there are times when the source of a nation's food supply is safer under the control of the government than in the hands of private individuals.

THERE is one piece of war news that all the censors of all the nations engaged in war cannot suppress. We know the workers of Europe are doing all the fighting; we know that 99 out of 100 do not know what they are fighting for; we know it is a war of the ruling classes over the division of the profits produced by the workers. And when it is all over we know the workers will pay all cost of the war.

LANDLORDISM IN AMERICA.
According to official reports 1,694 people own 105,600,000 acres of timber land or one-twentieth of the entire area of the country. What a fine setting that is for a drama of landlordism and for an aristocracy of land.

The land is all supposed to be occupied—that is, it is "owned"; but only 27 per cent of the tillable land, according to a recent report of the department of agriculture, is actually in cultivation. The remaining 63 per cent of the tillable land of the United States is held from cultivation solely because of the system of private ownership. This is why the APPEAL says that there will never be land for all until we come to the social use of land. This does not mean a colony idea as some imagine, nor a division of land, but the cultivation of community land by workers under government direction, each to have his proportion of the value of the products.

Some socialized land would provide the use of land to some who cannot now use it. How much would be required to supply all they need would depend on the demand for land for such use. It need not end individual holdings of such land as is individually used perhaps for centuries.

Organize a Local.
If there is no Socialist local in your town, get busy and organize one. Only through organization can you reap the results of your years of agitation and education. It is not enough to teach the workers how to think for themselves; they must be organized into a militant fighting force. In union there is strength. Get five live workers together and organize. For full particulars, write the National Secretary, Socialist Party, 802 W. Madison street, Chicago, Ill.

SCORED IN PART.
The APPEAL has scored, in part. Following its agitation a bill has been introduced in the house providing that money deposited in the postal savings banks may be used for public works, up to a safe banking margin, in employing the idle and otherwise relieving distress.

Of course the measure has not been adopted. It will not be, unless a strong demand goes up for it from all over the country. It would, therefore, be well for you to write your congressman, asking him to lend his influence to secure the passage of a measure authorizing the use of postal savings bank deposits up to safe banking margin, in public works, and taking the limit off of such deposits. If this was done, it would release for use many millions of money at once. As it was expended in public works—in making roads, draining land, or building dykes and reservoirs and other needed things—it would relieve distress this winter as nothing else can; and the money would find its way back to the postal banks to be used again and again; while many would withdraw their deposits in private banks in order to turn them where they would be available for relieving distress.

Times are going to be extremely hard this winter. There will be great suffering. The government is justified in doing this sensible and just thing, if for no other reason, for a war or emergency measure. Suppose you agitate for it, and save untold suffering.

It is really amusing to read such outbursts as this in the *Engineering and Mining Journal*: "The brokers did nobly in promptly closing the stock exchanges; the bankers exhibited their patriotism in refusing to call loans." There isn't an intelligent man in the country but knows this is all bosh. All the patriotism of the brokers and bankers wouldn't fill an empty pea pod. The brokers closed the stock exchanges and the bankers refused to call loans to save their own precious financial hides.

MANY people living today are going to have some trouble explaining to their grandchildren of the future why they opposed Socialism at a time when the world needed it most.

Arsenal of Facts
What is an Arsenal? Why, don't you know? Surely you have not been a reader of the Appeal very long or you'd know all about it; you'd know it was the rapid fire machine gun of the social revolution; you'd know it was a little red morocco covered book of 200 pages that fits the vest pocket and used by all well equipped soldiers in their fight against capitalism. You'd know it contains facts, figures and information about over 100 subjects that enter into the daily discussions of the average Socialist with his non-Socialist friends. You need it. You can get it free by sending the Appeal 12 twenty-five cent subscriptions, or by purchasing 12 Appeal subscription cards. It won't take you long to pick up 12 subscriptions for the Appeal now when everybody is talking about war and Socialism.

FAKE SOCIALISM.
The masters are now asking subsidies for the purpose of enabling them to ship American goods to Europe and thus reap big profits off of capital furnished by the people.

Some who are less impudent, who fear that Socialism has made such strides as to make such a reactionary move impolitic, ask that the government build or buy carrying vessels and engage in commerce while Europe is at war. They smile and say this is Socialism. As a matter of fact, it is not Socialism. Such government ownership, so long as capitalism exists, would mean that the government was merely serving the needs of big capitalists at the public expense. It would be as just to call government ownership of delivery wagons for local groceries Socialism.

We do not need to build up commerce now. If we subsidize vessels, or if we buy them outright to do the work for the capitalists, it may bring complications that will force America into the war.

Beside, the best way to end the war is to starve it to death. It may seem cruel, but it is, as Sherman pointed out when he made the destructive march to the sea, the quickest way to end that which is far more cruel and destructive. If these goods are sent away it will mean high prices and hard times for the workers here. If they are kept at home, prices will be low, and there need be no suffering in America.

Let the carrying navy go. Attend to the needs of America now. Bid the capitalists go to hell, and let us see what we can do for those who only produce wealth, the workers.

BWARE OF VIOLENCE.
We are absolutely sure to win if we exercise common sense. While we cannot stop war now, the conflict capitalism has forced will disgust the world with war. The financial plot is so "raw" the people are already prepared to protest against it. Capitalism is still weak, as shown by its inability to employ the people and its fear to have the securities it holds quoted in the markets. It is still on the point of crumbling, and we can win on straight socializing propositions.

But we must beware of divisions in our ranks coming through capitalistic plots and possibly their spies. We must beware of being provoked to armed resistance; for that would mean an opportunity for the plotters to shoot down workers and thus strengthen themselves.

Keep your heads. Keep your heart. Victory is nearer than we thought if we do these things.

Words of Appreciation.
Dear Comrades—Following is a splendid sample of many hundreds of very kind messages of comrades which I have received:

"Huntington, Ind. Aug. 15, 1914. "Dear Comrade Wayland. Greetings. Comrade, I welcome the sort to the take of the father's glorious memory, and the dear little old Appeal. Keep her nailed to the masthead as a beacon of hope for the robbed and oppressed. Best wishes and heartfelt welcome to the aid of the greatest of all, every spurred men to action—Socialism.—Your Comrade, W. J. Conarty, 1085 E. Tipton street."
Both the quantity and nature of these messages make it exceedingly difficult for me to reply to them. So I am taking this means of acknowledging each and every one of them. Please excuse my inability to answer them personally.
The spirit and feeling of brotherhood in them inspire and urge me to do my utmost. I can only say I shall do my best to carry on the work for which my father gave his life—the propaganda of Socialism. When I make mistakes please overlook or forget them. Profit in the way of knowledge may come from them.
Fraternally yours,
W. H. WAYLAND.

A FORCE FOR PEACE.
There are three forces at work in the insane conflict going on in Europe, i. e., a capitalist ruling class quarrel over the division of profits, over racial prejudice and country patriotism. But there is a fourth force that seems to have been overlooked. It is a force for peace and a force which sooner or later must bring peace. The name of this force is hunger. When the workers of the world are forced to quit the plow and take up guns, it means a world famine. A world famine means a world revolution. When a majority of the workers of the world get hungry they will cease fighting for the world masters and fight for themselves. Hungry men will soon forget their patriotism and racial prejudice. Gold cannot buy food when there is no food to buy. Hunger knows no race or creed.

MAYBE this war is merely a psychological condition.

WHO do you suppose will get the Noble peace prize this year?

If the masters hold our noses to the grindstone, we, the workers, turn the stone.

THE war means that the workers of Europe are obligingly aiding in skinning each other.

THE peace palace is closed because kings and capitalists all appear to be on the hog (Hague).

THE capitalists can always be depended upon to do the things that make Socialism grow; that's the nature of the beast.

AND John D. has not yet been starved into submission. You can't wear out a man who is wrapped in title deeds.

A Fifteen Billion Dollar Steal

WHEN the president authorized an issue of currency to the amount of half a billion dollars based on commercial paper, and when congress authorized the issue of clearance house certificates to the amount of a billion dollars, they took away from you your credit and gave that credit to private bankers.

The "greenbacks" are issued to the bankers. They're based on trust stocks and bonds. These stocks and bonds are deposited with the government and the government issues its own notes against them. It is your credit that makes the government notes good, but they do not go to you though you stand behind them. They go to the banks. If you want to use them you must borrow them of the banks. If you want to use them in a public capacity—as a city, or county—to foster public works, you must issue bonds and borrow of the banks. Your credit is taken from you and given to the banks. A more shameful crime, a more enslaving usage, could not be perpetrated.

The banks get these notes of the public—exchanging the credit of railroads and manufacturers for public credit—at one and a half per cent. They loan them out at eight per cent to the very people who have made them valuable. If the government would permit the people to use their own credit they could, therefore, borrow money for doing all sorts of public works and for employing the people at one and a half per cent interest, without bonds, and have the notes to circulate as money.

It is a well-known fact that money changes hands often. One dollar may even in 24 hours do a hundred dollars' worth of business. The billion and a half dollars given by the government to the banks will be loaned out, will come back to them and be loaned out again, and the process will be repeated many times. Inasmuch as there is now ten times as much money loaned out as there is in circulation, it is probable this one and a half billion dollars will be loaned out ten times. Ten times one and a half billion dollars is FIFTEEN BILLION DOLLARS. That is really what the government has given the banks.

The banks pay one and a half per cent on one and a half billion dollars. That amounts to \$2,500,000. They lend out fifteen billion dollars at eight per cent. That means \$1,200,000,000 in interest. This is what farming out of your credit means. But even this is not all. A billion and a half dollars' worth of railroad and trust stocks and bonds, though deposited with the government, actually belong still to the banks. They, too, are supposed to "earn" about eight per cent. This means another \$1,200,000,000.

There is a yearly profit of \$2,200,000,000 given to the banks as a present because of transferring your credit to them. If the credit was given to you, through a government monopoly of money and banking, even on the same terms it is now given to the banks, it would save you about two and a quarter billion dollars annually.

Well, you have just been robbed of your credit, of your ability to do things for yourselves, and this is what it has cost you. It is the way the masters have of heading off Socialism. It is the new steal, taking the place of the old steal of watered stocks. It is as wicked as was the capitalizing of your earning power.

You are going to have a chance at the coming fall election to tell the president and congress what you think about it, if you think at all. You can tell them in no possible way except through casting a Socialist ballot.

THE WORKERS KNOW.

In spite of the strict censorship on all war news, slowly but surely the truth is finding its way through the lines. A note smuggled through from Berlin by a Socialist tells the facts. German and Austrian reservists are showing no enthusiasm over the prospect of murdering their brothers in France and Belgium. They are weeping, not cheering. They know they are fighting in a cause not their own. They know it is a king's war, and back of the kings they can see the impelling force—grinning, hideous, hellish capitalism reaching out its already blood-stained, grasping hands of greed for more profits.

FOUR years ago, Tolstoy, who forecasted the present European conflict, said: "A new Napoleon will arise in this war. A new civilization will come out of it." The new Napoleon will be personified by an awakened, enlightened and aroused working class and the new civilization will be Socialism.

NOT BIG ENOUGH.

Let America refuse to feed the warring nations of Europe.

Let America refuse to allow American financiers lend money to the European murderers. Hungry men cannot fight. Without gold kings cannot make them fight. Without gold they will soon have nothing to fight with. Gold and food—shut off the supply of both and the war will end and quickly. Are American statesmen big enough for this? They are not.

ALREADY the poor of America are suffering from lack of the necessities of life due to the high prices born of capitalist greed. The poor are crying for bread. The cry has been heard in Washington and congress with its usual promptness has answered the cry in its usual capitalist way—it has ordered an investigation. The poor can now have "investigation" pot pie three times a day and perhaps if they are not all starved to death before November some of them will be wise enough to vote for what they want and get it.

From Out the Silence.
The greatest inheritance your children can have is the freedom from the influence of an inheritance created at the expense of society.—J. A. Wayland.
The above was found recently among scraps and clippings in the old desk used by the great propagandist and founder of the Appeal in the days when he was with us and stirred the hearts of the old guard. It is like a voice from out the silence of the great unknown.

ONE RESULT OF THE WAR.
It is even worse than we thought.

The press has reported that congress has authorized the issuance of clearance house certificates to the amount of a billion dollars. But we did not know that this permits the banks to issue paper beyond the security they are able to put up.

But they are. Here is what the press says, but the papers are not printing the shameful fact under scarce heads:

The compromise amendment authorizes the secretary of the treasury to issue emergency circulation to any national bank to the amount of one hundred and twenty-five per cent of its capital and surplus.

This means that if a bank has capital and surplus to the amount of \$10,000, it might receive emergency currency to the amount of \$12,500.

It would mean, if you were given the same privilege, that if you have property to the value of a thousand dollars, you could borrow money against it to the value of \$1,250.

Suppose you ask your banker for such a loan, and if he appears astonished ask him why he should receive a better show than you. Suppose you ask him for \$1,250 on a \$1,000 of property at one and a half per cent, and when he becomes indignant, rub into him the farming out of your credit to the banks.

This infamy has been foisted on the people by democrats, who have for years protested against the very thing. They knew just what it meant when they did it. They hoped the dust stirred up by the war would blind you to what was being done. It looks like the war was started to enable them to do something of the kind. The conspiracy seems to have been worldwide rather than merely international. It is capitalism's last bold crime.

AGRARIAN BANK—BAR!
"Agrarian banks" sound good. Has tang of an endeavor to do something for the farmer. As a matter of fact it is intended to do something to him.

The first one of modern times has been founded in New York, and is Governor Glynn's idea. It is to be followed by many land banks. The first one is entitled The First Farmers' Savings and Loan Association.

The idea, however, is not to enable the farmers to save, but rather to provide a systematic means of promoting farm mortgages and raking in the savings of the farmer. The dispatch telling of the matter says, though the fact receives no display in the capitalist press:

It is believed the association will have a tremendous influence upon the mortgage question. At the present time it is difficult to obtain mortgages. The new agrarian bank will provide money on first mortgages at six per cent interest, without bonuses.

The government lends its credit to the banks at one and a half per cent. The banks lend the credit back to the farmers at six per cent. That is the benevolence of capitalism. Great scheme, isn't it? Something that proves the promoters are friends of the farmer and men of God. Eh?

WALL street is buying up stocks and bonds at depreciated prices. Under the provisions of the Aldrich-Vreeland currency bill it can deposit them with the government and receive in exchange government notes to the amount of 125 per cent of their face value, which certainly is some speculation.

WHEN the masters want something they promptly ask Uncle Sam for it—and generally get it. The latest is to ask your Uncle to insure the cargo of their private ships engaged in profit-seeking commerce. If the workers ask something they are told that it means paternalism and would destroy civilization.

The government has sent six steamers, which it owns, to bring back the rich refugees in Europe. It can apply Socialist propositions to aid the rich, but refuses to take over the markets to help the poor.

Your Own School.
Did you know that The People's College is owned and controlled by the working class of America? In this school you can study law without leaving home. The teachers are of your class and their only thought is to educate you. The course consists of law, public speaking and the correct use of the English language. The student has the privilege of attending the last year of his course at the resident school under the very best teachers.
Write us and we will send you descriptive literature. Don't wait, for the next class starts soon.
Address all communications.
THE PEOPLE'S COLLEGE,
Fort Scott, Kan.

Henry Dobb Meets H. Dobb During an Armistice And Talks Things Over.

By Ryan Walker

