

LABOR ADVOCATE

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5c A COPY

The Week in Ottawa

(By J. S. WOODSWORTH, M. P.)

In the past few days we have been witnessing a struggle for party advantage and the end is not yet. The Government having being sustained find it necessary to put into port repairs. It is essential that the Prime Minister should be elected and more Ministers should be added. Under these circumstances Notice of Motion was given that the Government should be asked for six weeks' recess. The Conservatives immediately adopted aggressive tactics and in one form or another kept up a regular bombardment. Their position was well expressed by a new Member, Mr. Nicholson, when he said: "I feel it to be my duty to the most influential eastern part of every obstacle that I am placed in the path of the government carrying on as they are attempting to carry on in the first place, flouting the will of the people. And, in the second place bringing parliament into utter and complete confusion."

The Liberals the other night in effort to hasten a division had an all night sitting. In the course of this Mr. Stevens made serious charges against the government especially in connection with the administration of the Customs Department. The attack had been rather cleverly planned to come on late at night and there would be no opportunity of a reply finding its way through the papers which contained the attack. Here one might mention passing that a considerable portion of what goes on in the House is intended primarily for the consumption and the game played with this constantly in mind. After Mr. Stevens, the Minister of Customs denied or refused great many statements which had been made but his speech was late for the papers and was briefly reported in many of the papers.

It is undoubtedly true that there has been considerable laxity in the Customs Department. It seems also true that the present Minister has been doing his utmost to effect a house-cleaning. The information used by Mr. Stevens was very largely secured from the very men who are engaged in doing the house-cleaning. Thus it becomes apparent that the object of the attack was not so much to secure more honest and effective administration as to secure a party victory.

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P. and Local Labor Groups to Amalgamate

Some time past negotiations have been under way tending toward the amalgamation of various political labor groups in Vancouver, South Vancouver, Burnaby and New Westminster. At a meeting held Saturday, January 23, in S. P. of C. headquarters, Vancouver, delegates were present representing New Westminster Labor Party, South Vancouver Labor Party, and the several branches of the Federated Labor Union of South Vancouver, Burnaby and Vancouver City, all of which had accepted a manifesto agreed to amalgamate their forces and are now known as the Independent Labor Party. Provisional officers were appointed and a constitution was adopted which will be submitted to the members of the Party for approval, and reported upon at another meeting to be held Friday, February 5.

Great interest was displayed on the part of all delegates present, and as the main object of the meeting is to carry on an educational organizing campaign it is intended that work along such lines be commenced immediately.

It was made a part of the resolution that all branches must affiliate with the Canadian Labor

Important Note

COMMENCING next issue an exclusive series of articles on company unions will be published in the LABOR ADVOCATE. These articles are being written by Robert W. Dunn, author of "The Labor Spy," and "American Foreign Investments," a review of which can be found on page 8 of this issue.

This series has been written for the Federated Press, Labor's news service, and as the LABOR ADVOCATE is the only labor paper west of Winnipeg subscribing to this service, these articles will not be found in any other publication in Western Canada.

Mr. Dunn has been amassing material, and doing research work on the subject of company unions for several years, and is a competent observer and interpreter. The opening article will deal with railroad company unions.

The Truth About Russia

(By DR. W. J. CURRY)

THE usual Tuesday evening meeting for the reading and discussion of the British Trade Union Delegates' Report on Soviet Russia was held last week in the C. P. Hall, 666 Homer street. The subject was "The Government of the Workers' Republic."

When this report was compiled no less than 24 small states had united in the Union of Soviet Republics. Since then Afghanistan, one of Britain's domains, has hoisted the Red Flag, and entered the Union.

The controlling factor in this union of Soviet Republics is Russia. The report shows that for the useful members of society this system is most thoroughly democratic, but for the viewpoint of British Trade Union-parasite class it is doubtless a dictatorship of a decidedly obnoxious type.

The franchise is given to all above 18 years of age, but is restricted to those who work, which includes soldiers, and women house-keepers. In Russia it is practically universal suffrage, only employers of labor, monks, priests, lunatics and criminals, are deprived of the privilege of electing delegates to governmental and administrative bodies.

The Soviet electoral system, says the report, "can better be un-

The Union of these numerous states is international in its ideal, with local autonomy. "This Union is not Russian, but Socialist Soviet Republic, the army is not Russian but the Red Army". Its silver coinage has for its device not the lion, the eagle, nor other beasts of prey," but the Hammer and Sickle, representing peaceful industry. For the motto these coins have not "In God We Trust," but "Workers of the World Unite."

As to the persistent statements of the capitalist press that the Russian regime is a "reign of terror," this delegation wished to have put on record its conviction that this could not be believed by any unprejudiced person travelling in the Union, and talking to its citizens. "The Delegation is also of the opinion that the Soviet system so far from being undemocratic, gives in many respects to the

(Continued on Page 6)

Labor M.P.'s. Speech Exposes Mental Bankruptcy of Capitalist Quacks

OTTAWA.—Dealing entirely with the stern realities of economic fact as it affects the overwhelming majority of Canada's population, the speech of J. S. Woodsworth, Labor M.P., in his reply to the speech from the throne, contrasted sharply with the mental gymnastics, and village pump quackery of those who preceded him. He wasted no words on whether strawberries entering Canada should have a tariff placed on them, or whether the laying propensities of Canadian hens were increasing, as did the minister of agriculture. His speech clearly proved that representatives of Labor have a much greater comprehension of fundamental fact than do the charlatans who make a profession of politics.

In the early part of his speech Mr. Woodsworth read replies to letters sent by himself and A. A. Heaps asking Premier King, and

Arthur Meighen to outline their stand on unemployment and old age pensions. These letters, the speaker said, were being read in order to have them placed on public record in case they might be required in the future.

Premier King signified his intention of introducing an old age pension measure, and "carrying out with respect to emergency relief the practices adopted in co-operation with provinces and municipalities in the years immediately following the war." King also gave assurance that certain changes would be made in the Naturalization Act and the Criminal Code, which changes the two Labor members had previously interviewed him on. Evidently the two Labor M. P.'s have been able to make the Liberals "cough up" a few small concessions.

Meighen, on the other hand deplored the fact that the two Labor members had not assisted him in extending "the area of employment," and that while he was willing to discuss old age pensions

with them yet Gideon Robertson knew more about the subject than anyone in Canada.

Mr. Woodsworth scored both Liberals and Conservatives for their efforts to bring in immigrants, and when they arrived to leave them to shift for themselves as best they could.

Dealing with unemployment he showed how every improvement in mechanical devices, which should be used to lighten the load of labor, only served to throw hundreds out of work, and that "a smaller and ever smaller number of people are required to keep the machinery of the world moving."

In conclusion Mr. Woodsworth pointed out that the age old policies of our grandfathers would not solve the questions of today. They may have secured a measure of political freedom, but our task is to secure economic freedom.

U.S. Labor Mission to Visit Soviet Russia

CHICAGO — (FP) — Formation is under way of a national committee for an American trade union delegation to soviet Russia. T. P. Lewis, secretary of the Chicago committee announces that the national committee is to consist solely of trade unionists of prominence and standing. While confessing that "the delegation may not have the official sanction of the executive council of the A. F. of L.," he asserts that the delegates to the New York committee represent organizations totalling almost 200,000 trade unionists and that the national conventions of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' and the International Furworkers union indorsed the proposal.

Child Labor Becomes Problem in Canada

(By C. MacKay)

MONTREAL — (FP) — "Child labor with all its sinister accomplishments is raising an ugly head in Canada, but most citizens apparently do not suspect the unholy alliance between low wages, unemployment, long hours, child labor and illiteracy," said Helen MacGill, judge of the juvenile court, Vancouver, in an address before the Canadian Council on Child Welfare.

The London Economist makes the interesting calculation, using government statistics, that if England would "maintain her young workers under 16 and her old workers over 65 there would be no unemployment problem left, for there is sufficient work for the remainder."

Nova Scotia has raised its compulsory school age to 16 years; Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan to 15; New Brunswick and Manitoba still have 14; Ontario with nominally 16 practically sets 14; Quebec has no compulsory school age but children may not work unless they can read and write.

All this looks better than it is, for each province makes special exemptions "husbandry, household duties," or "maintenance of self or dependents," or "during the fishing and fruit seasons." In the mines Nova Scotia, Alberta and Ontario fix the age for underground work at 16 and British Columbia and Quebec at 15.

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LOCAL LABOR NEWS

Important Meeting F. L. P., February 17

A meeting of the Vancouver City branch of the Federated Labor Party will be held on Wednesday evening February 17, at 8 o'clock, in headquarters, 319 Pender street west. All members are urged to be present as important matters resulting from the transfer to the Independent Labor Party are to be dealt with.

Notice to Contributors

WE ARE always glad to receive letters and short articles dealing with topical subjects, but we would like to remind our contributors that our space is limited, and they must govern themselves accordingly.

Letters to the Editor should not exceed 250 words; articles should not contain more than 2,000 words. Please assist us by making all contributions as brief and concise as possible.

All matter for publication, except important news, must reach us not later than 4 p. m. on Wednesday.

Pass this copy to your shopmate and get him to subscribe.

Saturday Night Dance

The Vancouver (English) branch of the Communist Party of Canada will hold a dance in the Clinton Hall, corner of Clinton and Pender Streets, on Saturday, 13th inst., at 9 p.m. Good music has been secured, and a good time is assured to all. Come and bring a friend!

Dr. Curry's Lectures

The regular weekly lecture and readings from the British Trade Union Delegate's Report on Russia, conducted by Dr. W. J. Curry will be held in the C. P. Hall, 666 Homer Street, on Tuesday night next, at 8 p.m. After the lecture and readings the usual questions and discussion will be in order. At the close of the meeting a short period will be devoted to singing Labor songs.

C. L. P. Open Forum

The weekly open forum meeting held by the Greater Vancouver Central Council of the Canadian Labor Party, will be held on Sunday next at 8 p.m., in the Royal Theatre. The speaker will be Dr. W. J. Curry. Doors open at 7:30. Everybody invited. Questions and discussion.

Germany Under Dawes

(By Scott Nearing, Federated Press)

BERLIN—I have been living with a group of 50 German labor students, most of them between 18 and 25 years of age. They are eager, earnest, striving for an education to fit them for the struggle they see ahead of the German movement. Most of them have belonged to the left of the German Youth Movement. All are members of trades unions.

Never have I met a finer group of men. Physically sturdy, they work, sing and play with a will. They would be a credit to any American educational institution. But how many American students would live on their standard? They are in class 4 to 7 hours a day. They study several hours more. They do a large part of the work about the school. They sleep on cots, 10 in a room.

But their diet is the most revealing part of their regimen. I lived on it for 10 days and took notes on it, meal by meal. Here is a sample:

MONDAY: Breakfast—bread with lard; coffee of toasted rye without sugar. Each student had a cup and a spoon (no saucer). The bread was served in a dish. There was nothing else on the wooden table except salt, without which the bread and lard are almost uneatable. Dinner: a large dish of rice, cooked with kohlrabi and a little meat; bread and margarine. Each student had a plate and a fork. Nothing to drink. Tea bread and margarine; coffee made from rye and without sugar. Each student received a cup and a spoon. Bread on a large plate. Supper: soup; a small piece of herring; bread with margarine;

rye-coffee without sugar. Soup dish, spoon, fork and cup.

Menus on other days were similar. Except where I have indicated it, there were no table utensils supplied. Knives were seldom needed. There were no napkins.

On Sunday there was cake. I questioned many of the students as to whether the diet in the school was worse than at home. Some said it was, but a number admitted bitterly that at home they often fared worse. One student who had been away from school several weeks looking for a job writes that during that time he has lived almost entirely on bread and water. This menu may give Americans some faint idea of the way workers in many parts of Germany are living—the economic basis for Dawes plan payments. Their standards are far below those of the more fortunate American fellow workers.

One of the students told me he had gone heavily into debt to come to the school.

"How much did you borrow?" I asked. "Oh, a lot," he answered "50 marks."

Since leaving school he has been out of a job, and there are nearly a million and a half other German workers looking for work, he will be many a long day paying his \$13 debt.

PATERSON, N.J.—(FP)—Married teachers unprotected by the tenure of office law cannot teach in Paterson schools the board of education rules. Teachers who attempt to conceal marriage in order to keep their jobs will be discharged for "conduct unbecoming a teacher."

Alberta Miners' Strike Fund

LAST week the LABOR ADVOCATE opened a fund in aid of the Alberta miners who are on trial as a result of strike activities. A few days ago we received a number of defence stamps, valued at ten cents each, from the defence committee in Calgary. Readers who will undertake to sell these stamps to their work mates are urgently needed.

Send in what money you can afford, or call at 815 Holden Building, and get a book of stamps to sell.

The Unity Movement

(BY SCOTT NEARING, FEDERATED PRESS)

America or Russia

BRUSSELS.—"European workers stand at the crossroads between Russia and America. They must choose which way they want to go. If they pick Russia, they pick an effort at working class direction of industry and the state. If they choose America, they choose imperialism, and the domination of the world by American bankers."

In these words Franz Liebaers, secretary Belgian Clothing Workers union, sums up the subject of trade union unity. "Unity," he says, "is our only way out. Already the workers of Europe are producing hundreds of millions of wealth every year that go into the coffers of American banks. Year by year the loans increase, and year by year the interest that must be paid increases correspondingly. This means that if we accept the Dawes plan, the whole of western Europe will be a financial colony of the United States, and the workers of Belgium, instead of working for Belgian capitalists as at present will be working for American capitalists."

"Then what will happen?" Liebaers continued. "The Americans will be recognized, easily enough, as our enemies—our taskmasters; our foreign exploiters. Already that feeling is showing itself, and as the system becomes well established, the feeling is bound to grow. In a decade, or perhaps in less, our capitalist class will be saying to the workers of Belgium: 'You talk of the class struggle, but your real enemies—our enemies—are the Americans.' Thus, step by step, the workers of Europe will be prepared to fight with European capitalists, against the workers and capitalists of America."

"We must unite with the workers and fight against the capitalists. That means the entrance of the Russian workers into the Amsterdam International Federation of Trade Unions. It also means, sooner or later, the entrance of the American Federation of Labor. That is what we are working toward—a united international labor federation, including the workers of both hemispheres. For the moment it may look to the American workers as though they had more to gain by staying outside. But their economic interests will force them in, just as the economic interests of the American bankers have forced them to enter the European field."

Ohio Labor Decides to Enter Political Arena

CLEVELAND — (FP) — The Cleveland Federation of Labor will nominate labor candidates for political jobs instead of handing out in accordance with the decision in accordance with the decision adopted by Ohio trade unionists recently in special conference at Columbus. Moderately successful on the industrial field, Ohio labor finds that the power of the state as exercised by the courts, the legislature and the police are the main threats now to labor's advance.

Lukewarm friends of labor having failed to deliver the goods, local unions, central bodies and the state federation are now ordered to "select candidates for the primaries for the legislature and judicial office instead of permitting self-appointed candidates to confuse the issue." The Ohio decision is similar to that reached by the British labor movement at the beginning of the century in selecting its own candidates for parliament, the immediate precursor of the British labor party.

Pass this copy to your shopmate and get him to subscribe.

Steps Towards Unity

AMSTERDAM.—"Things are moving forward better than we had dared to hope they would," says Edo Fimmen, Secretary International Transport Workers. "Unity is becoming an issue in all trade movements of Europe." Fimmen calls attention to the fact that the active struggle for unity had begun only a few months before. He pointed to the report of the British Trades Union delegation to Russia, which stands on his shelves in French, Dutch, Finnish, German and three or four other languages, beside the original English. "That laid the foundation for the movement," said he. "That and the fine work the British Trades Union congress has done. Purcell, Hicks, Swales and Bramley have done a great service to the labor movement in launching their demand for labor unity. They led off with their paper Trade Union Unity."

"Here on the continent we have already launched one paper, l'Unite of Brussels, printed in Flemish and French. We expect to begin another paper in Germany, Einheit. Both of these papers, like Trade Union Unity are published under trade union auspices. During February we shall start a paper in Holland. The movement is also well advanced in Czechoslovakia, Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

"Much of the material in these papers will be syndicated. Purcell, Walker, Hicks, Swales, Liebaers and Jukela will appear as contributing editors. Unity news will also be syndicated. Thus there will be established a press centre from which unity propaganda can be distributed."

The German labor delegation which visited Russia in the summer of 1925 has issued a report of 176 pages and sold in Germany for one mark (25 cents). From each copy sold 2½ cents is set aside for a unity paper. During December the sale of the report ran into tens of thousands. A second large edition has been put on the market.

"You will see," Fimmen concluded, "that we are taking this unity movement seriously. Our future depends on it, and you may be sure that we are leaving no stone unturned that will increase the movement's effectiveness."

\$25 per Week Standard Wage in United States

(By Leland Olds, Federated Press)

Is the United States becoming a nation of capitalists? Judging by U. S. department of labor figures on payrolls for 1925, the answer is no. The wage earners' share of the country's total income provided no surplus above living expenses to put them in the investing class. In fact, if living expenses mean the cost of a decent existence labor's bookkeepers must report a deficit. The average wage was \$24.73 a week.

The total income received by factory workers in 1925 was about \$10,280,000,000, a gain of \$20,000,000 or 3¼ per cent. over 1924. But the cost of living advanced enough to make this no gain at all. Total factory wages in 1923 were about \$10,986,000,000. In 1920, the total was about \$13,840,000,000. So the total paid factory workers in 1925 was about three quarters of 1920.

The 1925 wages were divided among an average of 7,990,000 workers giving a percapita return of \$1,286 or just about the minimum decent support of a single person with no provision for dependents. In 1924 the percapita average was \$1,258 and in 1920 \$1,460.

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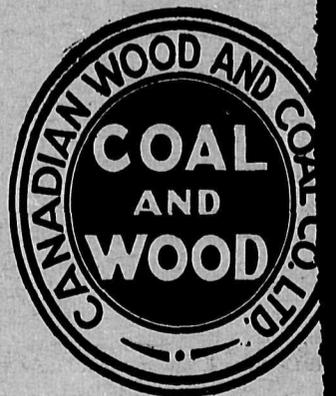
CITY OF VANCOUVER

Tenders for Fire Equipment

TENDERS WILL BE RECEIVED until 12 o'clock Tuesday, February 16, for the purchase of three horse-drawn waterous fire engines and other equipment, which can be examined by applying at my office. Tender for whole or any part thereof can be submitted. Terms cash.

JAMES STUART, Purchasing Agent, City of Vancouver, February 8, 1926

NONE BUT WHITE HEAD EMPLOYED



NONE BUT WHITE HEAD EMPLOYED

- - POLITICS - -



- - INDUSTRY - -

Rumanian Fascisti Assault Noted Editor

BUCHAREST.—Costa-Foru, secretary of the Roumanian league for human rights, and editor and publisher of the anti-fascist daily "Fakla," who recently aroused the hatred of the Roumanian ruler by the publication of a book, "From the Roumanian Torture Chamber," was recently the victim of an assault by the police and fascist agents. The fact that Henri Busse was his guest during his visit to Roumania was another reason for the persecution.

Costa-Foru was returning from a newspaper congress, and while en route to his home had to wait some time in a railroad station. While in the station some members of the Christian League, a Roumanian fascist organization, surrounded him, and detained him as to his identity. In his admission that he was Costa-Foru they commenced to beat him, and kept it up until he was covered with blood. The police and the minister of justice witnessed the attack but made no effort to interfere.

Worst Year Disastrous For Chinese Exploiters

SHANGHAI.—The year 1925 has been a disastrous one for the imperialist powers engaged in exploiting China. The great all-China strike, brought about by the massacre of Chinese workers and students by British controlled police, cost the foreign traders millions of pounds. The boycott instituted against British and Japanese goods brought the imperialists of the two countries severe losses. The trade boycott, coupled with bitter and anti-foreign feeling, forced the foreign diplomats to reverse their policy of coercion and give way to several Chinese demands.

An attempt has been made to allay the feeling over the Shanghai massacres by the virtual dismissals of Colonel McEwen, the police commissioner, and Inspector Ewen, plus the offer of \$75,000 for the dependents of the killed and wounded Chinese. The Chinese government, based upon claims made by foreigners on the Chinese government, is for \$1,825,000, and the sum offered has been indignantly rejected. The imperialists pretend to regard the Chinese claim as "ridiculous."

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Soviet Co-Operatives Are Growing Rapidly

MOSCOW.—The number of members of the consumers' co-operatives of Russia has increased from 7,000,000 on October 1, 1924, to 9,029,100 on July 1, 1925. There were at that date 257 unions or associations of consumers' co-operatives.

During the first nine months of 1924-25, the total turnover of the consumers' co-operatives amounted to 2,626,000,000 roubles, as against 2,029,000,000 roubles during the whole of 1923-24.

The trade done by the village co-operatives is increasing more rapidly than that done by the town co-operatives.

The foreign trade turnover of the consumers' co-operatives during October 1, 1924—July 1, 1925, was 49,037,000 roubles, or 6.2 per cent. of the total foreign trade turnover of the U.S.S.R., the value of the imports during this period being 16,350,000 roubles.

Berger Asks Coolidge To Chastise Mussolini

Victor Berger, Socialist congressman, offers a resolution directing President Coolidge to "use his good offices" with Mussolini, to the end that Free Masons, Catholics, Conservatives, Liberals, Socialists and trade unionists may be granted tolerance in Italy. This is the first measure offered in Congress whose purpose is the warning of the dictator that he has gone far in smashing modern institutions within his domain. The resolution proposes that Coolidge shall express the concern of the American people at Mussolini's oppressions and also their alarm at his talk of world-wide empire, as being likely to lead to war.

Industrial Spying May Result from Alien Law

NEW YORK.—(FP)—Spying similar to that carried on in industry by employers against workers would result from passage into law of the alien registration and deportation bills now pending in congress, William Green, American Federation of Labor president, wired the New York meeting protesting these bills. The 1925 A. F. of L. convention denounced the bills, which Secretary of Labor Davis favors and which would bring fingerprinting of all aliens now in the United States or who would come. Immigrant aid societies were among the organizers of the meeting.

More Unions Endorse Delegation to Russia

NEW YORK.—(FP)—More unions are endorsing the formation of an American trade union delegation to Russia. Fur Nailers Local 10, Shoemakers locals 53 and 54 and district council of Shoeworkers Protective union, Dressmakers local 22 and Cloakmakers locals 9 and 55 of International Ladies' Garment Workers, Amalgamated Public Service Workers and the Architectural Iron, Bronze and Structural Workers, Butchers local 174 and Bakers local 3 of the Amalgamated Food Workers favor an American delegation.

DENMARK

At the close of the year 1925 it is said that Danish industries, which have been particularly hard hit by the sudden rise in the value of the country's currency, continued to experience difficult times; and that approximately 85,000 workers, or one-third of the country's skilled force, were without employment.

BRITAIN

Statistics compiled in England show a great falling off in emigration since the war. In 1913, the number of people who left Great Britain to establish themselves overseas was 285,046; in 1922, the number was 118,410; in 1923, it was 157,062; and in 1924, 132,217.

BELGIUM

The strike of the iron and steel workers, which started on June 16, 1925, and which has badly affected the industrial situation, was still the subject of the negotiations for settlement at the close of the year, with a joint committee endeavoring to terminate the dispute.

SUMATRA

The island of Sumatra continues to suffer for want of sufficient labor to supply its local markets. Consequently, the plantations and estates are still dependent upon contract labor brought in from the Straits Settlements, India, China, and Java.

SPAIN

General improvement has recently marked the unemployment situation in Spain, except in the coal mines of the Asturias district, which several subsidies have been granted by the Government in order to save the district from disaster.

IRELAND

According to an announcement made by the Minister of Industry and Commerce, the Free State's tariff policy, which was inaugurated in April, 1924, has resulted in an increase in employment in the protected industries.

CECHO-SLOVAKIA

The strike and lockout in the North Bohemian textile industry which affected 15,000 workers, has been satisfactorily settled by the granting of a total wage increase, for the year, of nine per cent.

SWEDEN

The trend of unemployment in Sweden during the year 1925 showed a considerable increase over the previous year, with the mining industry accounting for approximately one-seventh of the total number of unemployed persons.

NORWAY

Latest reports from the country's official employment bureaus indicate that there has been a large increase in the number of unemployed, there having been a recent increase of about 6,000 over the preceding month.

BRAZIL

It is reported that Decree No. 4,158, of December 1, 1925, authorizes the expenditure, by the State of Brazil, of \$17,000, at the current rate of exchange, for the building of an immigrant receiving station.

COSTA RICA

An executive decree was recently issued prohibiting the entrance of Coolies to Costa Rican territory. The decree defines a Coolie as "an East Indian laborer who leaves his country under a labor contract."

Argentine Labor Urges Working Class Unity

BUENOS AIRES.—A strong movement for national and international trade union unity is growing up in Argentine. Even the Syndicalists and Anarcho-Syndicalists, who are themselves divided into various organizations, are beginning to appreciate that their disunity is a crime against the working class.

A united front of all workers in Argentine is urged on the following basis: 1, support of national and international trade union unity; 2, unification of all parallel unions on a local and national scale; 3, the sending of a communication to the Red International of Labor Unions, to Amsterdam, and to the Berlin (anarchist) international, calling for an international unity congress; 4, an active campaign to organize the unorganized; 5, the study of projects for improving the work of all unions in Argentine.

Apprentices Fired For Going on Strike

PRAGUE, Czecho-Slovakia.—After the ending of the strike in the Boskovitz Iron Works (Moravia) 56 apprentices were discharged for taking part in the strike. As the discharged apprentices tried to make complaints to the political factory administration they were told, "During the negotiations over the resumption of work the political factory administration and the employers' association agreed that the management could discharge 56 apprentices. These apprentices had no business to strike but should have stayed on the job, they had no right to participate in political or trade union organizations."

Danish Farmers Face Serious Farm Crisis

COPENHAGEN.—High production costs and a high German tariff making it impossible for Danish farmers to sell their produce has resulted in a farm crisis. Little legislative relief is offered for the farmers.

Since American financiers have invaded Danish industry and have begun to grant loans, the Danish banks are also making loans to firms fearing that the American bankers will gain control of the Danish trade.

Fewer articles of commerce are being exported declared Danish experts due to a ruined German market, a poor English market and fierce colonial competition.

Twenty Polish Workers Get Long Prison Terms

WARSAW.—Following the May 1st demonstration in 1924, in the city of Lodz, some 20 members of the communist party and sympathizers were arrested and accused of attempting to overthrow the government. After being held in jail for 18 months their trial took place here recently.

Police were posted all round the court house while the trial was in progress. Only relatives, judges, lawyers and press representatives were allowed to enter the building. On the stairway leading to the trial chamber 56 police guards were posted.

The ages of the accused ranged between 16 and 23 years at the time of their arrest, but this fact did not prevent the judge from sentencing them to terms of from 18 months to 8 years hard labor, and loss of civil rights.

South African Left Wing Wins Victory

PORT ELIZABETH.—The Left Wing of the South African Labor Party have made splendid headway at the recent Party Congress held here, the voting on the principal resolutions showing a signal victory for the Leftists.

Labor at present holds three out of fourteen ministerial offices in a Nationalist-Labor Coalition government.

A large section of the delegates maintained that the policy of the party should be decided by the rank and file. A resolution, which limits to one-third the number of M.P.'s on the party's national council, was carried by 40 votes to 29. By the first act of the new council, Senator Briggs, chairman of the conference, was deposed from his position as chairman of the party. His successor has not yet been named.

Mr. Madely, a Left Wing nominee, who was recently appointed Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, disturbed the Right Wing by declaring that he and his friends were "determined to press forward for what is called extremism, but which in our opinion is the only thing that matters."

Holland State-Owned Mines Paying Venture

LONDON.—According to evidence placed before the British Coal Commission, State ownership of mines has proved to be a paying proposition.

The total output of coal from these State mines in 1924 was seven times more than the total output from the same mines in 1913.

The opening up of another State mine, the Maurits mine, proceeded satisfactorily during the year, the staff being increased in numbers from 813 to 1,1661, and an output of 17,475 long tons being obtained from two shaft workings.

The gross working profit of the State coal mines as a whole in 1924 was 7.32 million florins, of which 3.82 million florins were written off, 1.16 million florins added to the reserve fund, 2.34 million florins being available for the State offers, or 3 per cent. on the capital, which amounts to 78 million florins.

Send in your subscription today.

Machines Gobble Up Tobacco Worker Jobs

(By Art Shields, Federated Press)

NEW YORK.—(FP)—How the tobacco industry, with its two billion dollars annual production, is being put on an automatic basis, is shown at the Tobacco Show, running at Grand Central Palace. Here the latest models of the machines used by American Tobacco, Mr. R. J. Reynolds, Liggett & Myers and the rest demonstrate the methods that have eliminated thousands of the old school craftsmen.

Labor displacement has gone furthest in cigaret making. The exhibitors estimate that it would require 1,875,000 hand makers to turn out the 75,000,000,000 cigarettes of last year. The number of workers actually employed for the little smokes was only 21,502 according to the census of manufacturers for 1921 and it is probable the number has lessened since.

Cigar making also shows revolutionary changes in technic from the days when Samuel Gompers organized New York craftsmen in the seventies.

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Editorial Page

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Capitalism's Weekly Pageant

Ploughs tearing up Granville Street preparatory to planting it with "spuds;" the Vancouver Hotel converted into a silo; the C. P. R. station turned into a stable; the Vancouver Block used as a hen roost. No, the writer is not an opium addict. We are simply trying to visualize our corner of the globe as it might logically appear to those who believe what they are told by the ruling caste. We have been frequently informed that the new immigration scheme has been formulated for the purpose of bringing agriculturists, but the other night the Daily Province informed us that Vancouver had been honored as the future residence of the first British family to leave for Canada under the new arrangements. Obviously this family of "agriculturists" will either have to farm on one of the city streets or else grow strawberries on the back end of a 33 foot lot.

EVERHULME'S art treasures have been transported from London to New York to be sold. This fact is symbolic of the times in which we live. It is a sign that the wealth of Britain's leisure class is waning, and that of the United States is increasing. America's modern machinery, and mass production is wresting the markets of the world from the claws of British exploiters. The march of the forces of production is sounding the death knell of another empire. Birth, growth, and decay marks the progress of empires and social systems just as it does organic life.

CANADIANS who left this country for the States are returning rapidly. How frequently have we been told that during the past year? Every day it is drummed into our ears by the capitalist press. United States immigration statistics, however, tell another tale. Latest figures are that 59,137 Mexicans and Canadians entered the U. S. during the six months ending December 31st, 1925, and of this number but 2,829 returned to both countries. Whatever else we may have in our midst we certainly do have a choice crop of liars.

RANDOLPH BRUCE, British Columbia's new Lieutenant-Governor characterizes the British press as being "scurrilous," and says that the newspapers of Canada are on a higher plane. One wonders whether the gentleman has ever read the Vancouver Sun.

TWO THINGS require a pedigree—cattle and aristocrats. United States industrial princes have no recorded pedigree worth mentioning, but with characteristic persistence many of them set out to acquire one, with sometimes, peculiar results. Lincoln would probably have been the last person on earth to lay claim to noble lineage, but now that he is dead and unable to defend himself some of his malicious admirers have decided to give him a pedigree dating back to King Tut.

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Political Hucksters Decry Bargaining

FOR the first time in history representatives of Canadian Labor are in a position where they can to some extent influence the political party in power, and secure for the workers of Canada a few slightly ameliorative measures. The fact that they have taken advantage of this situation and asked Premier King to outline in writing his attitude toward certain questions, and have placed his replies on Hansard, has aroused the ire of the Conservatives.

Adopting an attitude of angelic purity that unlovely band who occupy the opposition benches at Ottawa are vehemently denouncing the two Labor members and certain Progressives for bringing (so they aver) parliament into disrepute by "bargaining."

One would need to be sadly lacking in knowledge and intelligence to imagine that these professional hucksters, who have inherited the mantle of Toryism, never, in all their plunder-bent career, indulged in political trading. They bargained for power in 1917 when they extended the vote to Canadian soldiers in France, and when they bestowed the franchise on soldier's wives who had never seen Canada, while denying this right to Canadian women. They have bargained, in season and out, with financiers for funds, and with workers for votes. Every election they bedeck themselves with "prosperity" promises, and place themselves on the bargain counter. The real trouble is not that the two Labor members bargained, but that whatever so-called bargaining they may have done placed the Conservatives at a disadvantage, and also because they did not follow the traditional practice of "secret diplomacy," but made the facts of the case public property.

However, to us it is of small amount whether Labor's parliamentary representatives bargain or not so long as they produce results, and like Oliver Twist, keep on asking for more. Results are what count.

As for bringing parliament into disrepute, that can be safely left to the apostles of capitalism on both sides of the House. Anyone who can peruse the pages of Hansard, see the amount of surface skimming froth it contains, and still retain a respect for parliament as at present constituted, is a fit subject for treatment in a psychopathic ward.

Class Divisions in Canada

One of the fictions which the ruling class delight in heralding from the housetops is that there are no class divisions in this country; that the inhabitants of this "great, free, democratic Canada of ours" are one great family, just as if any person could help himself to the contents of his neighbour's back yard whenever he felt like it.

A few days ago this somewhat threadbare illusion was once again trotted out by R. J. Manion, M. P. for Fort William, and used by him for speech padding. In the course of his remarks he said: "It is rather an amusing thing to hear so much talk of the masses and classes in this country. So far as I know, and I think I know something of this country, there is no such division among the people of Canada as a division between the masses and the classes.....we are all one in Canada." To this Mr. Forke, Progressive leader, drily replied: "That is good copy for the Brandon Sun."

The purpose of Manion's statement was to help bolster up the illusion that members of parliament represent all the people, but because an M. P. says so doesn't make it true.

It will take more than one glass of Home Brew to convince the unemployed and destitute coal miner in Cape Breton that there exists no class distinction between him and Roy Wolvin, or to persuade the underpaid C. P. R. section hand that he and E. W. Beatty are brothers. It will require more than five minutes argument to convince the impoverished prairie farmer that his interests are identical with those who hold the mortgage on his farm, or to make the Coast logger, who has been blacklisted and chased from pillar to post because he asked for a clean bed and a shower bath, believe that there is no difference between the conditions he exists under and that obtaining in the home of General McRae on Shaughnessy Heights.

The existence of class distinctions in Canada is not a figment of the imagination.

Listening In On Ottawa

MR. W. F. MacLEAN (South York):... This is a very fine imitation of the palace of Westminster and of the Gothic churches of England, but inasmuch as we are likely to have groups in this House I think that some alteration in the arrangement of our seats here is necessary. . . .

"I am going to name the very people who are said to be behind it and ask them if their object is to smash the Canadian National Railways.

"First of all I name the newspapers, the Star, the Herald, and the others controlled by Lord Atholstan of Montreal, with which is also associated that good Tory newspaper, the Montreal Gazette. I challenge these papers to say here and now whether they are for the Canadian National Railways and public ownership or whether they are out to smash them and turn them over to the Canadian Pacific Railway. . . .

"I am not only going to name Lord Atholstan but I also name the president of the Bank of Montreal and the president of the Royal Bank, both of whom are directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. I am also going to challenge the whole organization of the Canadian Pacific Railway to say whether or not they are working today to destroy the Canadian National Railway system and put it out of business, in order to acquire it to their own company. . . .

"Profiteering was one of the causes of that disastrous war through which we recently passed. Hundreds and thousands of fortunes were made out of that war, not only on this continent but also on the continent of Europe, and that is the menace of the world today." . . .

"We went on building railways in the west. . . . And this country today is cursed—and I use this term advisedly—with a duplication of railway systems which is absolutely unnecessary and which is costing the country today over two hundred million dollars a year. . . .

"The tariff policy which the people have had to put up with since 1878 is a diabolical frame-up between the manufacturers and politicians for the purpose of fleecing the home consumer. . . .

"Sir Richard Cartwright said that the whole business of protection is robbery, legalized robbery; that you subsidize the manufacturers and that the manufacturers in return subsidize you." . . .

Mr. John Evans (Rosetown, Sask) . . . "A strict silence, too, has been maintained for many years by professors of economy in all our colleges and universities; these institutions have come under the icy hand of privilege as completely as every other activity of this nation. . . . I want to speak on that subject because I see concentrated to my right the representatives of organized industry and capital. . . . In the days of the war while we produced as much as eighty-five per cent. of the world's nickel we did not have a nickel refinery in Canada worthy of the name. Because of this lack our enemy was using nickel produced from Canadian ore and sold to it by foreign refiners. . . . The national debt today

could be wiped out in ten with what we are taking from pockets of the workers. amount pocketed by those whom this robbery was d is not by any means the of the evil. . . .

"We would very much have an opportunity of pay come tax; but the evil to this concentration of wealth industry in the hands of who are directing every a of the nation. . . .

"Since 1878 we have ourselves over to a set of who are controlling every a in the country; they control and everything else, and they trol the lives of the worke this land. . . . I should like people to take to heart this that co-operative companies matter how much business do or whatever line of they distribute, are always c as consumers, and under th it is forbidden to sell any of goods or merchandise to operative company. This is has crippled the co-operative panies in Canada. They are pelled to go abroad for goods, buying their suppli (Continued on page 5)

UNION DIRECTOR

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The Week at Ottawa

(Continued from Page 1)

The Conservatives expressed themselves bitterly with regard to the action of the Progressives. Apparently they have given up all hope of winning any of them to their side, so now they are denouncing the Government for having bought them over. The same attitude is taken, only in a less degree, with regard to the Labor group. The following extract from the speech of Mr. Bennett of Calgary illustrates the restlessness of the old parties under what they term "the dictatorship of the minorities."

"Now sir, five short days ago, five short days ago, the Prime Minister of Canada in a letter referred to an interview he had with the hon. gentleman who represents Winnipeg North Centre and his colleague from North Winnipeg, and he merely says this: 'What you ask you get.' Have parliamentary institutions fallen so low that our Criminal Code is to be amended, that a government may remain in power? Has democracy sunk so low that the Immigration Act and the Naturalization Act are to be amended to enable a government to call itself such? That is the aspect of the matter which is put to hon. gentlemen. Read the paragraph from Mr. Mackenzie King's letter to which I have reference:

"With respect to amendments to (a) the Immigration Act, (b) the Naturalization Act, and (c) the Criminal Code, which were referred to at the time of our interview, I would say that having since taken up the proposed amendments with the ministers concerned, I feel I am in a position to assure you that legislation on these matters will also be introduced in the course of the present session."

"... Let me put this to my hon. friends opposite: Did the Liberal party decline to become a party to that legislation for the last four years? Yes or no? The answer is, it declined. Has it now agreed to it? The answer is, it has. When? Five days ago."

After all, is it a crime that a certain section of the House should induce the government to introduce legislation on which it had previously declined to take action?

Bourassa's Opinion

Later in the debate Mr. Bourassa put the situation very succinctly:

"Hon. gentlemen have expressed their feelings of horror at the idea of what may have passed between the government, the Progressive group and even my good neighbors to my right (Labor members). Probably because I am an older parliamentarian than many of them, I am not very much scandalized at that. On the contrary, I think what is going on now is creating a very good, a very healthy precedent. Let me put it in concrete form without any intention of offending anybody. It looks to me as if the Progressive party were supplying some of the principles of legislation and as if my hon. friends to my right were supplying other principles. Before the session is over, I may also supply some principles of policy. The function of the Liberal party will be to supply votes to uphold those principles. It will be a very happy combination. It will put a new and broadening spirit into an old party and give a practical strength of action to new groups."

Labor in Politics

The Conservatives, of course, feel much aggrieved that Labor in the House cannot be induced to see that protection is the only policy that should appeal to Labor. Mr. Church of Toronto, speaks very regretfully about this; referring to Labor men he said:

"I respect them personally, but who authorized those two gentlemen to call themselves the Labor party, and to say that they represent the working classes? The fact that they call themselves the Labor party doesn't make them a Labor party. They do not represent the working classes of the city of Winnipeg, I may tell them, let alone the working classes from coast to coast in this country."

Mr. Church then went on to eulogize Mr. Gompers:

"He did not believe in a Labor party; he believed in working within the two great political parties in the United States."

Mr. Church, like most of his Toronto conferees, can conveniently forget to follow up the lead of Great Britain in which the Labor party has adopted an entirely different policy and we take it a much more successful one.

A Few Truths

As the two old parties berate one another, we sometimes have glimpses of the true situation which prevails in many parts of our country.

Mr. Bell of Hamilton, spoke of the conditions which prevailed in his own City:

"I saw in that same city on Saturday last—a long line of jobless, hungry, half-starved men lined up, blocks long, outside the quarters of the Salvation Army, waiting for the little bit of food that could be doled out to them day by day. Sir, I have been informed by those whose word I cannot doubt in the matter that that condition has existed week after week, year after year now, and that it shows no prospect of abatement or improvement. Yet we are told by hon. members opposite that this country is in a state of prosperity! But the matter rests not only there. It became my unhappy experience only on Saturday last to learn of some people on the hillside outside the city I am speaking of, who had gone out there to collect the dried grass that lies along the hill face and carry it home with them as their only fuel to burn in their stoves to prevent them from freezing. When I came across that in the case of a half-starved family, I found by inquiry that that is the daily practice not of tens, not of scores, but of hundreds of people, all of whom are willing and anxious to obtain work, but who can get nothing to do in that city of normally 150,000 people."

If only a visitor from some other civilization could see with unprejudiced eyes the misery and poverty of large groups of our people, and on the other hear the prosperity of the banks and the trusts, and then watch the senseless party warfare that absorbs the energies of the representatives of the people, he might well conclude that we were all mad.

Stevens' Charges

Mr. Stevens' charges may have been somewhat exaggerated. The prosecution was perhaps dramatic rather than sincere, nevertheless here we find a revelation of conditions that may well startle Canadians out of their complacency.

Mr. Stevens said: "I find running all through this thing like a slimy, evil influence the name of an individual Bissillon, and I am going to examine a little into this man's record. . . . The worst of crooks, he is the intimate of ministers, the petted favorite of this government. The recipient of a moderate salary, he rolls in wealth and opulence, a typical debauched and debauching public official."

He describes still another official:

"This man's qualifications, Mr.

Garment Workers Rally To Coal Strikers Aid

NEW YORK—(FP)—Following the Amalgamated Clothing Workers appeal to its members to contribute at least one hour's pay each to the striking anthracite miners, Golden Rule Nash said that for every dollar his 4,000 unionized employes contributed he would add another dollar.

Fifty thousand dollars for miners' relief is believed to be the minimum that will be contributed by Amalgamated men—so says a statement from union headquarters. That this is a conservative estimate is indicated by the record of \$100,000 in the steel strike.

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union virtually assures \$100,000 for the anthracite strikers by a compulsory hour's pay from each of its 70,000 New York members and an appeal to its out-of-town locals to make up the remainder.

Millinery workers, cloth hat and cap workers, were early in the field with donations from their various local unions and the fur workers will contribute substantial sums if they are not involved in a general strike of their own.

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Speaker, were simply a superb incompetence coupled with an elastic official conscience. He is a faithful political tool, nothing else. Why, they assigned one of the leading civil servants of Montreal to sit side by side with this man Clark to do the routine work while Clark was carrying on the criminal part in association with Bissillon, covering up the tracks, keeping the officers here and there where they would be most useful to the smuggling ring. . . . the smuggling along the border points; regular truck lines daily, openly, brazenly, within the knowledge of everybody that lived in the community, passing backwards and forwards; liquor south, eggs north; silks, jewelry, cigarettes in egg cases, cottons, yes, prison made overalls and cotton goods from the United States—coming not only in truck loads, but in carloads; carloads of liquor going out and carloads of merchandise coming in, running into hundreds of millions of dollars. . . . coming in as finished articles and being marketed by a ring of business men. I said a moment ago that they were known. If I read the list there is scarcely an hon. gentleman on the government benches who would not recognize every firm. The arch conspirators, the chief smugglers, the men who deal in millions, will not be prosecuted. These great trucks at this hour while I am talking are crossing the boundary in a dozen places backwards and forwards, well known to hon. gentlemen—a veritable joke in the community—roaring clean across the boundary, never thinking of stopping, privileged characters, every truck loaded with contraband—all of this known."

Probably the most serious aspect of the situation was not that recounted by Mr. Stevens, but the fact that when he spoke of smuggling and rum-running on the Atlantic coast he was greeted with derisive cheers and counter-cheers as members openly indicated their fellow members on both sides of the House, who, according to common report, are financially interested in boats carrying on illicit traffic of this character. The spectacle was not edifying.

Four o'clock in the morning; bitter party invective. Divisions over points of order that have no meaning beyond that of party advantage—is this the way our problems are to be solved? The wonder is that the people are so patient.

LISTENING IN ON OTTAWA

(Continued from Page 4)

foreign countries, and they are subject to the Dumping Act. The cooperative company being classed as a consumer has to pay, under the Dumping Act, a duty equal to all the profits of the other classes above him, that is to say, the retailer, the wholesaler the dealer, the jobber or the manufacturer, as well as the difference in price between what the foreign manufacturer charges and what the Canadian manufacturer says it ought to be. . . . I submit to the House that this is the most diabolical piece of legislation ever enacted in modern times. . . . It was not until 1922 that it completely covered every line of merchandise that the consumer needs, even to his daily bread. That amendment passed this House by the combined strength of the Liberal and Conservative parties against the solid vote of the Progressives. . . . It is as true today as when Lincoln uttered these words in reference to his own country, that this nation cannot live with one-half free and the other half slaves. . . .

"We must get rid of the thing in our midst, class legislation—class privilege—which is dividing the different classes, the different vocations and the various geographical areas of this Dominion. . . . Parliament is a disgrace; it has been reduced to nothing better than a plunderbund, and government has become a mercenary scramble."

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With the Marine Workers

(Conducted by W. H. Donaldson, Secretary Federated Seafarers of Canada.)

SEAMEN'S ACTIVITIES

A WELL attended meeting of the Federated Seafarers' Union of Canada was held at the headquarters in the Flack Building, 163 Hastings Street West, Vancouver. The financial report was read to the meeting and accepted, subject to the auditor's approval, on the motion of Brothers Kennedy and Borland. Several applications were accepted by the meeting, including two transfers from other organizations.

Many vessels had been visited by the delegates who reported that everything pointed to a better year than 1925. Many enquiries were made regarding the opening up of a branch in Eastern Canada. The fund has a good start, and it is hoped that efforts will be successful to get started by the 15th of April.

The Secretary reported that he had had a visit from the secretary of the N.S.F.U. of Canada, regarding amalgamation of that body with the F.S.U. of Canada, which is very likely to materialize. A committee was appointed to look into the matter and report at next meeting which will be held on Friday, February 19th. Letters are to be sent to officials at San Francisco and Chicago.

Letters were received from the S.S. Canadian Trooper and the S.S. Canadian Planter, with complaints of conditions aboard the vessels. Joe Butt and others aboard the S.S. City of Vancouver, have been notified that their places on that ship are to be taken by Chinese. This matter is to be taken up with the Coughlan interests, as the Chinese were given a hand by the organization to maintain better conditions than they had before in other vessels, and now they are taking the place of the whites for less money on the Coughlan ship. Some form of unity that is best for the Chinese evidently and Coughlans of course.

The question of taking a bundle order of the Labor Advocate, was brought up at the meeting and according to the motion of Brothers Borland and Kennedy, a supply is

to be taken weekly which will help boost the activities of the paper, which is recognized as the best labor paper that has been printed for some time in the interests of the workers in general. The bundle rate is to begin in the month of March.

A report of the S.S. Famous, as one of the small fleet that is trying to cheapen the living of seamen sailing from British Columbian ports, low wages is to be taken up with the Berquist Company. The men on this ship are changing continuously, owing to the method of overtime that exists on that vessel.

It was decided to give Mr. Woodsworth Dominion, M.P., full details of conditions as they effect seamen sailing from Canadian ports. According to a report from an Eastern ship, which was in port the other day, was looking for men at the rate of twenty-five cents a month have been recorded at the shipping office. Still we must have more immigrants for the farm and if there is no work for them then we will get them as sailors on ships at the rate of twenty-five cents a month. The Liberals are truly running true to form.

Several cases were adjusted by the F.S.U. of Canada, in connection with claims for compensation during the past month. The assets of the organization during the month of January, 1926, exceeded the month of January, 1925 and more members were obtained than were obtained in the previous year.

MAIL LIST

Bates, H.; Beckett, H.; Brannigan, J.; Bell, A.; Coll, A.; Crocker, L. R.; Illot, G. W.; Jones, T.; O'Jnes, R. N.; Jensen, E.; Lawson, J.; Love, W. T.; Mackay, J.; Matthews, R.; Maddigan, M.; McCann, J.; McLeod, M.; McLean, L.; McDonald, J.; Hall, Millar; Pugh, A. E.; Ogden, A. W.; Starr, J.; Worrall, W.; Warren, S.

American Papers Still Fake Russian Atrocities

WASHINGTON—(FP) — Under the headline Communists Take Revenge, the Washington Star publishes a photograph of a church in ruins, and beneath the picture explains that the reds are demolishing the great cathedral of the Russian Orthodox church in Warsaw, in order that no trace may remain of the old regime.

hundred realized that Warsaw is the capital of the white terrorist government of Poland, and that the demolition of this cathedral was ordered by that government as an act of anti-Russian rather than anti-clerical symbolism.

Farm Bankruptcy

(By Leland Olds, Federated Press)

THE great agricultural plant of America is running down at a dangerous pace. This trend cannot go on long until there is a shortage of food, with abnormal and unnecessarily high prices to the consumers of food. I agree that our rural civilization is in a perilous state. I agree with men who say our nation cannot long survive the decay of its agriculture.

This is the view expressed by Frank O. Lowden, son-in-law to the Pullman millions, at a dinner of the Economic Club in New York. Lowden said that although the year 1924-25 was better for the farmer than any of the four preceding years, his return on his capital, after a low wage allowance was deducted, was only 3.6 per cent. without deduction for depreciation of farm improvements or depletion of soil. With due allowance for these factors all return would disappear.

For the five years ending with 1924, he said, the farmer's return was 3-10 of 1 per cent. The farmer's capital also is decreasing.

This view is supported in a review of the agricultural situation in the northwest by the Minneapolis Federal Reserve bank. The bank's figures show nearly three times as many farmer bankruptcies in Minnesota, North and South Dakota, and Montana in the four years 1922-25 as in the entire twelve preceding.

Prior to 1922 the largest number of farm bankruptcies in any year was 259 in 1917. In 1922 the figure jumped to 679, then to 1,420 in 1923, 1,999 in 1924 and 1,810 in 1925. The total from 1910 to 1921 inclusive was 2,196. The last four years show 5,908.

The bank's figures also show a decrease of over 5 per cent. in the acreage of all lands in farms in these states between 1920 and 1925. The average acreage per farm declined in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota, but increased materially in Montana. The most striking change shown is a decrease of about 40 per cent. in the value of farm lands in these four states.

The object of the Dickinson bill which has the backing of the farm organizations is to put co-operatively organized farmers on a par with the big industries in dealing with the export surplus. Through a farm board of directors the surplus crops, when necessary, can be sold to the foreign market at a loss to be made good by assessing an equalization fee on all producers.

American Federation to Invade South America

WASHINGTON—(FP)—Santiago Iglesias, secretary of Pan-American Federation of Labor and Socialist senator in Porto Rico, says funds have been pledged for an invasion of South American republics by the federation.

By this move, the P. A. F. of L., headed by William Green, hopes to make good its promise that a Monroe doctrine of labor would be established in this hemisphere as against the Amsterdam international federation of trade unions. Iglesias hopes to arouse the workers in Central and South America to maintain higher standards of living and to establish real trade unions capable of creating a public opinion independent of the adventures of military leaders and political dictators. He pictures the condition of the workers in most of the southern republics as little removed from feudalism.

The right arm of Labor is a strong press. Add power to this arm by subscribing to THE CANADIAN LABOR ADVOCATE.

Notes From the Camps

Lumber Workers Join New Independent Union

GRAY'S HARBOR, Wash.—(FP)—More than 1,200 lumber workers are now enrolled in the Pacific Coast Lumber Workers of America, a new union independent of existing unions in the industry. The Aberdeen Labor council is assisting the organization and will also help float the new union organ, the Pacific Coast Lumber Workers journal. Harry Harmon, Jess Newingham and E. E. Wieland are the officers.

The International Union of Timber Workers, the former A.F. of L. union, disbanded in 1923. The Industrial Workers of the World have regularly maintained an organization among the loggers. A company known as the 4-L is still active in the Pacific north-west.

Truth About Russia

(Continued from page 1)

individual a more real and reasonable opportunity of participating in public affairs, than does parliament or party systems."

From the following facts it is evident that the study of Soviet Russia, and organization of the workers in its defence, is a most imperative demand for in almost every issue of our daily press we see the infamous war propaganda which tells of an attempt being organized to destroy the Soviet Republic, the feared and hated enemy of imperialistic capitalism.

Russia today is the Hope of the World, it is the beacon light to all subject people, and exploited classes, the rising tide of revolt against increasing poverty through overproduction, together with the shining example of what the workers of these Socialist Republics are doing. The increasing economic stability and power of Russia makes it a case of now or never for the overthrow of this growing danger to the robber class.

The League of Nations will now be able to effect a concerted invasion of the Workers' Republic, providing there are sufficient workers available to carry out what would be the greatest crime in history. The opinion of those who understand the situation is that the attempt will soon be made.

Tchicherin, the Russian foreign minister, has recently disclosed that the Locarno Pact is a preparation for a crusade against Soviet Russia. Among the promoters of this "War for Democracy" is Lloyd George. In a recent issue of the "Washington Star" he says: "Russia is a hostile and antagonistic nation, at war with civilization. She is a danger and a menace not only to her neighbors, but in all quarters of the globe."

This christian gentleman thinks the league of nations may succeed where even his British blockade failed. The late E. D. Morel, in one of his last addresses in the House of Commons, presented facts and figures showing that Lloyd George, while Premier, endorsed the spending of nearly "\$200 million sterling in attempting to smash Soviet Russia, by subsidizing civil war, and by blockade which destroyed tens of thousands of innocent people."

TOLEDO.—(FP) Central Labor Union officers have divided Toledo into 100 districts to aid canvassing for the sale of \$280,000 of Labor Temple bonds to wipe out a mortgage in non-labor hands and complete payment. Every unionist will be solicited at his home. The bonds are sold on the small payment plan.

MYRTLE POINT

The Blodel Welsh and Ste camps at Myrtle Point continue occupy their position as a temporary haven of refuge for "short stake" men. This camp at least provides a man who broke with a place where he earn a few dollars with which continue the search for another job.

Numbers of men quit every day; twenty-three men came down from camp 2 on the night of correspondent quit.

Fallers and buckers have a show there, and never a leaves without carrying a gang two of them.

The camps are crowded to overflowing, and some are sleeping in tents. Some prefer this as most of the bunkhouses are infested with bugs. Wages here are on par with the lowest paid elsewhere in the B. C. woods.

LONDON.—Six members of Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers were granted "cards" by the Union executive at its meeting, in appreciation of their long membership.

Four of the six have been members of the Union for 50 years and the other two have a longer membership, one having joined in 1871 and the other in 1874.

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We Make a Special Effort to Get Goods Out by First Mail After Receipt of Your Order

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**Lloyd George
May Join Labor Party**

LONDON.—Will Lloyd George join from the almost defunct Liberal Party and join the Labor Party?

That possibility exists according to an article in a recent edition of "Sunday Worker," written by an author stated to be of the "highest authority, and with access to the best councils of the Labor Party."

In writing of Lloyd George this correspondent says: "The Wizard is preparing to join the Labor Party—and to lead the Labor Party."

Resourceful, audacious, unscrupulous, he sees that this is his chance of returning to office and to power. The Tory party have none of him and the Liberal Party is dead. . . .

He can—he reckons—outplay tacticians, outfinger the ginger bread. He can show the Right Wing how to plot, and the Left Wing how to fight. He can fling his vivid, vital personality into a movement which lacks, at the moment, off all things precisely that quality of leadership which he can supply. . . .

In spite of all denials, it is quite true that, through several channels, he has been making anxious, but exhaustive, enquiry. He is reconnoitering the ground, in spite of a half-hearted rebuff or two, here and there, he has not been dissatisfied with the results.

He has sounded the Right Wing and he has sounded the Left Wing. He has private talks with McCall—In resorts more secluded behind the Speaker's chair, he made an approach to Wheatley, which was only rebuffed by the tenacity of that politician. To him he poses as an ally against "other."

Speaking of the outcome, the old Lloyd George be successful, the writer concludes: "Then God bless the Labor Party. He might as well sit to the left today, to the right tomorrow, as occasion served."

Don't forget! Mention the Advocate when buying.

Old Country Labor News

Amalgamations In Britain

(British Labor Press Service)

LONDON.—Much interest has been excited by the announcement that negotiations for amalgamation are on foot between the Transport and General Workers' Union and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers. These two bodies reported to the last Trades Union Congress, at Scarborough, a total membership of 300,000 and 326,000 respectively, so that the combined strength of the two unions, if amalgamation is consummated, will be more than 626,000 members, a figure exceeded by the Miners' Federation alone.

The rise of the transport workers' organization is one of the romances of the Trade Union movement. Looking back, one gets the impression from the official records that the Union sprang suddenly into existence, like Minerva, fully armed, from the head of Jove, without any preliminary gestation.

The Union does not appear in the list of affiliated Unions in the Congress report for 1921; but it is there in the next year's report, with an aggregate membership of 300,000—and a host of smaller bodies in that group of Unions that figured in the 1921 report are no longer enumerated: they have been absorbed.

Great Achievement

It was a great achievement to bring together in one organization almost at a stroke more than a dozen Unions, and to weld them into a genuine fighting force under unified leadership. But even more remarkable has been the steady extension of the range of the Transport Workers' organization and its success in combining in a highly specialised departmental administration so many different grades and classes of transport and general labor.

The complexity of the administrative work of the Union is only partially indicated by the group activities recorded month by month in its official organ. These cover inland waterways, road transport (passenger and commercial), docks, wharves and quays, administrative, supervisory and clerical, and general labor groups. New bodies are being drawn in, and their entrance broadens the scope of the Union's work.

Thus, within the last few weeks, the strength of the Union has been increased by the adherence of the National Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics and Electrical Workers, with a membership of more than 22,000. Organization among the power workers has developed apace within the last two decades. Before the trade slump, at the end of 1920, this Union, which now forms the nucleus of the Power Group of the Transport Workers' organization, had a membership of more than 40,000. It brought together by a series of amalgamations between 1898 and 1919 a large number of very small local societies of enginemen and firemen, and geographically it covers a wide area.

Effective Leadership

There appears to be no limit to the possibilities of extension lying before the Union which Mr. Ernest Bevin so ably captains. The negotiations now on foot with the General Workers' Union will mean a very substantial increase in the effective organization of unskilled and semi-skilled workers. Only a year ago the National Union of General Workers was enlarged by the amalgamation of the Municipal Employees' Union, with a membership of 40,000.

In administrative ability or effective leadership these powerful aggregations of not easily organized Labor now challenge comparison with the strongest and most skilfully constructed Unions in existence—though they were the last to begin. They have grown up almost within the lifetime of their youngest member, and the pioneers who did the foundation work are still active in leading them to greater heights of achievement.

Trade Unionism has good reason for pride in the industrial statesmanship which has produced within a period of less than five years, a body like the Transport and General Workers' Union. But a deeper emotion than pride is stirred by the thought of the older men who have striven to create among the mass of general workers the permanent and stable organization that exists today.

Facing almost every conceivable handicap of poverty and social disadvantage, with nothing but their own native abilities, capacity to learn, and resolute will, they have made possible the wider success which are being won today.

South Wales Bosses Request More Police

CARMARTHEN.—The Carmarthenshire Standing Joint Committee has been considering the application of Chief Constable Picton Phillips for an increase in the strength of the county police force. The chief constable stated that the Amman Valley was honeycombed with sedition and that Communism had gained a very strong hold on the miners.

It was, he said, no good treating seditionists as misguided idealists—they must be held back by force.

Labor members of the committee protested that poverty was the cause of discontent amongst the miners; sending them to prison and increasing the police force would not solve the problem.

The protest was disregarded, and a sub-committee has been set up with power to appoint additional police.

Feeling among the mining population is running very high at this latest evidence of the repressive measures to be expected next May.

Transport and General Workers Plan Fusion

LONDON.—A plan for the amalgamation of two of the largest trade unions in the country was discussed in London recently when the executive of the Transport and General Workers' Union met the executive of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers. The negotiations are at present in the preliminary stage, and, as many details have yet to be discussed, further meetings will be held.

The General Workers' Union, of which J. R. Clynes, M.P., is president, and Will Thorne secretary, has already greatly increased its membership by amalgamations, and the Transport Workers' Union has similarly built up a large membership. A fusion of the two unions would produce a joint membership of 600,000, and render the organization the largest single union in this country, and one of the largest in the world.

Say you saw it advertised in the "Advocate".

London Trades Council Adopts Militant Policy

LONDON.—The London Trades Council on January 14 adopted an important resolution to the following effect:

"We request the London Trades Council to convene a conference of all local trades councils in the Greater Metropolitan area, whether affiliated or otherwise, to discuss and decide action on the following matters: (1) The relation between the Trades Councils and the T.U.C. General Council. (2) To organize working contracts with all local trades councils; (3) to work for and establish factory and workshop committees; (4) organization of women workers in industry; (5) establishment of working contracts and agreements between the Trades Councils and the Co-operative Societies."

A further resolution was passed to call a conference of Labor representatives of various bodies (Boards of Guardians, Borough Councils, etc.), together with delegates from trades councils and municipal workers' welfare committees, to consider joint action on the question of wages, hours, and the threatened surcharges of Borough Councils and Boards of Guardians, and that district committees of the various trade unions, having members affected, also be invited to send representatives.

It was also decided that all affiliated organizations be requested to participate in the demonstration for release of the prisoners at Clapham Common on February 7, and to take part in the march to Wandsworth Prison.

Durham Miners Idle Since Last August

LONDON.—A series of conferences between workers and employers of the St. Hilda Colliery Durham, which has been idle since August last, has definitely failed.

Over two thousand five hundred men are involved in the dispute.

It will be remembered a claim by the strikers for unemployment benefit was allowed by the umpire on the ground that situations rendered vacant by a stoppage of work could not be construed as "suitable employment" for the men engaged in the dispute.

Amsterdam Secretary Makes Unity Statement

LONDON.—A good deal of discussion has been aroused through the publication, in the Amsterdam paper, the "Telegraaf," of an interview with J. W. Brown, the secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions, on the subject of international unity. The interview has been widely reprinted in the Labor press of several countries.

In the interview, the Secretary of the Amsterdam International declared that there was much misunderstanding among Continental Labor leaders of the proposals of the British trade unionists for an unconditional conference with the Russians. He stated that such a conference would be the logical sequel to the Vienna resolution, and not in opposition to it, as some had stated.

Brown also said that the Berlin Anglo-Russian conference was the proper consequence of the decisions of the Scarborough Trades Union Congress. He also refuted the statement, widely circulated by certain Continental opponents of unity, that the British leaders were there unofficially. He emphasized the fact that they participated in the conference as accredited representatives of the British trade union movement.

Brown also pointed out that the Finnish, Norwegian, Japanese, and also, probably, the Mexican trade union bodies would affiliate internationally as soon as unity is achieved and the Russian unions brought into one united International.

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Two Thousand Workers Apply for Six Jobs

LONDON.—The English Textile Company recently advertised for six unskilled workmen.

Applicants began to arrive at 6 a.m. the next morning, and by 9:30 a crowd of 2,000 had gathered, only to be informed that the vacancies had been filled overnight.

Now won't the dope Press be sorry they said the unemployed were shirkers who didn't really want work. Yes, they won't—with pictures on the back page.

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EXCAVATING CONTRACTORS

Undermentioned will receive bids for excavating at Franklin School soon Saturday, February 13, 1926. Plans and specifications apply to Board office.

B. G. WOLFE-MERTON, Secretary Vancouver School Board.

CITY OF VANCOUVER

TENDERS FOR DRUGS

UNDER SIGNED will receive tenders up to 12 o'clock Saturday the 20th day of February, 1926, for the supply of drugs for the different departments for one year. Forms tender can be obtained at my office. Check payable to the city of Vancouver in the sum of \$100 to accompany tender.

JAMES STUART, Purchasing Agent of Vancouver, February 3, 1926

CITY OF VANCOUVER

Court of Revision.

NOTICE that the Assessment of all rateable property in the City of Vancouver, which will form basis of municipal taxation for the year 1926, has been returned to me pursuant of the provisions of the Vancouver Incorporation Act, 1921, that the same may be inspected at the offices of the Assessment Commissioner, City Hall, Vancouver, between the hours of 9 o'clock a.m. and 5 o'clock p.m. on each day, and that the first sitting of the Court of Revision to re-equalize and correct the same, will be held on Friday, February 26th, 1926, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, in the Court Chamber, at the City Hall, Street, Vancouver.

The said meeting all complaints at the assessment as made by the owner, which shall have been received by me at least seven clear days before the date of the said meeting, be heard.

WILLIAM McQUEEN, City Clerk. Hall, Vancouver, B.C., February 15th, 1926.

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