

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## ENGLAND MUST USE HER DWARFS

The standards for physical requirements in the English army are now reduced to 5 feet 1 inch for height and 34-inch chest measurement. A prominent American newspaper writer who is now investigating conditions in England declares that the reduction was made because of the fact that the majority of the workers of England are underfed children of underfed parents and have been reared in conditions where bodily health is impossible; therefore "the army of dwarfs," the only possible recruits for the British armies in times of war; the stunted starlings of the poverty system of peace times.

## IRISH I. L. P. AND THE WAR.

The Independent Labor party of Ireland has issued an appeal to the Irish working class in which the following passage occurs:

"All the workers of the world are like ourselves, beasts of burden to a propertied class, their lives ordered and ruled for them by the interests of that class, their countries stolen from them by the armed might of the past, and kept from them by the superstitions of law and tradition fostered by that class in the present. Their sufferings are as our sufferings, their hopes are as our hopes—we are all brethren one of another. To take up arms in anger to kill any of the poor driven workers of another nation at the order of our rulers is as clearly an act of murder, an act worthy of Cain, as any crime of violence ever committed."

Thousands of workers are attending the Oklahoma Socialist encampments. One hundred encampments in different parts of the state are to be held this month. Each encampment will last from three to seven days. Nine speakers are kept busy lecturing three times a day. They are booked for three lectures a day till the end of this month. There are 10,000 dues-paying members in the party. Over 50,000 votes were cast in the last election and the cry today is "Oklahoma for Socialism in 1916."

Sixty thousand New York garment workers who threatened to strike unless wages and working conditions were bettered won without the loss of a day's work.

Bayonne hospital authorities refused to remove a bullet from the leg of one of the strikers, who was shot by Rockefeller gunmen, unless he paid \$15. The fifteen dollars was not forthcoming and the man would have the bullet in his leg today were it not for the fact that the New York Call raised the \$15 for the man. Five strikers are dead as the result of the clash.

**SOCIALISTS ARE ELECTED.**  
Robt. Bepler, Socialist, has been elected president of the Everett Trades and Labor Council. Hulet M. Wells, Socialist, has been elected president of the Seattle Trades and Labor Council.

Kaiser Wilhelm expects another winter and summer campaign. The Kaiser happened to attend an officers' mess when they were singing songs. After they had sung "We'll Meet Again at Home" the Kaiser said: "Dear comrades, you must not think this will be too soon. You will probably see again the roses blooming in the enemy's country."

Kitchener's army will not be used for an offensive drive against the Germans until probably next spring because of lack of ammunition, according to information from sources in close touch with inner conditions both in England and the front. Germany and Austria-Hungary have an output of 250,000 shells daily whilst England can only produce a small percentage of that number.

In Holland the Socialists held a national convention, denounced the scheme of the government to increase the army to 700,000 men and add more ships to the navy, and called upon the working classes of Germany, France and England to make a determined stand for peace.

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Socialists of prominence. We believe that this plan will prove fully as effective as the peace manifesto issued by the National Committee.

Trusting that the coms. are now fully convinced of the correctness of our views, we remain,

Yours for the  
W. C. R.

## "HEROES" LOSE THEIR (?) JOBS

English railwaymen who have gone to the front have practically lost their jobs because women who have taken their places are getting \$3.10 a week in wages whereas the men were getting \$7.00 a week.

## LIVING STILL SOARING.

The cost of living has gone up 150 per cent. in England during the past year. Wages are practically the same as they were before the war but for a slight raise in industries making war munitions. The situation in the colonies is the same. All the government employes in the docks, shipyards and munition factories of Gibraltar threaten to strike unless wages are increased.

## LABOR PAPERS HARD HIT.

Four labor papers west of Winnipeg, Canada, have gone out of business during the past few months. In England the Daily Citizen, a labor paper with a circulation of 200,000, has gone out of existence through lack of advertisers.

## VOTES WATER BONDS.

By a vote slightly larger than two to one, the proposition for the issue of bonds to purchase the water plant owned by the Bremerton, Wn., Water Company, was balloted upon favorably recently. The official vote stood 485 to 227 in favor of the purchase.

It is learned on excellent authority that the cabinet has decided to begin conscription in raising additional armies for Great Britain and that the practice will be put in force about October 15.

We may acquire liberty, but it is never recovered if it is once lost.—Rousseau.

## SOME PROPAGANDA. COMRADE HANSON GETS ACTIVE.

Comrade Henry Hanson has bought one hundred copies of WAR, WHAT FOR? No, dear reader, he is not going to read them all himself; neither will he use them to fill his library shelves. He intends to sell them TO YOU at the rate of five for a dollar, or twenty-five cents each. Can you beat that for a propaganda stunt? If you do not live in Everett, send in the money, plus postage, to him in care of The Northwest Worker.

Who comes next with another hundred? Don't all speak at once.

Well, if you can't buy a hundred, make it one.

## SOCIALIST MEMBERS CAMP.

The Socialist members in the Wisconsin legislature, having exhausted the salaries paid them by the state, have reached the point where they decided to camp in a tent on the state house grounds at Madison until the end of the long session, which has been grinding away since the first of January. The legislators are only paid \$500 each, and the Socialists declare that if the state can't pay them decent wages it can at least give them enough room upon which to pitch a tent while serving the public.

Canadian workmen are complaining that it is better to be an enemy than a patriot there. Alien enemies are interned and fed and clothed and given 25 cents per day, while patriotic citizens are without jobs and starving. And in the meantime patriotic war contractors make nice profits from the manufacture of shrapnel. Great is war! Great is capital!

When you are asked to drink, my son, and have half a mind to accept the invitation, remember that if you had a whole mind you wouldn't.—Woman's Journal.

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**A Way to Prevent War**  
By ALLAN L. BENSON  
Author of "The Truth About Socialism," "Socialism Made Plain," "Our Dishonest Constitution"  
The book that William Jennings Bryan didn't write, but the contents of which, according to the New York Sun, he "appropriated" and used in his recent public speeches and newspaper interviews.  
Those who declare wars do not fight them—their wives and children do not suffer.  
If you believe that this is wrong, that it should be changed, you want to read this book.  
If you believe that the power to declare war should be left to a vote of all the people, this book will interest you.  
Benson says the power to declare war should rest with the people and that those who vote for war should be first to go to war.  
Doesn't that strike you as a pretty sensible program?  
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## YE PARTY COLYUM

Col. Bryan supports our position. When we set forth our position on international peace a week ago we were somewhat uncertain as to our stand. Our feet are now on firm ground. Since then we have had occasion to attend a meeting, of no political consequence, at which Col. Mr. Bryan spoke and find that he supports our views.  
We were on hand early to procure a good seat. However, we regretted our haste a few moments later when the assembled populace suddenly arose as one man and began to chant "America." We had small patience with such bogus reverence and doggedly determined to stand by our principle and remain seated. Notwithstanding our decision several unfriendly glances cast in our direction caused us to bestir ourselves. So we arose reluctantly and remained standing, nervously twitching our cap, while we eyed furtively about to assure ourselves that none of the coms. had recognized us. We breathed a sigh of relief as Col. Bryan entered the enclosure and cut short the proceedings.

## Great Lung Power.

Col. Bryan's speech was a marvel of oratory. Seldom has it been our pleasure to hear such a wondrous exhibition of lung power. For nearly two hours the Col.'s thunderous voice belted and boomed over the surrounding country in the interest of peace. As he progressed and the reverberations increased in pitch and volume we felt instinctively that its cause had been proportionately strengthened. Ah, for the persuasive eloquence of that masterful man. Almost imperceptibly the great audience warmed up to him. Then, as if comprehending the full significance of the glorious cause he espoused, it arose spontaneously and cheered him on and on. His enthusiasm soared to infinite heights. No doubt aided and abetted by generous draughts of grape juice, he grew defiant and flew in the face of science. After enumerating all the things he could recall that are said to have caused wars he concluded that none would fit the present war and pronounced it causeless. A causeless war. Recalling what we had gleaned from a correspondence course in philosophy, we remembered that science had laid down an ultimatum that henceforth all effects must have causes. While Col. Bryan cheerfully admitted that the present European conflict had created some rump in the course of human events, thus classing it as an effect, he steadfastly maintained that it was causeless. We left dubious about accepting this conclusion, but thought perhaps we had been prejudiced by our correspondence course and eventually conceded the point to Col. Bryan.

## Specialist in Effects.

We realized that in our intensive age men must specialize. We soon found that the reason the Col. is unable to see causes is that he is a specialist in effects. He tore through the jungle of capitalism and attacked its iniquitous effects savagely. He assailed the jingo press; he tore T. R. limb from limb, and reduced his "preparedness for war" into shreds. Then he threw the whole medley collection to earth and trod it under foot. Redjusting his tie, he bounded out of the jungle and on to the elysian fields of the co-op. commonwealth. He declared for the brotherhood of man. At this juncture we applauded vigorously. Here we discerned real Socialism.

## A Political Socialist.

We were highly gratified to note that the Col. is a political Socialist. We were already convinced by his reference to the brotherhood of man that he is a Socialist, but were indeed pleased to note that he favored political action as a weapon. He believes in a referendum on war. This is strictly in accord with the views of Com. Allan Benson, ourself, and other