

their victims. But asking help from Singletaxers is practically asking those who are using all their spare means to prevent further mischief, to relax their efforts in order to enable others to evade the duty of relieving those whom they have made poor."

This, therefore, is my answer when asked to contribute to the Red Cross:

"Asking help from the supporters of militarism and imperialism is merely asking the persons responsible for war, death and destruction to do something to relieve their victims. But, as one who has devoted what little energy, power and means she may possess to combatting the ideals of militarism and imperialism, as well as all the other forms of brutal privilege and enthroned force, I cannot see why I should relax such efforts to enable those who believe in all these things to evade their full duty of helping updo in some part the wrong they have brought about."

The Red Cross is as much a part of army organization as is the engineer corps, or a battleship or any of the rest of it. A true anti-militarist, who understands to the full what the terms militarism means and implies, might as well give money towards a new battleship as toward the Red Cross work. The Red Cross stands as an acknowledgement that war and militarism and all they mean are a necessary part of civilized society. Exactly as organized charity is an admission on the part of the community that the conditions which make charity necessary are an inevitable and integral part of the community life. We Singletaxers who deny this, do not believe in nor support organized charity. Therefore those of us who are convinced anti-militarists do not support the Red Cross, whatever the Unthinking may say of us.

GRACE ISABEL COLBRON.



THE SALARY AND WAGE PROBLEM.

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 12.

There seems to be a cloud of superstition befogging the mind of the average individual, especially the minds of the salary earning classes. These good people think they are working for money and that the higher the wage the greater the income. This is a false belief. If the wages of the lowest paid worker should be raised to \$100 a week and the wages of the other workers adjusted to this scale, which would be sure to follow, the purchasing power of the wage would not be increased the value of a paper collar. Money is only a substitute for the debit and credit side of the ledger. No one works for money except the miser. All others are striving for that which money will purchase. Practically the workman exchanges his labor for the commodities which he uses and consumes during his stay on earth. This statement is proved by the following approximate list of necessities and luxuries used and consumed by the average working man during a period of say thirty-five years, to-wit:

- 25 suits of clothes.
- 100 suits of underclothes.
- 40 each of neckties, pairs of gloves.
- 2 watches, a number of rings, stickpins, charms, collar buttons and knives.
- 10 sacks of sugar.

4 barrels of flour.

5 barrels of liquors.

A quantity of drugs.

A supply of household goods.

A house and lot or its equivalent paid in rent.

One street car, or its equivalent, paid in 5-cent fares.

An interest in a railroad car, paid by buying railroad tickets.

A load of books, papers, stationery and postage.

The equivalent of an interest in a theater, circus or ball game equipment.

Some insurance, chances, risks, lawsuits, church and lodge dues. City, county, state and tariff taxes. But all the wage earners are not satisfied with that which their present exchange of labor will procure; therefore they resort to strikes and boycotts, believing that through these means they will better their condition. This is a delusion. No such methods will ever bring about that which they desire. But if, instead, they will abolish the custom houses and destroy all tariff walls the present purchasing power of their earnings will be increased one-third, thus giving them all or more than they hoped to gain by means of the strike or boycott.

When Adam and Eve were driven out of the Garden of Eden they were compelled to depend upon their labor for protection. It is labor, not protective tariffs and the hidden taxes consequent thereunto, that increases the income and adds to the material comforts of man.

F. A. TAPPAN, M. D.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of The Public for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, September 22, 1914.

The European War.

Few changes of moment have occurred in the position of the several armies during the last week. Ten nations are now engaged—Germany and Austria on one side, and Russia, France, England, Belgium, Portugal, Serbia, Montenegro, and Japan on the other. Severe battles, accompanied by heavy losses, have been fought by the troops of all these nations, but no decisive action on land or sea has occurred. Casualty lists are either withheld from the public, or are given out in such a form as to prevent a full understanding of the situation. No indications are yet apparent that any of the countries is ready to talk peace. [See current volume, page 897.]



The Franco-German Campaign.

No sooner had the German right wing, under General von Kluck, safely crossed the River Aisne, in its retreat after the battle of Marne, than a continuous and dogged struggle began along the

whole line extending from Noyon on the Oise to the forest of Argonne, to see which army could drive the other from its entrenchments. Torrential rains fell, and the soldiers were under the strain of battle almost continually from the beginning of the battle of Marne on the 7th. The German right wing faces the River Aisne, the center is before Reims, and the left wing is in the forest of Argonne. The Allies are said to equal the Germans in number, and the two together are reported to number more than two million men. Efforts are reported on the part of the Allies to move round to the west of the German right wing and outflank General von Kluck's men. The German center has made a furious assault on the city of Reims, which is occupied by the French, but without avail. The bombardment by the Germans is reported to have been destructive of public buildings; among those destroyed is said to be the famous cathedral. Great secrecy shrouds the operations of both armies. It is supposed that some of the troops from India have arrived on the scene. Reinforcements to the number of 100,000 men are said to have joined the German forces. The Allies have forced back the troops under General von Kluck several miles, in their flanking movement; but German official reports claim with equal positiveness that the advantage lies with them. Artillery duels continue night and day, with intervals of close fighting by infantry. Bayonet charges are reported.



The Campaign in Eastern Europe.

There is little change in the position of the Russian and German armies in eastern Prussia and western Russia. With the German strength thrown against the Allied armies in the north of France, and the Russian forces engaged in Austria, the Russo-German campaign is inactive. Reports from the Russo-Austrian campaign are mostly from Petrograd sources, and give continued Russian successes. Notwithstanding the earlier Austrian reverses their armies in Galicia are making a stubborn resistance, and still hold the strongly fortified town of Przemyśl. The Russian forces outnumber the Austrians, and are reported to be gradually overwhelming them. The Servian army invading Austria is reported to be 150,000 strong, and is making such progress in its march toward Budapest that Austria has been obliged to detach four army corps from its Galician army to meet them. The Servians and Montenegrins, operating together in Bosnia, have captured the town of Rogbitza, which puts them within ten miles of Sarajevo, the capital of the Province. There is great unrest among the Balkan states, and fears are entertained that more of them may enter the conflict. Neither Turkey nor Italy has made a hostile move, though both seem to be on the verge of doing so.

Japan.

Slight skirmishes have occurred between the Germans and Japanese troops during the latter's advance on Kiau-chau, but no action of consequence is reported. The operations of the Japanese fleet are not allowed to pass the censor.



Belgium.

Brisk campaigning between the Belgians and Germans continue in the vicinity of Antwerp. The Germans are reported to be bringing up siege guns to attack Antwerp. The city provisioned to stand a twelve months' siege. Termonde, to the southwest of Antwerp, is reported destroyed by the Germans. The German garrison of occupation at Brussels is reported withdrawn and replaced by Austrians. Fewer supply trains for the German army in France are operating through Belgium, and the inference drawn is that the army is now supplied through Luxemburg.



England.

Military operations are still conducted for the most part under cover of the press censorship. Recruiting in the United Kingdom continues, and the forces are being dispatched to the Continent. The final accomplishment of Home Rule for Ireland has awakened a quick response from the Irish. John Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalists, is making speeches, urging the Irish to enlist. He declares the war to be a just war in behalf of the highest ideals, and declares Ireland would be false to "her history, and to every consideration of honor" if she did not bear her share in the responsibilities and the burdens. "We have," he said, "even when no ties of sympathy bound our country to Great Britain, always given our quota, and more than our quota, to the firing line; and we shall do so now."



The most important naval event that has taken place was the sinking of three British cruisers in the North Sea off the German coast by German submarines. The three cruisers, Aboukir, Hague, and Cressy, carried a complement of 2,100 men. The number lost is not known, but is thought to have been large. The German protected cruiser, Koenigsberg, discovered the British light cruiser Pegasus overhauling her machinery and cleaning her boilers in Zanzibar harbor, and completely disabled her. The British loss was twenty-five killed and eighty wounded. The German cruiser Emden reported to have captured six British merchant ships in Bengal bay in six days, and sunk five of them. The German merchant cruiser, supposed to have been the Cape Trafalgar or the Berlin, was sunk by the former Cunard liner Carmania, also armed as a cruiser, off the east coast of South America. Other small engagements are rumored, but nothing of consequence is officially reported.

The Irish Home Rule bill, which had been passed three times by the House of Commons, in accordance with the provisions of the Parliamentary Act, in spite of its rejection by the House of Lords, was signed by the King on the 18th. Its date of operation has been postponed for one year. Great enthusiasm among the Nationalists and Liberals was manifested when the announcement was made in Parliament, where the Irish for the first time joined in singing "God Save the King." The Welsh Disestablishment bill also was signed by the King. Parliament was prorogued until the 27th of October.



South Africa.

The campaign of the British against German Southwest Africa, in which little has been reported, is brought into prominence by the resignation of Brigadier General Christian Frederick Beyers, Commandant General of the Union of South African forces, because of his disapproval of Great Britain's action in sending commandoes to conquer the Germany colony. General Jan Christian Smuts, minister of finance and defense of the South African Union, in reply said that the coast of the Union was threatened, that mail boats have been held up, and that her borders had been invaded by the Germans. "I cannot," he said, "conceive of anything more fatal and humiliating than a life of loyalty in fair weather and a policy of neutrality and pro-German sentiment in days of storm and stress."



Anti-Imperialist League on the War.

The Belgian delegation, which has called on President Wilson, received a letter from the Anti-Imperialist League as follows:

Boston, Mass., Sept. 16, 1914.

To the Belgian Delegation:

Gentlemen—The Anti-Imperialist League, believing that the neutralization of small countries is a very long step towards the preservation of international peace and an important curb upon aggressive imperialism, desires to express the indignation and horror with which it has seen Belgium and Luxemburg invaded and the people of Belgium visited with all the terrors of war, in violation of solemn treaties guaranteeing that the territory of each country should be inviolable, and it hopes that when this war ends the losses which the people of Belgium have suffered will be made good so far as it is humanly possible, and the independence of both Belgium and Luxemburg re-established upon a foundation which is not hereafter to be shaken.

ERVING WINSLOW,
MORRFIELD STOREY, Secretary.
President.

The Associated Press refused to transmit an account of this letter.

Washington News.

Opposition to the proposed tax on freight shipments forced Majority Leader Oscar Underwood of the House of Representatives to withdraw his bill on September 15. On September 21 a new war tax bill was reported by the Ways and Means Committee. As finally drafted it levies a tax of \$1.50 a barrel on beer; sweet wines, 20 cents a gallon; dry wines, 12 cents; gasoline, 2 cents a gallon; bankers, \$2 on each \$1,000 of capital and surplus and undivided profits; brokers, \$50 each; pawn brokers, \$20; commercial brokers, \$20; custom house brokers, \$10; proprietors of theaters, museums and concert halls in cities of 15,000 population or over, \$100 each; circus proprietors, \$100 a year; a proprietor of other exhibitions, \$10, and proprietors of bowling alleys and billiard-rooms, \$5 for each alley or table. Tobacco dealers and manufacturers are taxed the same as in 1898 except that in the largest class, tobacco dealers not specifically provided for, the tax is \$4.80 each. The bill levies a tax of 5 cents on bonds and certificates of indebtedness for each \$1,000 involved; 1 cent on telephone messages costing 15 cents or more, and 1 cent on all telegraph messages; indemnity bonds, 50 cents; certificates of profits, 2 cents; certificates of damage, 25 cents each; life insurance policies, 8 cents on each \$100; fire marine, casualty, fidelity and guaranty insurance policies, 1/2 cent on each dollar; goods withdrawn from custom houses all to pay a stamp tax of 50 cents, and goods entered at custom houses from 25 cents to \$1 according to value. A tax of 2 cents for each seat in a parlor car and for each berth in a sleeping car is levied. On passage tickets from an American to a foreign port a tax of from \$1 to \$5 is levied. A tax of 10 cents is levied on brokers' contracts; deeds and other conveyances, 50 cents for each additional \$500; mortgages 25 cents for each \$1,500; power of attorney to vote 10 cents; power of attorney to sell 25 cents; protest of a note, bill of acceptance, etc., 25 cents. The war tax is effective immediately upon passage, except that the stamp tax provisions is operative November 1. [See current volume, page 898.]



A telegram protesting against the proposed tax on liquors was sent on September 15 from the national headquarters of the W. C. T. U. at Evanston, Illinois, as follows:

To the President of the United States, Washington:—Three hundred thousand members of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union respectfully entreat you to discourage the plan to raise any part of the proposed emergency revenue by placing an added tax on alcoholic liquors.

We believe such a tax will give still greater government protection to a ruinous trade now facing final defeat.

Another protest had been sent to the President