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AMERICAN SOCIALIST

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HERE IS CHARLES EDWARD RUSSELL'S MESSAGE ON THE EUROPEAN TO AMERICAN SOCIALISTS

(Charles Edward Russell, writing from the European war zone to The American Socialist, sends a message to American Socialists as follows:)

I earnestly hope the Socialist party will make its supreme appeal in this campaign on the basis of this world-wide and most inexcusable calamity. It is the crowning lesson of the truth of all we have said. There is nothing to this monstrous war except capitalism gone mad. Let nobody think it had any other origin. I was on the inside and I know. Unless we can have Socialism the thing will last for years and be succeeded by other wars as bad as this.

CAPITALISM GONE MAD!

By CHARLES EDWARD RUSSELL Author of "The Uprising of the Many," "Lawless Wealth," "Songs of Democracy," "Why I Am a Socialist," etc., etc.

No one need be in the least doubt as to why we have this war. No one that cares to know why civilization has been overwhelmed, Europe turned into a howling mad-house, and the Twentieth Century transformed into the Fourteenth need muddle about it.

Russell's War Indictment Pillories European Greed

Editor's Note.—We told you we had cabled to Europe to get an article on the war by Charles Edward Russell direct from the field of this universal slaughter.

take rifles and kill him, for no reason of their own but because their king has dreamed, their Kaiser delusions, or the capitalists that exploit them have quarreled.

more profits meant more power. That way the pressure inevitably tended, and even if no one had ever designed war nor intended it, under the existing system war was certain.

OUR SIGNED WAR STORY FROM BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, SOLDIER

Here is a signed war story. It doesn't come from the European slaughter house. It comes from a soldier in the peaceful war against war waged by Socialism in the United States.

BY JOSEPH BRENER Brooklyn, N. Y. Last week at a Socialist street meeting I purchased a copy of The American Socialist. It was very interesting and convincing.

Should the present system last, three centuries hence men will toll and children be reared in ignorance and insolvency that the monstrous bill for this day's insanity may be paid.

BACK TO SAVAGERY.

FROM such a burden piled upon the debt burden the world already bears could come but one thing. Mankind would revert to savagery.

Instinctively we cry out against this prospect. We declare that such a thing must not be. That this war must be stopped. That all war must be abolished.

We see now the certain results of the present system of Business founded upon grab and gain, the cut-throat system of competition, the deadly system of Business conducted for private profits.

A few made rich and the many poor; a few made powerful and the many made the battle-pawns of these; the resources of the world and the strength thereof controlled by a few for their own benefit and the rest obliged to go out and fight the wars engendered by the competitions, jealousies or maniac dreams of their masters.

All this for just these same two reasons, the Surviving Feudalism of Autocracy and the Surviving Savagery of Competition.

Let the competitive system survive, and whichever way the present war results it will assuredly breed other wars as gigantic or worse. From that conclusion there is no logical escape.

CIVILIZATION'S ONLY HOPE.

If then we are determined that when this whirlwind of bestiality shall have passed we shall not have another, if we wish a condition under which the structure of society shall not be blown down, human intercourse shall not be destroyed, civilization shall not be bathed in blood, the one possible way to that condition is to eliminate forever the causes of war.

Instead of business for private profits we must have Business for the Common Good. Instead of private ownership of the means of life we must have the means of life owned by the public for the public welfare.

Instead of outworn feudalism we must have the full measure of democracy for men and women.

ABOLISH CAPITALISM. TAKE AWAY THE HUGE, BELSHAZAR, REMORSELESS, SAVAGE POWER OF PROFITS AND PROFITS CAN NO LONGER PLUNGE THE NATIONS INTO WAR.

ALL OTHER TALK OF REMEDIES, REFORMS, MEASURES, EXHORTATIONS, APPEALS, PREAMBLES, AGREEMENTS, TREATIES, PEACE CONFERENCES, GABRIEL POWER OF PEACE SOCIETIES, ARGUMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS IS CHILDISH PRATTLE. ONE THING OR THE OTHER. ABOLISH THE SOURCES OF WAR OR PREPARE TO SEE CIVILIZATION CRUSHED AND OUR OWN COUNTRY WITH THE REST REVERTED TO THE STATE OF THE CAVE MEN.

WHICH SHALL IT BE?

EXCUSE AND SUBTERFUGE.

THESE things are but excuse and subterfuge. The cards that priced the bubble of a falacious civilization and sent us helter-skelter back to barbarism and the Middle Ages were held by Big Business on one side and Autocracy on the other.

It was not Serbia's failure to surrender to Austria's demands. Many other nations have rejected impossible overtures and no war has resulted.

It was not Russia's mobilization. Every European nation has mobilized at some time or another without causing war.

It was not any menace of France against Germany. There was no such menace.

Two months ago the men now fighting in Europe would have set down together, walked or talked together, felt only kinship to one another; if in distress, gladly would have helped one another.

For no interest nor thought nor concern of theirs they go about now with guns looking for a chance to kill one another.

On Monday two men see a fellow man drowning in the river or imprisoned in a burning house, and they risk their own lives to save him. On Tuesday they

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

THE swift expansion of German commerce turned certain German heads.

England's colonies made her rich. Germany added colony to colony. Colonies produced trade. Long ago Germany's trade passed the point where it could be well handled by a nation geographically circumscribed as she is.

The pressure of competition, the pressure of the widening prospect of more and more profits, the pressure against her sides of her expanding business, became an irresistible force for territorial increment.

In the event of another war like that of 1870, France would be shown of these valuable possessions, which would then become German. More colonies meant more commerce. More commerce meant more profits.

ONLY PART OF BLACK NIGHT.

THE shuddering horror with which we read of battlefields whereon the dead lie piled in heaps, of torn and mangled youths shivering with the torture of their wounds, of towns burned and peasants put to death, is only a part of the black night that has come upon us.

Before the war began the economists had uttered solemn warnings against the heaping up of the debts of the nations. They pointed out that the interest charges on these debts were steadily mounting to a sum that could not be paid.

These were the results of the existing system, of the debts of former wars, and of the huge armaments that the nations maintained.

Think, then, that this war is costing these nations fifty million dollars every day, that practically all of this staggering sum must take shape in national debts for succeeding years to pay, and that these debts and the crushing interest charges they will entail can be paid in no way except by the sweat of labor.

We are paying today the expenses of the wars of Napoleon, a century old.

WE WANT FOOD

By J. Stitt Wilson

We've got a war on our hands in this country. We've got a battle against the power that is behind thrones and generals and armies. That power is coming down with its steely hand of greed to every freckle in America.

of the great war will come home to you and to me in the added intensity of our struggle for bread. It is the plain people who are to be exploited, while the magnates in the saddle glean incalculable wealth.

MILITIA AT BUTTE—NOTHING TO DO

WHAT CONGRESS OUGHT TO DO NOW THE TRUSTS GET IT ALL

By CARL D. THOMPSON Author of "Public Ownership of Railways." Editor's Note.—Here is one of the opening guns in the Socialist march on Washington to capture Congress.

MILITARY RULE JOKE; "AMALGAMATED" FEARS SOCIALIST STRENGTH

Editor's Note.—In an effort to secure news concerning the Butte situation for readers of The American Socialist, the editor writes Mayor Lewis J. Duncan, Conditions existing under the rule of the military censor are best told in Duncan's own words.

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JAILS FILL AS NEW CIVIL WAR NEWS IN COLORADO

Conditions in the Colorado coal fields are so serious that an outbreak of civil war...

PROGRESSIVES HAVE NO CANDIDATE IN WISCONSIN

And so in Wisconsin, where they style themselves Progressives, are now up against it. Standpat reactionaries have been nominated for governor on both the Democratic and Republican tickets.

German Socialist Killed

The Vorwärts, the German Socialist daily at Berlin, reports that Dr. Ludwig Frank of Mannheim, was killed near Lunville. He was a Socialist member of the German Reichstag and had been secured by the German Section of the American Socialist party to make a tour of this country this fall.

HAS SOCIALISM ONE MILLION VOICES TO FIGHT THIS WAR?

WE WANT TO KNOW IF SOCIALISM IN AMERICA HAS ONE MILLION VOICES TO FIGHT THIS WAR AND SAVE CIVILIZATION.

Do you realize that all that is necessary to get that war lobby or war machine out of business is to get one million voices to fight this war and save civilization? We know that is the answer that accompanied the masterful article on the European war, which is published in the first issue of this magazine, "Russia's million voices." It is a plain magazine for plain people—plain in print, plain in paper, and plain in speech.

BECAUSE it prints facts which you want to know and which you can use in your own work.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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