

The Fenelon Falls Gazette.

VOL. XL

FENELON FALLS, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, JAN. 24, 1913.

No. 49

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ESTABLISHED 1817 INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT
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R. M. Hamilton, Mgr. Fenelon Falls Branch

Apostles of Murder.

The press despatches report that General Tasker H. Bliss of the United States army, addressing the National Guard association of the United States at Norfolk, Va., a few days ago, said that it was all wrong to oppose war and to favor peace. The general declared that "certain college presidents, professors and others moulding the manhood of the rising generation, had taken a stand against the inoculation of the military spirit in the youth of the nation that had a tendency to rob the country of the power and force it would some time in the future need for self-preservation." General Bliss further declared that "the stand taken to remove the military spirit looking to universal peace is wrong."

The reason this army officer depreciates peace and stands for war is apparent at a glance. Peace would mean the loss of his profession. So long as there is a prospect of war he can strut about, look solemn and be saluted by his underlings; and this is very dear to the heart of one educated in the polite art of murder. What the general and others of his type fear is that working men may come to their senses sufficiently to refuse to serve as murderers. The whole military business is for the benefit of the ruling class, and every intelligent worker ought to set his face like flint against it. There is no patriotism in patricide or fratricide. There is no glory in bloodshed; there is no honor in killing or maiming our fellowmen. If the pot-bellied gentry of Wall street, whose interests General Bliss represents and whose spirit he voices, want to rush out on a killing expedition and have their excessive avoirdupois perforated with bullets for the glory there is in it, let them do so to their hearts' content. But working men have had enough of killing working men for the benefit of their fat and festive masters. General Bliss wants war for what there is in it for himself and for the master class whose tool he is. Very well! Let him and his class go to war and exterminate each other; but as for us we stand for peace, and we will urge the worst peace conceivable against the best war that can be imagined. To quote our friend Roosevelt: "Murder is murder" even if the murderer does shoot his victim in the back on a field of battle.

Socialists the world over, men, women and children, stand like a wall of granite against war and for universal peace.—Appeal to Reason.

Pensioning Presidents.

Carnegie has a penchant for pensioning superannuated servants of the plutes. His latest scheme is to pension ex-presidents. This would appear

on the surface to be an insult to the American people, no less than to the ex-presidents themselves. But it is nothing of the kind. Nothing is more fitting than that Carnegie and his class should pension ex-presidents such as Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson, et al. They are faithful and devoted servants of the capitalist class. They only receive seventy-five thousand dollars a year and twenty-five thousand more per annum for expense, and why should they not be pensioned by their masters after they retire, so as to keep them out of the county house? They can hardly be expected to save anything out of such pauper wages. They only get as much in a day as a good many working women get in a year, and it requires all this to keep the wolf from the automobile.

Woodrow Wilson was wise to the propriety of plutocratic pensioning of professors long before he was elected president. He did not wait to be invited by Carnegie to a place on the pension roll, but put himself in the pension line at Carnegie's office and personally handed in his application to be put on the private pension roll of broken down stuffs who were themselves out lacking for the ruling class. Carnegie has various schemes for pensioning and subsidizing the lame ducks of capitalism; but it never occurs to him that worn out workers whose exploited bones are no longer wanted in the slave-pens are fit subjects for consideration when pensioning is in order, especially when the giver of the pension poses as a great philanthropist.

But better still, this pensioning will be wholly unnecessary when the workers are no longer robbed. Socialism will put an end to the robbery and give every man and every woman a full and fair chance to earn an honest living under decent conditions, so that they may be self-respecting men and women instead of the fawning lickspittles of parasites who rob honest producers, and out of the proceeds pension another set of parasites to keep the workers in ignorance and subjection.

In the meantime think of the monumental gall of Carnegie on the one hand and the abject servility of the ex-presidents on the other hand, and you will have an interesting side-light on capitalism.—Ibid.

Indignation against injustice produces no results unless it is intelligently directed.

To reject an idea because it is new is not a proof of shrewd sense; it is a proof of bigoted ignorance.

If I knew of any remedy that would relieve the suffering of the toiling many I would surely tell it; but I know of none short of revolution.

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