

"Far better to have the front of one's face pushed in by the fist of an honest prize fighter than to have the lining of your stomach corroded by the embalmed beef of a dishonest manufacturer." --Jack London

WE stand in the presence of a revolution—not a bloody revolution; America is not given to the spilling of blood—but a silent revolution, whereby America will insist upon recovering to practice those ideals which she has always professed, upon securing a government devoted to the general interests and not the special interests.—Woodrow Wilson in the New Freedom.

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THE 'EXPOSURE' OF LENINE & TROTSKI to Hope For Peace Within Year

We were discussing the other day with a local scribe, the rottenness of American politics. We both came to the conclusion, that the manner in which George Creel was being pursued, conclusively proved how rotten politics are.

Now Creel is using exactly the same methods as the Republican politicians are using. It only goes to show how rank American politics are. In order to make good, men who carry their lives in their hands are being attacked. The attack would be appreciated if it was a fair one, but when we see men being covered with the filth of the gutter, it makes us wonder what the people are thinking about to even allow it to be printed and not utter a word of protest.

The most unfortunate aspect about the whole affair is that after the so-called exposure had been turned down by all the Allied newspapers, the American Government falls for it. The exposures regarding Lenin and Trotsky that have been running through the American papers, were turned down by the Petit Parisienne as being forged. The newspaper state that 50,000,000 roubles were given to Lenin by the German Government. The bank that was supposed to have received the money for Lenin denies that they ever received one cent for Lenin from the German Government. Hjalmar Branting, Swedish statesman and member of the Cabinet, who was on the spot, denies that Lenin is a traitor, even though he disagrees with his policy.

Raymond Robbins, a rich American, who has just returned from Russia, is enthusiastic about Lenin, likewise Edgar Browne, correspondent for the Chicago Daily News, Arthur Ransome, English correspondent, Norman Hapgood, former editor of Colliers.

Creel publishes an order dated March 2nd, 1917, issued by the German Imperial Bank, stating that money had been placed to the account of Lenin and Trotsky. They say that the czar was pro-German, yet here we have the Kaiser paying revolutionists money to engage in propaganda against the Czar. The Kaiser might be a dam fool, but not so damphoolish as to do that. Also remember that in March, 1917, Trotsky was here in America and Lenin in Switzerland.

Creel states that Document 2, if photographed, would prove the truth of the charges. Let us have that photograph, or let Creel forever hold his peace.

This "exposure" is familiar to us. It reminds us of the "exposure" of Charles Stewart Parnell. It reminds us also of the "exposure" of Dreyfus. It also further reminds us of the absolute rottenness of the American newspapers and those who issued the statements "exposing" (?) Lenin and others. Why attack these Russian fighters in such a cowardly way? Rather we should remember that what Lenin and Trotsky are going through, others in America have had to contend with. What of the way Washington and others were slandered, when they endeavored to make this country a Republic and how through it all they succeeded? Suppose the people had believed all that was said about Washington, Jefferson and the rest of the pioneers of this Republic, where would America be today? Russia will come out of this war a bigger and brighter Russia. If we in America are not able to see Russia a free country, if we have been so used to seeing her as an oppressed nation and if her present freedom makes us feel jealous, then let us at least, be men and stay quiet. Let this nation, with its 80 per cent of illiterates, go on its way and show you and all of us the way to the industrial commonwealth. Some day when we have scrapped our universities and burnt up our capitalist press, we might hope for the workers on this side to take a few lessons from Russia.

Workers, no matter what your political and economic beliefs may be, look at the way your masters are denouncing the Bolsheviks. Does it not remind you of a political campaign, when Republicans throw dirt at the Democrats. Change the names and write Workers and Masters. High above the din of battle, the people of Russia said to their masters, you have oppressed us so long and no more. Now for a taste of freedom, and like a man who had climbed to the top of a mountain and tasted of the pure air of the mountain tops, these Russians wanted more, and between you and ourselves, THEY ARE GOING TO GET IT. What are you going to do?

We print this editorial from the Times on the Austrian-Hungarian invitation to non-binding peace discussion between all belligerents. We print it not because we subscribe to the Times' point of view, but because of the source from which it comes, which gives it a most peculiar interest at this time.

The Austrian Peace Overture.
From Vienna, the quarter in which for three years the allies have felt that the movement for peace would originate, comes the first veritable peace offer, and it comes in a form which the allies may honorably accept in the confident belief that it will lead to the end of the war. The Austro-Hungarian government invites all the belligerent governments to authorize their representatives to attend a conference held on neutral soil with a view to a "non-binding" discussion of the terms of peace. It is the hope of the government that if, in a confidential exchange of views, the position of the different governments shall be mutually made known, it may be possible to formulate a statement of terms which, when reported by the delegates to their respective governments, might be accepted as a reasonable basis of formal peace negotiations.

The custom and practice of nations demand that this invitation to enter upon the preliminaries of peace receive the most serious and respectful attention of the governments to which it is addressed. It is a very different matter from the long-range peace offers made in speeches and notes, of which there have been so many, all futile. It comes from a government second only to the chief power of the Teutonic alliance. We are bound to accept it as the sincere expression of a desire for much-needed peace, and we may assume with entire confidence that it is issued with the full knowledge and assent of the imperial government of Germany, after conference and deliberation. This assumption finds confirmation in the announcement late last night that Germany has made a definite peace offer to Belgium, an offer hardly made in the expectation that it would be accepted, but, rather, perhaps, as notice to the world, in advance of the proposed conference, that Germany is ready to evacuate Belgium.

The immediate preparation for these overtures was made by Baron Burian in his speech last week, when he suggested a confidential exchange of views. For the actual and moving cause of the proposal we must look to the battlefields of France. The French, British and American troops under the command of Marshal Foch, the advancing and victorious legions directed by Haig, by Petain, and by Pershing, have brought about this complete change in the minds and in the attitude toward the war of Vienna and of Potsdam. The reluctant current that began to bear the Germans back from the Marne on July 18 and has never ceased its irresistible sweep distinguished their last hopes of victory; St. Michel comes as an admonition of impending and irretrievable disaster. But what fills their souls with deepest disquietude is the failure of their man power and their morale just at the moment when American soldiers literally in millions are moving forward to their places in the vast, unconquerable armies that confront them. The Vienna invitation to conference is not of the kind that victors send forth.

Upon that we need not dwell. All the belligerents desire the end of the war. The stricken world longs for peace. While no armistice precedes the proposed conference, we are justified in entertaining the hope, the belief, even, that fighting will cease this year as the fruit of this "non-binding" discussion of terms. It would be the worst of blunders for us or for any of the entente allies to abate war preparations now. But reason and humanity demand that the Austrian invitation be accepted. The case for conference is presented with extraordinary eloquence and force, a convincing argument is made for an exchange of views that may remove old and recent misunderstandings. It is pointed out that Mr. Wilson's four principles of peace have encountered no contradiction in the countries of the quadruple alliance; and there is much in the note that indicates a change of heart and of purpose there.

We cannot imagine that the invitation will be declined. When representatives of the belligerents meet at the council table and proceed to their confidential exchange of views, to their respective statements of terms, there is much antecedent probability that after no considerable interval the formal meeting of peace commissioners will follow. The preliminaries of peace have usually led to the conclusion of peace. There are historic exceptions to the rule, but when we consider the deluge of blood that has been poured out in this war, the incalculable waste of treasure, the ruin it has wrought, the grief that wrings millions of hearts because of it, we must conclude that only the madness or the soulless depravity of some of the belligerent powers could obstruct and defeat the purposes of the conference.

But this "agony must not be gone through with again." For the allies that affirmation of President Wilson's will be the foundation principle of the negotiations. The sufficient safeguards are plain to the view of all the world. A peace that left Germany master of the east would be a crime against ourselves and posterity. Over the lands of the Near East and the whole of the old empire of the czars she can be permitted to have no dominion. Control of vast regions where she could renew her now diminished might she must once and for all time renounce. The restorations and reparations to be decreed in the West are equally indispensable, but reiteration has made them familiar. It is in the East that the new danger will arise, there with iron resolution it must be destroyed. Entering a conference with definite instructions to yield no point that would leave Germany in a position to call to her armies and their support the men and the re-

ON WITH THE WAR

(A most significant editorial from The New York American.)

Very few voices counseled acceptance of the Austrian invitation. But those voices were significant. Because they were the voices of men and of newspapers well known to be in the confidence and at the service of the Privileged Class.

We hear continually of the activities of the Secret Service agents in running down and arresting suspicious characters. Those arrested are chiefly aliens and, for the most part, inconspicuous individuals.

Doubtless, it is well enough to arrest and intern these persons. Doubtless they are, each after his degree, more or less dangerous to the public safety.

But not all the thousands of alien and domestic suspects and enemies the Department of Justice has herded into confinement are as dangerous as are the underground activities which there is reason to believe subtle and powerful interests are now setting in motion to accomplish present peace.

It is the Privileged Class that most desires peace in Germany. It is the Privileged Class that most desires peace in England. It is the Privileged Class that most desires peace in France.

And it is the Privileged Class that ALONE desires peace in America.

Of course, when we say "peace" in this connection, we mean the sort of peace that would end the fighting without a decision—without results.

It was the Privileged Class in each country which clamored the loudest and most insistently for war.

They were first to urge that war begin. Now they are first to urge that war end. Why this change? Why this about-face?

Well, the reason in each case is the same. At first they looked forward to accumulating new riches and new power through war. They expected to make coin of the blood of men and tears of women. But now they see a new vision, and that vision fills them with apprehension.

They see the gigantic shadow

of approaching democratic revolution.

They see Europe's armed millions preparing to tumble thrones and principalities and the powers of Privilege in one common, crashing ruin.

The thunder of the cannon and the shouts of battling hosts cannot drown the still, small voice that whispers in the ears of the Privileged Classes the doom that is written for them in the book of the future. They, too, prated of a war for democracy, but the words that held so much solemn meaning for those who went forth to fight and for those who at home labored and sacrificed were only a form and a phrase in the mouths of these praters.

"The 'democracy' they had in mind was the 'democracy' which they had always used and always exploited for their own selfish enrichment and aggrandizement.

Now they begin to understand that the democracy which will take root and spring up and flourish in the blood-stained soil and amid the ashes of this world-shaking war will be Real Democracy.

Call it what you will—Revolutionary Democracy, Bolshevism, Social Revolution, Industrial Revolution, Internationalism—it matters not. The name is nothing. The substance is everything.

And if this mighty war is anything at all, it is the evidence of unseen emancipation and the substance of that universal human, political social and industrial freedom which the wise and good have always hoped for in every land and in every age.

If this war continues long enough, democracy will be established forever in every country in the whole world.

If the war continues until the full fruit of all its agonies and all its terrors and all its sacrifices has ripened, then Real Democracy will come into existence in Germany, in Russia, in England, in France, in Italy, in the United States, in Japan—in every land and everywhere.

There will never again be a throne in the world. There will

(Continued on Page 2)

INDUSTRIAL UNION-ISM is COMING

U. S. MAY ISSUE SCALE OF MAXIMUM WAGES; BOARD PLANS DETAILS

Washington.—Promulgation of a uniform, maximum scale by the war labor board is expected in the near future.

Prior to his departure for Europe, President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor objected stoutly to the uniform wage principle. On his return home Gompers is likely to find the system in full operation.

Chairman Felix Frankfurter of the labor policies board is busily engaged working out the details of the plan. In this work he is being assisted by every agent of the government which is familiar with the conditions and hours of work and the cost of living in the different industrial zones which will be established.

The uniform wage decree is planned to cover virtually every class of labor in the United States. The labor cost of plumbing in Seattle and of carpentering in Boston will be set forth, like the price of soft coal in West Virginia, on a government chart.

And Congress has already provided by law that no government funds shall be used for the payment of wages in excess of those to be set by the labor policies board. Chairman Frankfurter declares he did not ask Congress to enact that provision and did not know in advance that it was attached to the general appropriations measure.

Nevertheless, it exists, and gives to Frankfurter's wage verdicts the weight of a sovereign ukase.

Scales Not Static.
In one respect these uniform wage edicts will not be static or rigid. They will be based, to begin with, on Frankfurter's knowledge of what it costs a workman to support a family in a given locality plus what he thinks a "workman's" family should have above its bare necessities.

From time to time, as already provided in some war labor board decisions, the workman's income will be revised to conform with any rise or fall in the cost of living that may occur.

In the course of his objection to the uniform wage idea, President Gompers was frank in disclosing the basis of his disapproval. An official, whose name cannot be disclosed at present, quotes the president of the A. F. of L. as having said:

"A uniform living wage guaranteed by the government would destroy a workingman's only incentive to join a labor union."

"But," objected the official, "the competitive bidding that is now going on for labor of all kinds must be stopped. It retards production by drawing men from one industry to another. It simply must be stopped, sooner or later. You know, Mr. Gompers, that the British found it impossible and had to end it. Don't

sources of the boundless Eastern lands she now holds in thrall, the delegates of the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy and their co-belligerents may meet the representatives of the central powers without arousing among anxious peoples at home the fear that they are about to barter away the soul of the allied cause.

you think we should profit by their experience and make the inevitable change?"

"I will certainly not be a party," persisted Gompers, "to a scheme which would destroy the very basis of trade unionism."

Gompers was not impressed when it was pointed out to him that the men would still be permitted, even encouraged, to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining on shop conditions and periodical revision of the wage scale. He insisted that the spirit of craft unionism would be undermined if the government were to establish minimum wage for all workers, regardless of their union affiliation.

In the end it is said that Gompers reluctantly gave his approval to the change "for the period of the war."

Viewing the rapid progress of industrial evolution, as it affects both capitalists and workers, many members of the A. F. of L. official family are said to have agreed that their organization will either have to readjust itself to the new environment or run the risk of complete disintegration.

The impetus toward industrial organization among the workers has been particularly strong during the past summer. Under the guidance of the Taft-Walsh board, large sections of the rank and file are said to have reached the conclusion that organization from top to bottom in "one big union" must surely be resorted to.

One of the government officials especially engaged in the adjustment of labor conditions was at the head of the employment service of a large private corporation before the war. This man is fully aware of the new labor era that is being inaugurated.

"My present job is to accelerate production for the government," he said recently, "and I am concentrating on that job, even to the extent of supplanting craft unions with industrial unions. I know the industrial union will be a mighty hard thing for private corporations to handle later on, but there is no escape from that as far as I can see."

FLASHLIGHTS.

By ANNA RAPPORT.

Is this world war to be a "bitter fight to the end," or will it be a fight to a bitter end? That is the question.

While Japan is eager to bring "law and order" into Russia, the Japs at home are doing some stunts that smack a good deal of Bolshevism. Aye, the world does move, after all.

The assassination of Abraham Lincoln did not help the cause of the slave-drivers, nor will the murder of Nicholas Lenin help the cause of the Cossacks and the Black Hundreds.

Do not worry about the shortage of labor in America; we stand in very friendly relations with China and Japan, and the "yellow peril" is entirely out of sight—at present.

There is nothing that can compensate a mother for the loss of her child. Why, then, compensate a profiteer for the loss of his profits?

NOTICE TO ENGLISH MEMBERS

The English Local meets every Sunday Afternoon at 2:30 P. M., in the Radical Labor Lyceum, 22 East First Street.
All Members of the old local are urged to attend these meetings and also bring along a sympathizer.
Remember time 2:30 P. M. Sunday afternoons, place Radical Labor Lyceum, 22 East First St.

A Word to Our Subscribers

The War Industries Board prohibits any newspaper from sending out any free copies. This means that if a person's subscription has run out, his name must be immediately dropped from the subscription list. So we strongly urge upon our readers to locate the number after their name and compare it with the number of the paper. If your subscription has run out renew at once, otherwise you will be unable to receive the paper.

DEFECTIVE PAGE

J. O. BENTALL is Coming to Woodman Hall, October 6th

IRISH LABOR LEADER'S STIRRING TALK

THE TERROR

Scandinavian Local Forges Ahead

("The Voice of Labor.")

We print here the concluding and most significant portion of President O'Brien's memorable address to the Irish Trade Union Congress and Labor Party.

It is a declaration of war on the wages system, an assertion of the moral right of the working class to all the fruits of its labors, and at the same time it is an eloquent tribute to Ireland's first prophet of Revolutionary Unionism.

To meet the tremendous rise in the cost of living we have all of us been clamouring for more wages, and some of us have been winning for our members increases nominally equivalent to the increase in the cost of living. But with every increase in nominal wages we find that real wages remain stationary, or else depreciate, as wages are increased the cost of living rises often out of all proportion to the rise in wages, that the value of money is decreasing, that the pound sterling does not buy as much as ten shillings four years ago. We go on in unending and vicious circle, and even the living wage is not a way out of our difficulty. A living wage, a real living and not a mere subsistence wage, may be fixed today, but tomorrow it must be raised for the cost of living, so long as present conditions prevail, will be once more raised and again out of all proportion to the purchasing power of the living wage. The living wage of today simply becomes the subsistence wage of tomorrow.

To attempt to level up wages is a futile policy, a mere temporary expedient, and as a makeshift I have shown its futility. The only real and genuine remedy is to be found in the control of industry in the interest of the community by the working class. I need not elaborate the arguments which make this conclusion inevitable in logic and in fact, and to do so would be to anticipate the debate to take place on what is, in principle, the most important and revolutionary proposal before this Congress. Let me just add that when we speak of the control of industry we mean the control of industry, of all industry, agricultural and manufacturing, the control and management in every sense of each industry by the workers in that industry, and of each and all in the common interest of the whole community, the people, the nation.

The proposal, as I say, is important and revolutionary. But it is the only proposal which can ultimately satisfy the conditions of the new social order which we all want to supersede the present system of wage slavery, under which the worker is a mere piece of goods, a commodity, dehuman-

ized and degraded, in the hell of labor's chattel market.

Out of that hell it is Labor's aim and purpose and intention to lift the workers of Ireland. It was Connolly's ideal; it is our ideal. It is the greatest and noblest ideal any movement in our or any time has set before itself, a flaming torch pointing the way to freedom and happiness and all the joys and sweets of life. For this brave men and brave women, the countless thousands of the pioneers and fighters of the toiling and battling working class, have worked and suffered, bled and died, and counted weary labors and great sacrifices and life itself as nothing beside the glory that should one day rest upon the world's proletariat and crown it with the victory of freedom. This, I say, was Connolly's ideal; and it is our ideal. For it we shall fight on, for it we shall toil on, for it, if need be, we shall give up our comfort, our personal property, and our lives. By it we shall stand or fall. It means toil and trouble, suffering and sacrifice, hardship, and often reverse and defeat, unending conflict and unceasing and unwearying labor.

But it means much more; it means the glory of battle for the right, the satisfaction of the good deed against the ill. The high and sure and certain hope of the full and complete emancipation of Labor, the social, economic and political freedom from bondage of that great, heroic, unconquered and unconquerable working class of James Connolly's love. Ay, it is well worth all we have and hold dear, for it is liberty through the Co-operative Commonwealth, the Workers' Republic, the building of which on this Irish soil is the sacred trust and legacy handed down to us by the great saints and martyrs and soldiers of Labor who have gone before us, and greatest of them all, of him who sanctified it with his life's blood, James Connolly.

"And by their graves we swear this year of story, To battle side by side, Till Freedom crowns with immortal glory, The cause for which they died."

"SHOOT! CRY GERMAN SOLDIERS TO OFFICERS; 'WE WILL NOT GO TO THE FRONT!'"

Paris.—German soldiers who had rather be shot than go to the front were seen by a Swiss doctor who has just returned to Switzerland from Germany, it was learned here today.

"A few days ago," said the doctor, "I saw 100 soldiers arguing with their officers. They objected to going to the front. At a given signal the men opened their breasts, and shouted, 'Shoot! We are not going to the front.'"

By JAMES ONEAL.

Organizations for the protection of Negroes against injustice have been particularly busy of late in behalf of their race. The following story is based upon an incident that came under the writer's observation 10 years ago. The story appeared in a Socialist publication in 1909, and is reprinted here because of the interest aroused in the subject with which it deals.

"Your theories would send hell surging through the streets and erect the guillotine in the public square."

I looked at my friend in surprise. I was not prepared for such a passionate protest, for while our views of life and its problems were at variance, his rejoinders were usually mildly satirical. Now it was evident that he was aroused. His eyes glowed with honest antagonism and indignation. The rise of educated and disciplined proletarians evidently conjured visions of a French Terror in his mind.

"What," he continued, "could you expect should these vandals crawl from their holes some fine morning like this and, possessed with your ideas that the twentieth century is theirs, should proceed to impress their beliefs on all the institutions of today? What would be the result? Pillage and massacre such as the world has never seen," he concluded, with a gesture that indicated a conviction which no argument of mine could shake.

We had reached the bank of a river and the bright June sun reflected from the water almost blinded us as we gazed at the green willows and shrubbery that lined the opposite bank. The silent flow of water, reflecting the foliage and the old wooden bridge, was so suggestive of peace that I felt it was almost a sacrilege to discuss violence even for the purpose of defending my comrades against the charge. Surely, these waters had never known the turbulence of civil strife; they had never been discolored by mixing with the blood of a human heart.

And yet I knew that my faith in the world of labor was well placed and that, with the experience of history, the culture of modern science, philosophy and the discipline of our ideals, there is less possibility of social disaster in our rise than in the rise of any other class in history. Still, I felt at a disadvantage on the banks of this peaceful river. The warmth of the sun, the sparkle of the stream and the sponge-like softness of the moss beneath my feet produced such a profound feeling of ease and comfort that I sank into one of those half-conscious noonday reveries which come to the indolent at times.

Presently, a fisherman left the shore and pulled slowly upstream, the clumsy bark taxing all his

strength as he struggled with the swift current. This seemed to be my answer. The boatman was a symbol of the unorganized, ignorant struggle of the poor; they were looking backward, pulling blindly against the stream and drawing the bulk of dying institutions after them. The boatman would find his adjustment in the stone age, but not in our time, unless he was equipped with modern methods or navigation. So the proletarians, too, required the intellectual equipment of our movement to guard against a fruitless and misdirected struggle which might end in the disaster my friend predicted. And we of the movement had that equipment and were giving it to increasing numbers of the disinherited. I thanked the primitive turned to my friend.

"Your conception of us who think and who have acquired some of the culture of modern times is beastly," I said. "We are not executioners, but liberators, who hold life the most sacred thing on this planet. This fellow in the boat—"

A faint roar from many voices in the distance interrupted me. Looking back up the street which we traversed we saw a great mass of frenzied human beings rushing like an avalanche toward us. The central column in its onward sweep gathered up others from the side streets. Here and there along the walks a stray pedestrian was sucked into the living vortex and became a part of it. Terrible curses ascended from a thousand throats like filth flowing from the mouth of a foul sewer.

Tense drawn faces, distorted and made hideous with cruel snarls, were visible through the dust that enveloped the mob in one great cloud. Reason had fled. Primitive, cruel passions, shed centuries ago, swayed the mob. Blood lust shone in the eyes of the lynchers. Frightened mothers appeared at windows clutching their offspring fearful that this sea of passion would overflow and carry destruction to their doors. In the mob the dainty bank clerk mingled with the laborer. A miner, black with the grim of toil and a smutty torch still in his cap, justified a small merchant. The habited of the "red light" district fraternized with the well-to-do. Rags and purple met on common ground, bent on the same mission—the destruction of human life.

We had passed the county prison 100 yards away. The street was now glutted with the mass which pressed the first section on. A telephone pole was seized by hundreds who mounted the steps to the steel door. The long black weapon carried between the two rows of enraged men looked like a monster centipede. The prison shook from the impact of the first blow. A shot from behind the steel door only inflamed the besiegers. With roars and with one great lunge caved in the door. The mob choked up the entrance

in the struggle to enter. A half hundred rushed inside and soon appeared with a rope coiled round the neck of a negro. He stood for a moment in the glare of the sun, his thick lips curling like those of a famished wolf at bay, but his struggles were soon quieted with a blow from a hammer.

Willing hands grasped the rope and dragged the half-conscious victim through the dust, most of them looking back and hooting at their human freight. Their frightful leers were accentuated by the glare of the noonday sun on their sweaty and dust-covered faces. On they swept and disappeared in the mouth of the covered bridge that spanned the peaceful stream. Their prey struck the corner of the bridge, rebounded, and, raised clear of the ground, plunged with a jerk into the shadows and disappeared.

In a few minutes the lynchers appeared at an open span at the other end. The quivering negro hung from a girder but was soon cut down, only to fall into the arms of the advance guard below. The hills echoed the rage of the mob as their victim shot downward. Faggots were gathered. A well-dressed madman circled the crowd with his derby in his hand, which was soon filled with coins. Two messengers were despatched and soon returned with new pails filled with kerosene. The derby was again passed and other messengers volunteered. The fisherman pulled the primitive craft up the bank and danced and howled like one stark mad.

Meanwhile, the brush was being piled, and the well-dressed struggled with the ragged vermins to cut a souvenir from their unconscious prey. A few days later charred parts of a human skull were exhibited by many of that mob, and learned discussions divided them, for many held that its thickness was evidence that a Negro was not human. All but a few having supplied themselves, these were content to wait for the ash heap for their mementoes.

Suddenly the flames shot upward and the crackling of dry wood mingled with the roars of the mob. The tongues of flame were reflected in the ripples of the stream, while at the open span above a black mass yelled itself hoarse at the heat ascended to their nostrils. The fisherman howled and circled the pyre till he was nearly exhausted; then he returned to his "dug-out" and began his laborious task of sending it against the stream.

I turned to my friend. He was sick and pale with emotion. We walked in silence past the prison and up the street through which the lynchers had come. Suddenly I remembered our controversy. "There wasn't a red card in that crowd," I said.

He looked at me, grasped my hand, attempted to speak, but could not, and we passed on.

ACT OF AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR COUNCIL ANGERS IRON WORKERS

Decision In Sash Setting Dispute Purposely Postponed, Says Union Head.

Indianapolis.—Bitter complaint against the injustice meted out to the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers union by the oligarchy which controls the policies of the American Federation of Labor is voiced by J. E. McClory, president of the iron workers, in his report to the members.

He refers to the recent meeting of the executive council of the A. F. of L. in Atlantic City, where action on the carpenters' and ironworkers' dispute over the setting of steel sashes in building operations was expected. He says:

"I have reached the conclusion that it is hopeless for our organization, or any other numerically small organization affiliated with the American Federation of Labor or its building trade department to expect a square deal or any other consideration in a contest with a numerically larger organization."

The controversy about the setting of the sashes has been one of the

bitter disputes for the last four years at A. F. of L. conventions, and is between the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' union, with 50,000 members, and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, with 300,000 members. These bodies cast votes in proportion to membership.

McClory says he and former President Frank M. Ryan went to Atlantic City with an appeal against the action of the executive council of the building trades department and its convention which reversed previous A. F. of L. convention decisions on the steel sash jurisdictional matter.

Matter Postponed. Because neither Wm. L. Hutcheson, president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, nor John Donlin, president of the Building Trades council, nor William L. McCortley, president of the International Lettishers' union, were present the matter was postponed until the October meeting.

"The real reason for not hearing our appeal was not because of the absence of the above-named gentlemen," says McClory, "but because of the presence of at least four other members of the executive council of the A. F. of L. who were inclined to give us a square deal, and as this

doesn't seem to be the intention of a few members of the executive council, they deemed it advisable to prolong this appeal until the next meeting of the council, when at least two of the then-present members will be absent because they were not re-elected at the last convention.

"In their places will be members of the council whose support will not be certain," he toward sustaining the building trades' decision because of the undeniable friendship of these two men for the carpenters' officials, who were the sponsors for their election to the executive council of the A. F. of L."

Urges Action. President McClory urges the iron workers to prepare to fight single-handed against what he regards as tyrannous action against the union, which for years had the work of setting the steel sashes.

However, McClory's observations lend point to the revolt against the old-line A. F. of L. diplomats by the big internationalists, which began with the removal of the veteran treasurer two years ago and the dropping of two executives last year.

Incentive to Unite. It also gives the metal trades, which are split into many craft unions, the incentive to form one federation which, numerically, will be a match for the wood-workers, who are united. They will then win recognition as the militant and ag-

At the last meeting of the Scandinavian Local, it was decided to have "comrade" nights on the Third Tuesday in the month, as well as the First. This was rendered possible by the success of the previous comrade nights.

Our newspaper "Truth" was given another boost, for the fine report of the trial of Eugene V. Debs. Several members spoke enthusiastically of it. Truth is absolutely essential. Where are we going to read the real news, if we lose Truth?

On the recommendation of the "Folkels Hus" Committee, it was decided to hire the hall in the Stack building and hold Scandinavian dances every Saturday evening. Next Saturday will be the first opening evening. Splendid music has been arranged.

Upon the adjournment of the local meeting being moved, a committee was called to arrange the program for the next comrade evening, October 2nd, 1918. Part of the program is as follows:

Hilmer Johnson will speak. John Essen will render a violin solo.

Recitations, Music by the Orchestra.

Members of the Lakeside and Superior Locals are cordially invited to attend the comrade evening, October 2nd.

All those holding tickets for the automobile affair, are urged to attend this meeting also, as

Says "Forward" (Glasgow) of a House of Commons incident: Philip Snowden speaks for ten minutes; he rises amid general cheering and sits down amid an ovation; during his speech the only interruption is a solitary voice which cries "Question?" once; but the able capitalist news zakirs describe his reception as "mixed," "hissing preponderating."

Friendly and honest criticism is so rare that we mistake it for an insult when it happens to come our way.

Speaking at a Socialist meeting at Bielefeld in January, Herr Severing declared: "A majority of the German people would not shed a single tear over the resignation of Hindenburg, Ludendorff, or any general who opposes peace by understanding. The German people will pay most homage to the man who does most in the cause of peace."

Here's to those who would read, And here's to those who would write; There's none so afraid that the truth shall be told As those whom the truth would indict! —Burns.

PARADOXES.

He wrote of a girl with dreamy blue eyes—and married a cross-eyed woman.

He wrote an essay on "How to Make Money"—and borrowed tuppence for his tram-fare.

He wrote a magnificent poem on "The Majestic Grandeur of the Mountains"—and lived in a shack in a city slum.

He wrote an article on "The Need for Physical Exercises"—while his wife was chopping wood in the back yard.

He delivered an address on "The Deteriorating Effects of Gambling"—and on his way home asked Jones what he liked for the Cup.

He pointed out, in a series of news-articles, that every man was needed at the front—and he didn't enlist himself.

He wrote an ode on immortality—and died.

—R. J. C. in Australian Worker.

grave section of the trade union movement.

The importance of the metal trades is constantly increasing at the expense of the wood-working industry. Fourth Vice President John R. Mullen, one of the most aggressive leaders of the iron workers, urges the members to continue to hold membership in the central bodies so that they can fight their case out in the localities where the struggle will be carried on.

the question of the automobile will be decided at this meeting. October 2nd will be the night of all nights, so just come along and let the rafters ring with your laughter.

O. H. M.

ON WITH THE WAR

(Continued from Page One)

never again be a hereditary nobility. There will never again be another Privileged Class.

There will be only real democracy, the brotherhood of men as well as the brotherhood of nations, the equal political rights of all, the equal social rights of all, the equal industrial rights of all, the equal division of all wealth produced among those who produce it—to each his share according to his labor and his skill.

The masters of mankind are not often foreseeing or clear-thinking men. They are equipped with more brutality than mentality, with more greed than gray matter, with more vigor than vision.

But they are not altogether blind or deaf.

And even they can see the portentous signs of the times and hear the ominous footfalls of marching revolution.

And because they have neither race nor nationality nor religion in their calculations and relations, but are everywhere knit together only in the bonds of common selfishness and common interest, the chiefs of the Privileged Classes are at this very hour plotting and laboring in every capital in the world—in Berlin as well as in Paris, in Vienna as well as in London, in Rome as well as in New York, to bring this war of democracy, by democracy, for democracy, to a sudden stop before democracy can be victorious over industrial oppressors as well as over political autocracies and brutal militarism.

But they will not succeed. They cannot succeed. The gigantic forces which militarism and political intrigues and dynastic ambitions have let loose to scourge the agonized peoples, have escaped beyond the control of their former masters.

The war is no longer conducted by the mannikins who seem to ride in the whirlwind and direct the storm. The war is directed by nobody. It has gone beyond direction.

It rolls on its way, resistless as the sea, impassioned as fate—the dread and awful instrument of that Divine Intelligence which guides and controls the universe and in whose unfathomable plans the fall of a sparrow and the convulsive agonies of a planet are ordered with the same omnipotent care and wisdom.

What we now behold is the Race of Man travelling and groaning with the birth of a new civilization, which, in the nobler society and the brighter ages that are to come will make all men free and equal in rights, in opportunity and in the enjoyment of life and happiness.

God speed that happy birth!

And, until it is accomplished, let no hand be raised to stay the war, through whose agonies and travail democracy can alone be brought forth to rule and to bless the peoples of the earth. On with the war! Let us fight on until Real Democracy does rule the whole world, and neither political nor industrial tyrants rule the workers and wealth-makers in any land under God's bright sun. There is only one battle-cry fit for a free people's lips today—only one answer to the pleas of tyrants and the plots of the privileged.

This is it—"ON WITH THE WAR!"—Editorial, New York American, Sept. 17, 1918.

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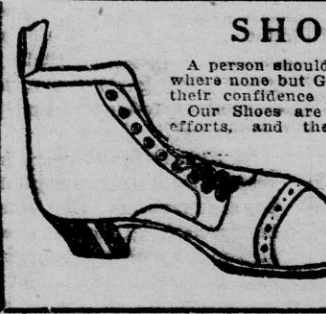
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EVOLUTION VS. REVOLUTION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

machine today is master. Tomorrow by organizing around that machine the workers will survive. Therefore we need have no fear of men like Gompers. When a ship is in a storm, there is no time spent in removing the barnacles that cling to its bottom. But when the harbor is reached and the ship is in dry dock, the ship is overhauled, and the barnacles are removed. Today we are endeavoring to weather the storm and when finally the storm has subsided and we are safe in port, then we shall do some overhauling. Until then, Samuel Gompers, you are at liberty to soothe the troubled fears of your masters with your foolish speeches and your silly platitudes.

The September Liberator appeared on the news stands a day or two ago, over a week late slightly mutilated after a tussle with the Post Office. Two small book announcements are blocked out by what appears to be court plaster, but otherwise the issue is intact. A Fourth of July interview with Eugene V. Debs—a vivid personal account of the I. W. W. trial by John Reed, illustrated with thirty sketches by Art Young; Max Eastman's estimate of Lenin, the second installment of Floyd Dell's unique discussion of education, a poem by Arturo Giovannitti, and Alexander Trachenburg's International Labor News are contained in the issue. In explanation of the delay and the court plaster, the editors state that the two books, which, it seems, have been declared non-mailable, were unwittingly advertised, and at the request of the post office department these were blocked out, A LA RUSSIE, and the issue finally released.—Editors of Liberator.

Copies of the Liberator can be obtained through the Truth. 15 cents or 17 cents per mail. We strongly advise our readers to read the September number.

"After the war of armies is over, a WAR for the conquest of the world's markets will begin, AND FOR THIS WE MUST PREPARE."—Mass. Republican Platform 1917.

THE SOCIALIST LEAGUE OF AMERICA.

OBJECT.

To advance the interests of Socialist education as a Partisan effort to cement and improve the social position of the Working Class in its struggle against the Capitalist Class for the abolition of the Wage System and the inauguration of the Industrial Republic.

As an example of what the League considers to be

Socialist education the contents and editorial policy of its official organ and Organization Manifesto* are herewith cited.

METHODS.

The publication of a quarterly magazine devoted to the critical investigation of Scientific Socialism and all subjects intimately or remotely related thereto; permitting and encouraging a free discussion of the various burning questions, theoretical and tactical, agitating the political and economic wings of the labor movement; however, always considering the advancement of the League's object as the guiding principle and fundamental purpose of the publication. The Radical Review shall be the official organ of the League.

The publication and distribution of literature that will assist in furthering the Object of the League. The Radical Review Publishing Association shall be the official Literature Agency and Publishing Department of the League.

The organization of local branches and classes for the study of Marxism in particular and the Social Sciences in general. The arrangement of meetings and lecture courses conducive to developing clarity and class-consciousness amongst the workers.

The raising of a fund for the founding of a Workers College. This institution to be supervised and conducted by the League in conformity with a definite educational policy formulated in accord with the theoretical and tactical concepts of Marxism as presented and developed in our Organization Manifesto.

The holding of an Annual Conference.

MEMBERSHIP.

Open to all who subscribe to the principles and object of the League.

Each member shall contribute \$2.00 annually to the National Fund toward meeting the current expenses of administration. This contribution also entitles him to a yearly subscription to the official magazine.

MANAGEMENT.

The managerial functions of the League shall be entrusted to an Executive Committee of seven and the Editor of the magazine to be elected annually by the Conference. The Executive Committee is empowered to manage all the affairs of the League, including the publication of literature and the magazine. The Editor to have full charge of the literary and editorial work connected with the issuing of the official organ and all additional literature.

*The Constructive Elements of Socialism, published in the January and April numbers of the Radical Review, also together with Karl Marx: The Man and

His Work, in book form, has with slight and purely technical modifications been adopted as the Organization Manifesto.

WHICH WAY?

I have been reading a plea for the revival of certain old customs, which the pleader considers would greatly beautify life.

He writes with enthusiasm, but he does not convince me. Ruskin, and to some extent Morris, sought to revive ancient ways, to turn the modern mind medievalwards. They only weakened their influence thereby.

Man's destiny is not to be fulfilled by turning back in his traces, to rest in something long ago achieved.

"Onward, onward!" rings forever in his ears, and incited by that inward exhortation he must press right on ahead.

Though mountains and rivers and oceans bar the way, though dark forests impede him, and savage monsters lie in wait for him, he must not cease to struggle onward.

Man has no destination, no known stopping place. He is conscious only of the impulse to leave behind him what has been, and strive towards the yet to be.

Perhaps he is fated, after all, to come back to the point he started from, like the world itself, that wheels about the sun eternally.

Perhaps it is decreed that the paths he has trodden he shall tread again, and the wastes he has sailed he shall sail again.

Perhaps existence is a circle which he is traversing, and presently he will find that the end is but the beginning, and that the beginning was the end.

Perhaps he must go through it all once more, and history must indeed repeat itself, and the whole mystery play of Evolution be re-enacted, not once, but many times—that strange drama, of which the actors are the audience and the audience the actors, and the Author no one knoweth who.

Perhaps. But even so, if man is to go back at all it must be by going forward; by circumscribing the circle, not by turning in his tracks.

Nature knew what she was about when she gave us eyes in front only, and made walking backward the most difficult and dangerous of all modes of locomotion. H. E. B.

THE EDITOR WILL SPEAK AT THE SCANDINAVIAN LOCAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH. WE WOULD LIKE TO MEET SUPERIOR READERS OF TRUTH AT THAT MEETING.

An Open Letter to the Bolshevik Government

By FRANK MEHRING.

(The following letter appeared originally in the Bolshevik official organ "Pravda", of June 13.)

Dear Comrades:—It may seem very conceited of me, one of your German comrades, to presume to send you, Russian comrades, fraternal greetings and hearty good wishes. In reality, I am not writing to you as a private individual, but as the senior member of the Group Internationale and the Spartakus group and for all those in the German Social Democratic movement, who have during the last four years, under the most trying conditions, fought with the same means and tactics which you yourselves employed until your efforts were crowned with victory.

We greet the news of the Bolshevik victories with the same feeling of pride, without the least jealousy, as if they were our own victories, and we all would gladly have allied ourselves with you if our ranks had not been so thinned. Many of us—and, indeed, not the least among us—suffer behind pris-

on walls and in penitentiaries, as, for instance, Comrades Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht.

I would that it was possible to give you more comforting news of the inner life of the German labor world. Like a grease-spot, the government Socialism spreads over and soaks up everything that surrounds it, despite the fact that it is morally and positively played out. The fact that it has succeeded by every makeshift, under cover of martial law, in possessing itself of almost all the labor papers and thus spread poison and snuff among the masses through hundreds of channels, is even the least of its evils.

Far more serious thought is demanded by the fact that the masses still rally round this government Socialism and thus give it power to defeat destructively the Independent Social Democratic movement in three elections.

One of these elections, which occurred quite some time ago, could possibly be explained.

The district in question was Potsdam-Spandau-Osthe-land. In 1912 Karl Liebknecht carried the district for the first time, owing to an accidental majority. It is quite easy to understand that in the special elections every party offered to help the government Socialists to protect Potsdam, the Prussian residence, from a follower of Liebknecht. For the Scheidemanns this was more of a disgrace than a triumph.

However, it was different in the districts of Niederbarnim and Zwickau-Crimmitschau, where recent elections were held to replace the deceased representative, Stadhogen and Strohle of the Independent Socialist Party. Both districts had been strongholds of the party. They were always represented by radicals and the other parties had no candidates in either case, so the question resolved itself into a struggle between the Dependent and Independent Socialists.

Nevertheless, the Dependent Socialists carried both districts. This naturally had a very depressing effect upon all our friends.

Of course, one must not forget that the contests were not fought with equal weapons. The Independents had not the press, freedom of assembly, or any other legal means of carrying on their campaigns, while the government Socialists had everything in abundance.

Still, whatever weight we may put

upon these inequalities falls far short of explaining the magnitude of both defeats. During the period of the anti-Socialist laws the party was often victorious under similar or even more unfavorable conditions. The root of the evil lies deeper. It has only come to light through these elections, though the earlier symptoms indicated as much. The Independent Socialists lack the necessary magnetism to rouse the proletarian masses and lead them on to victory.

Concerning the individual members of the party, there is nothing bad to say. There are able workers among them, who strive to do their utmost, but the party as a whole was not born under a lucky star.

They severed their connection with the government Socialists too late and only after much hesitation, sharing their sins for better or for worse for a long time. Furthermore, the party was not founded upon a common and clear philosophy. On many questions, even important ones, their opinions differ. The binding thought among them does not spell "forward," but "backward."

They would like to resurrect the old German Social Democracy which was in existence before August 4, 1914. They want to go back to their "old and tried tactics," with their "glorious victories" from election to election, from their victorious struggle against "revisionism" from one convention to another, etc. But this aim is nothing but a Utopia, and a reactionary one at that. They wish to unearth a corpse and redecorate him for a new life. The former German Social Democracy, with its "old and tried" tactics, has been beaten to pieces and ground under the triumphal chariot of imperialism. It no longer exists. There is but one German Social Democracy now, and that was founded in August, 1914.

The mourning of the Independents for the unrecalable past is commensurate with their complete blindness to the pressing forces of the present. They wish to soothe the pain of their defeat in Niederbarnim by a vigorous campaign against the Bolsheviks, led by the Menshevik, Stein, and with him, or better above him, the great theoretician, Karl Kautsky. Actually they are performing an heroic deed, and show an infinite well of political wisdom! Could Karl Marx hear of this, he would turn in his grave. In

fact, it is significant to know that the party still continues to adore Kautsky as a holy prophet, despite the fact that it ought to have known at least since August 4, 1914, that this learned schoolmaster does not possess the least vestige of Marx's revolutionary spirit.

From all this it follows that the Independent Socialists have neither the propelling force or power of attraction among the German proletariat. The workers well know what the solidarity of their class means. If they must put up with the split in the party, they do not wish to pay this high price for nothing.

But the reactionary Utopia would not satisfy them even if the latter could be realized, and would be the beginning, and not the end, of the crisis. The cataclysm of August 4, 1914, was not a lightning stroke from a clear sky. It was the result of a disease which long had been undermining the organism of the party, despite its sound appearance. The Independent Socialists can, of course, say that they did not want the split, and that they were almost forcibly put out of the party by the government Socialists.

But the result of their policy of going half way and hesitating was that the masses turned their backs upon them and blamed them for the split. In fact, what is gained when the government Socialists say:

"We agree to the war credits, but decidedly not on principle."

And the Independent Socialists say:

"We oppose the war credits, but decidedly not on principle."

The "yes" and "no" are born of the same desire; that is, "to wash the bear, but not to wet him."

So far as we may judge from the special elections, the Independent Socialists can, at best, be absolutely sure only of two or three of the 28 districts which they now hold. This circumstance alone would not be disastrous, but that the Independent Social Democratic party, with its "old and tried tactics," is a particularly Parliamentary body, it portends to be a bad sign for the near future.

Their desire to survive as well as their consciousness of political duty compels them more and more, always with the same "old and tried tactics," to continue the struggle. Whoever believes them capable of moving a finger

sphere, even though the greatest good of humanity may be at stake, is laboring under an illusion that becomes more disastrous in proportion to the size of the air castle he builds upon this supposition.

Contrasted with the attitude of the Independent Social Democratic Party, the Group Internationale immediately at the beginning of the war discarded all their illusions and never forgot in their theses and programs that after the terrible downfall of August 4, 1914, the complete reconstruction of the International would not only be possible but vitally necessary. Though we, at first, suffered enmity and persecution on all sides, and not least from the Independents, we always had the luck to get a hearty hearing among the workers and, still more important, to find the same spirit of sacrifice that their fathers showed during the period of the anti-Socialist laws.

We made but one mistake, and that was to join the Independent Social Democratic Party after they had organized, of course retaining our own viewpoint, in the hope that we might succeed in driving them forward. But we have long since given up this hope. All our attempts to this end were wrecked by the fact that our best and most experienced members were placed under suspicion by the leaders of the Independent Social Democratic Party as agents provocateur. This distrust is also an inheritance of the "old and tried tactics."

However, there are things which will try every kind of patience. Among these is the senseless warfare of Kautsky and Company against the Bolsheviks.

Naturally, we can understand the quivering excitement of this thinker. He is indignant because the Bolsheviks have gone far beyond the bounds of the "old and tried tactics."

(Continued on Page 4.)

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EVOLUTION VS. REVOLUTION.

Speaking in London at a luncheon to the American Labor delegates, Samuel Gompers in a few remarks aimed at the revolutionary members of the labor movement stated "that the work of the enthronement of labor must be carried on upon evolutionary basis, for all history had this one lesson—great jumps in advance bring much greater rebounds."

Samuel Gompers is of the opinion that because the American Federation of Labor has progressed with all the rapidity of a wounded tortoise, that all other labor movements must follow suit. Gompers fails to perceive that whilst he has been endeavoring to conciliate the capitalists of America and the workers, he has forgotten the knowledge he acquired when he was young. In his younger days Gompers was a Socialist, but unfortunately for Samuel, the rank and file of the American Federation of Labor were woefully ignorant and for a short period Sammy was left out in the cold. Sammy knew that the ideas that had lost him his position, were correct, but the limelight meant more to Samuel than the advance of his own class and so rather than stand by his principles and so assist the workers, he sacrificed them and once more was elected President of the A. F. of L. Ambition, love of applause, etc., made Samuel Gompers the hide-bound reactionary he is today. So as the years rolled on, Samuel forgot his radicalism and today he utters forth the childish arguments that have long since been buried in the cemeteries of dead ideas.

If, for instance, it be admitted that the development of animals, the deer for instance in its present form and shape from the lower forms of life is the result of the slow and steady progress of natural selection extending over millions of years, why is it not logical to insist that the move from the present system of society to a state where industrial democracy is the order of things, must also require the slow progress of the millions of years?

For many years all the argument was on the side of the evolutionist, as distinct from the revolutionist. There was an excuse for those who believed in the slow process, in those days, owing to the fact that they did not have access to the scientific knowledge that we possess today. But there is no excuse for Gompers. Today we have the benefit of the scientific discoveries of Vries. His book "Species and Varieties, Their Origin and Mutation," opening up to us many valuable stores of scientific data. This work of Vries explains much that was left unexplained by Darwin. The author states:

A grave objection which has often and from the very outset been urged against Darwin's conception of very slow and nearly imperceptible changes, is the enormously long time required. If evolution does not proceed any faster than what we can see at present, and if the process must be assumed to have gone on in the same slow manner always, thousands of millions of years would have been needed to develop the higher types of animals and plants from their earliest ancestors.

Now, it is not at all probable that the duration of life on earth includes such an incredibly long time. Quite on the contrary, the lifetime of the earth seems to be limited to a few millions of years. The researches of Lord Kelvin and other eminent physicists seem to leave no doubt on this point. Of course, all estimates of this kind are only vague and approximate, but for our present purposes they may be considered as sufficiently exact.

In a paper published in 1862 Sir William Thomson (now Lord Kelvin) first endeavored to show that great limitations had to be put upon the enormous demands for time made by Lyell, Darwin and other biologists.

From a consideration of a secular cooling of the earth, as deduced from the increasing temperature in deep mines, he concluded that the entire age of the earth must have been more than twenty and less than forty millions of years, and probably much nearer twenty than forty. His views have been much criticized by other physicists, but in the main they have gained an ever-increasing support in the way of evidence. New mines of greater depth have been bored, and their temperatures have proved that the figures of Lord Kelvin are strikingly near the truth. George Darwin has calculated that the separation of the moon from the earth must have taken place some fifty-six millions of years ago. Geikie has estimated the existence of the solid crust of the earth at the most as a hundred million years. The first appearance of the crust must soon have been succeeded by the formation of the seas, and a long time does not seem to have been required to cool the seas to such a degree that life became possible. It is very probable that life originally commenced in the great seas, and that the forms which are now usually included in the plankton or floating life included the very first living beings. According to Broogs, life must have existed in this floating condition during long primeval epochs, and involved nearly all the main branches of the animal and vegetable kingdom before sinking to the bottom of the sea, and later producing the vast number of diverse forms which now adorn the sea and land.

All these evolutions, however, must have been very rapid, especially at the beginning, and together cannot have taken more time than the figures given above.

The agency of the larger streams, and the deposits which they bring into the seas, afford further evidence. The amount of dissolved salts, especially sodium chloride, common salt, has been made the subject of a calculation by Joly, and the amount of time has been estimated by Eugene Dubois. Joly found fifty-five and Dubois thirty-six millions of years as the probable age of the rivers, and both figures correspond to the above as closely as might be expected from the discussion of evidence so incomplete and limited.

All in all it seems evident that the duration of life does not comply with the demands of the conception of very slow and continuous evolution. Now, it is easily seen that the idea of successive mutations is quite independent of this difficulty. Even assuming that some thousands of characters must have been acquired in order to produce the higher animals and plants of the present time, no valid objection is raised. The demands of the biologist and the results of the physicists are harmonized on the ground of the theory of mutation.

The steps may be surmised to have been essentially larger than in the mutations now going on under our eyes, and some thousands of them may be estimated as sufficient to account for the entire organization of the higher forms. Granting between twenty and forty millions of years since the beginning of life, the intervals between two successive mutations may have been centuries and even thousands of years. As yet there has been no objection cited against this assumption, and hence we see that the lack of harmony between the demands of biologists and the result of the physicists disappears in the light of the theory of mutation.

Summing up the results of this discussion, we may justifiably assert that the conclusions derived from the observations and experiments made with evening-primroses and other plants in the main agree satisfactorily with the inferences drawn from paleontologic, geologic and systematic evidence. Obviously these experiments are wonderfully supported by the whole of our knowledge concerning evolution. For this reason the laws discovered in the experimental garden may be considered of great importance, and they may guide us in our further inquiries. Without doubt many minor points are in need of correction and elaboration, but such improvements of our knowledge will gradually increase our means of discovering new instances and new proofs.

The conception of mutation periods producing swarms of species from time to time, among which only a few have a chance of survival, promises to become a basis for speculative pedigree-diagrams, as well as for experimental investigations."

Professor De Vries discovered that at least one flower mutated. For instance, Lamarack's evening primrose is constantly mutating. The primrose is considered very unique in this respect; but it is not all improbable that when we make a further investigation of other plants, we will discover that other plants are constantly mutating. Certainly it would seem that if one plant can mutate, all can.

While nobody can explain how it is that plants mutate, since nobody can explain why it is that cells of plants prefer to organize one way or the other, yet when we come to the explanation of why human society mutates, we have another problem to consider and one that is vastly different to that of the plants. Society has always mutated, it has never changed by slow methods. Society has mutated from feudalism to capitalism and no one with the least sign of intelligence will go so far as to admit that the change from feudalism to capitalism was a slow one. As we stated before, we do not know why the cells of plants prefer to organize one way more than another, but what we do know is, that we ourselves are cells and further more we know why certain forms of society were organized as they were and how the future society will be organized. We know that one of the causes that brought about the downfall of capitalism and gave power to the trading section of the community, was the discovery of steam. We have seen how it revolutionized industry and as a result the economic advantages obtained by the trading section of the community gave them economic power and by the strength of that economic power they defeated the feudal lords.

A good example of mutation is seen in the Steel Trust. In one night the Steel Trust rose and destroyed the power of the small joint stock company. The conditions of business had changed and Judge Gary was wise enough to note these changes and in combination with Morgan, the small steel firms joined together and gave us the trust. It was not a slow process, it came with such rapidity that men spoke of "this huge monster that has arisen overnight." As with the Steel Trust, so with the trade union. The trade union today finds itself unable to carry out the demands of its members. The reason being that it is out-of-date, in a matter of a few months, the trade unions will mutate. They will all come together and reorganize themselves like the cells of the primrose. Economic conditions will compel them to come together and no labor leader or capitalist will be able to stop them. The laws of evolution will work their course, they may for a time being be retarded, but that can only be a matter of a few years. Social conditions will compel those who are subject to them to adapt themselves to the changes that take place. The changes that are taking place in the machine industry will compel the worker to adapt themselves to the conditions produced by those changes. The old individualism, the product of the handicraft days is no more. Today we live in an age of co-operation. When all workers must gather round a machine. The

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

LABOR IN AUSTRIA AFTER THE WAR.

From the Arbeiter Zeitung, Vienna.

The following editorial appeared in the Austrian Socialist organ on April 7. It is a very good survey of tendencies in Austrian industries and the outlook for the Austrian worker after the war. It is evident that the Austrian employing class is planning for the future struggles with the Austrian proletariat which will test the capacities of the workers. This version is that of the monthly labor review of the department of labor.

Powerful armies are still struggling in bloody battles in the west. So far, nobody can foretell how near or how remote peace is. Behind the times, however, many hands are already at work in preparing for the resumption of peaceful activities after the conclusion of the war. Here we find the engineers of an ordinance factory preparing the transformation of its shops for the construction of locomotives, there we see technical experts drawing up plans to adapt a gun factory for the production of automobiles.

An entire system of organization on reconstruction in the ministry of commerce is carefully considering how measures for the importation of raw materials, for a sufficient merchant marine, and funds to pay for the raw materials can be taken in anticipation of the time when the seas will be free again. The three large employers' associations of Austria have combined so as to be able during the coming peace times to take part with increased power in the economic strife. Thus everywhere employers are busily engaged in preparing for peace, whether the latter be near or remote. The working class should also begin to look ahead and to see to it that the new tasks of peace times do not find them unprepared. In this respect it is necessary in the first place that we obtain an idea as to what form the relations of capital and labor will assume after the war.

In many branches of industry production has been discontinued entirely during the war or been essentially restricted, as, for instance, in the building trades and the textile, glass and pottery industries. The employers have not used their capital for the operation of their establishments. They have invested it largely in war bonds. Will all these employers, who have been leading idle lives for four years, resume operation of their establishments? Certainly not! Many of them will prefer to sell their factories. As prices are high and machinery will be hard to obtain, they will be able to obtain a much higher price for their establishments than that at which they have valued them on their books.

Particularly, the more conservative, more easy going and less aggressive employers will sell their establishments, invest the proceeds in government bonds, and instead of being active, will continue to live as idlers on their interest. Their factories, however, will fall into the hands of the financially strongest, sharpest and most aggressive of their competitors. In this manner a selective process will take place among the ranks of the employers; the conservative and easy-going employers will disappear entirely and whole branches of industry will be concentrated in the hands of financially strong corporations managed by energetic men. The same process will also take place in the many branches of industry that today are active for war purposes.

Today shells are being turned where in peace times parts of machinery were produced; field kitchens are being built where cooking utensils were produced. As soon, however, as the large organs of the military administration cease, such industries must be readapted to peace-time production. This will require much hard work, from which many an employer will shrink. He has made a profit of millions during the war, so why should he work hard, particularly when he can now sell his factory at such a good price? Here also a concentration of these industries in a few strong hands will take place.

In addition, there is finally to be considered a third process of development. During the war the state has combined many branches of industry into so-called war-unions. For instance, all the establishments of the cotton, wool and sugar industries, etc., were combined

into such war unions. The war union of the cotton industry will probably continue to exist long after the termination of the war, for there will be a shortage of cotton for a long time to come, and the organization, consequently, will be needed to distribute the available cotton supplies among the mills. Such an organization also will be able to obtain more easily than the individual mills the credit abroad without which the importation of cotton would not be feasible. The individual employers themselves will not be willing to dissolve the war union, and why should they, for the war union is a cartel organized by the state itself, which guarantees them large profits. And the state, of course, will not want to dissolve the war union, but to obtain a profit from it.

As the state, by virtue of its authority, guarantees large profits to the members of a cartel, it also can assure a part of these profits to itself, and in its present financial distress the state surely will need this part of the cartel profits. In a number of industries the working classes, therefore, will find that they will have to deal with compulsory cartels organized by the state; i. e., with a completely and uniformly organized body of employers. And as these cartels are being organized by the bureaucracy, and as the state probably will reserve to itself part of the cartels' profits, these cartels will have the closest connections with the government and exercise considerable influence upon it. Capital will, in a larger measure than ever, be able to count upon support by the state.

To sum up, it becomes plain that the war has enormously strengthened the power of capital. The fight against capital will be incomparably harder than before the war. Labor no longer will have to deal with individual employers, but with a closely organized combine of employers, cooly allied with the large banks, and supported by the state. Each strike in an individual establishment will be combated by a lockout in numerous other establishments. In wage disputes the employers' organizations will command immense capital and have the influence of the large banks and of the state on their side.

Therefore, it is clear that only very strong trade unions will be able to hold their own in such disputes; but it also is clear that the gigantic trade union disputes that will arise from these conditions will inevitably grow into political class disputes the result of which will be decided by the political strength of the working classes. The entire future of the working classes depends upon their ability to strengthen their trade union and political organization in such a manner that it will be able to cope with its new tasks. The main work of organization in this respect can, of course, only be done after the war, when the strongest fighters for the interests of labor return from the front. But the formation of strong cadres should be begun with today, so that they may be ready for the times of the great mobilization of the forces of the proletariat.

TCHITCHERIN REJECTS
NEUTRAL DIPLOMACY
PLEA FOR BOURGEOISIE

Copenhagen.—M. Tchitcherin, Bolshevik foreign minister, has sent the following note to their neutral diplomats in reply to their protest against the Soviet government's treatment of foreigners and political prisoners:

"I sharply reject every intervention from neutral capitalistic powers favoring the Russian bourgeoisie. I consider every attempt by neutral representatives to exceed the limit of lawful protection of their countrymen's interests as an attempt to support the counter-revolution."

REICHSTAG SOCIALIST,
DEMANDING WAR'S END,
CHECKED BY COLLEAGUES

Amsterdam.—Socialist members of the municipal council of Berlin raised the food question in a public debate in the council meeting recently, according to advices to the Telegraaf. One speaker, after denunciatory remarks, exclaimed: "It is time the war came to an end." His words were greeted by loud applause from the public gallery.

WE MUST--RAISE--MONEY

OUR BILLS MUST BE PAID IN THIRTY DAYS

PRICES NO OBJECT

A GREAT SALE FRIDAY MORNING, SEPT. 27 at 9 O'Clock

MOTHERS!

Keep the Children Warm

One lot Sweaters; all colors.
Regular \$3 values While
they last \$1.89

Shoes for Men and Boys

One lot of Boys' Shoes, broken
sizes; regular \$2.50 to
\$3.50 values—While they
last— \$1.39

Men's Dress Shirts

Shirts, regular \$1.25
values, at 69c

Men's Heavy Pants, regular
\$4.50 values, at \$3.48

Men's All-wool Pants, regular
\$6 values, at \$4.98

MEN'S UNDERWEAR

Two-piece Fleece Lined, regular
\$1 values, at 79c

Two-piece Wool Underwear
regular \$3 values, at \$1.49

Wool Process Union Suits,
regular \$3 values, at \$2.29

Men's and Boys' Mackinaws

Boys' Mackinaws, regular
\$4.50 val., sale price \$2.48

Boys' Mackinaws, regular
\$6.00 values—at .. \$3.48

MEN, TAKE NOTICE!

100 pairs Overalls, regular
\$2.00 values— While they
last \$1.69

Men's Heavy Pants, regular
\$3.50 values, at \$2.48

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Make certain that You Trade at
the Real Store, 1831 W. Sup. St.
Corner of 19th Avenue West.AN OPEN LETTER TO THE
BOLSHEVIK GOVERNMENT
(Continued from Page 3)

ties." But we always cherished a ray of hope that Kautsky had learned at least so much from Marx—whom he claims to know by heart so that he could reproduce him word by word—that it is absolutely ill-bred for people who are in peace and safety abroad to enhance the joy of the bourgeoisie by making the task of revolutionary fighters, working under the most difficult circumstances, and bringing the greatest personal sacrifices, even more difficult.

But even this hope deceived me, and I write this letter fulfilling a wish repeatedly expressed among the members of the Group Internationale to tell our Russian friends and comrades that we are all bound to them by common tie of passionate and heartfelt sympathy and that we see in them, and not in the "old and tried tactics", the pioneers of the New International, that International of which our thesis says, "The fatherland of the proletarians, for whose defense everything else must be put aside, is the Socialist International."

Greetings and handclaps,
Yours,
FRANZ MEHRING.

A POWERFUL ANTISEPTIC
HAIR STIMULANT AND
DRESSING
ROYAL IBIS
Hair Tonic
Nourishes the Roots, Prevents
Dandruff, Beautifies the Hair.
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