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DEFENSE OF FREEDOM OF OTHERS IS SELF-DEFENSE

HILLMAN CONVINCED RUSSIAN SOVIET GOVERNMENT IS ABSOLUTELY STABLE

By HARRY GODFREY
(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

New York.—Sidney Hillman, president, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, and head of the recently-organized Russian-American Industrial corporation, just back from a several months' stay in Russia, declared on his arrival that the success of the venture and the safety of the funds invested in it by American workers is beyond question.

Hillman's statement was made in commenting on statements made in Berlin by William O. Thompson, who went to Russia with Hillman as financial adviser to the corporation, that the project is insecure and fraught with danger to its investors.

The head of the Amalgamated and of the Russian-American Industrial corporation admitted that a difference of opinion developed between himself and Thompson a fortnight after their arrival in Moscow—two months before the Berlin interview was given out by the latter. Thompson's attitude, Hillman said, was that the project should be confined to a purely commercial export and import business in which extraordinary profits could be made. Hillman's position, as opposed to this, was that such a course might bring large profits to the organization, but that the corporation's primary purpose was to assist in rebuilding Russia, and that profits were a secondary consideration.

He called attention to the fact, however, that the contract which he concluded on behalf of the corporation with the Russian supreme council of public economy not only guarantees the safety of the investment, but guarantees a minimum 8% dividend. The contract is an actual partnership of the corporation with the Russian government. "Mr. Thompson resigned his connection with the corporation," Hillman said, "two weeks after we arrived in Moscow. The only difference between him and myself is that he believes we should go into the export business in which a large profit could be made, while I believe we should stick to the clothing manufacturing business for which the corporation was founded."

"Mr. Thompson and myself remain the best of friends, and in fact after he resigned he himself drafted most of the documents which I now have with me confirming our original concession and extending our right to engage in commercial and banking enterprises."

"Of course," he added, "we are staking our success on the future of the Russian government; but the Russian government, I am absolutely convinced, is entirely stable. It is tending more and more to the right, and the new economic policy has resulted in a remarkable improvement since I was in Russia last year. As a matter of fact, there is such a scarcity of clothing in Russia that if we had 20 times the number of tailors now working in Moscow and Petrograd they could not supply the demand next year."

"End Wars By Work," Says Scott Nearing

Toledo, Ohio.—Scott Nearing in a recent address here said that war would end if everyone would go to work. Nearing also said that there are now more men under arms in Europe than there were in 1917 when the World War began.

Four-fifths of American business is corporate and stockholders receive dividends even in times of depression through reserve funds, he declared.

"The man who works is punished for producing," said Dr. Nearing, "while the earnings of capital go on unimpeded. That is because capital is protected by law while labor is not which is placing dollar rights above human rights."

Russians Building Own Locomotives

Moscow, Dec. 7.—Russian locomotive works are operating so satisfactorily, it has been announced by the government, that hereafter it will not be necessary to purchase railway engines from foreign countries.

To date the soviets have received 680 locomotives from Germany, with twenty more to come, and 100 from Sweden, with 300 yet to be delivered.

213 Ex-Service Men Penniless, Friendless

New York.—Penniless, friendless, and unwanted, 213 destitute Americans—mostly ex-service men and their families—have arrived here from France, "guests" of the U. S. shipping board which brought them back to America, passage free.

There was no welcome for them here. No delegation of "distinguished citizens" went down the bay to meet them. No bands escorted them through the streets. No newspaper reporters interviewed them. No speeches were made for them.

The only thing which has been done about them thus far has been an emergency meeting of various charity organization heads to see what could be done about them. That was after R. W. Hill, state superintendent of alien poor, recommended that they not be permitted to cross the river to New York from Hoboken, N. J., where they landed.

These former soldiers and their families have been permitted to go to the municipal lodging house, with the understanding that their expenses will be paid temporarily by the Red Cross.

Many of them married French girls while in France, and found it impossible to make a living there.

First Trial C. L.'s Ends; Jury Disagreed; 2nd Trial February 13th

(By The Federated Press)

Oakland, Cal.—Disagreement of the jury has ended the first trial of the five members of the defunct Communist Labor party who were arrested in the California red raid of 1919 and charged with criminal syndicalism.

No unlawful acts of any kind were proved against them, their offense having been membership in the short-lived party. The jury voted seven to five for acquittal. A second trial will begin Feb. 13.

The third count in the charge, personal advocacy of the use of force and violence, was dropped, there being no evidence to prove it. The defense had endeavored in vain to have the second count dropped also—the circulation of literature advocating force and violence. The words of the defendants, describing labor conditions in this country, particularly with reference to child labor, moved the jury to tears.

In his instructions to the jury Judge Samuels, who has shown himself strongly prejudiced against the defendants throughout the trial, violated most of the principles governing a fair trial by attempting to compel the jury to return a verdict of guilty. The majority of the jury, however, took the same view of the case as the reporters at the trial who voted informally for acquittal on a poll taken before the jury disagreement was announced.

James H. Dolsen, one of the five defendants, conducted the defense for the group. No lawyers were em-

America's shame was diminished considerably when on Thanksgiving Day, Governor Small commuted the sentences of the sixteen Communists who were serving prison sentences in Illinois prisons because of opinions they expressed during the war.

The Governor said: "No human agency can accurately determine how long any human being shall be incarcerated. These men are not criminals. Since their indictment and conviction in March, 1921, they have suffered severely. I declined to extend clemency in their cases prior to their incarceration. No great good can come from longer incarceration for them."

Those released were: William Bross Lloyd, millionaire radical; Ludwig Lore, editor, New Yorker Volkszeitung; Charles Krumbein, recently indicted at St. Joseph following the Michigan red raid of August 21; L. K. England; Edgar Owens; Dr. Karl F. Sandberg; Dr. O. J. Brown; N. J. Christiansen; Samuel Ash; James A. Meissinger; Samuel F. Hankin; John Vogel; Morris Stoller; Arthur Proctor; Nels Kjar; Jack Carney, editor, Voice of Labor, and Perry Shipman. One defendant, L. A. Katerfield, is not affected by the commutation as Attorney Cunnea stated he had no authority to represent Katerfield before the pardon board. Katerfield is now on his way from Russia to begin serving his sentence, according to information received by Will Colvin, secretary of the pardon board.

In releasing these men Governor Small announced that he was in full accord with the dissenting opinion of Justice Carter of the supreme court, who, contrary to the majority opinion, questioned the constitutionality of the syndicalism law, when the court decided the men must serve their sentences. Judge Carter held the anti-syndicalism law was "war psychology," and that while it might be well in times of war, enforcement of such a law "might be very short-sighted in times of peace."

The reactionary press is trying to belittle Gov. Small's action by saying his motive was to line up the radical votes for the 1924 campaign. We are quite certain that it will bring him many votes that are not radical. People who are not Communists or I. W. W. or at all sympathetic with them are nevertheless extremely tired of having the government hound men for expression of opinions no matter what these opinions are. They are assured that "DEFENSE OF THE FREEDOM OF OTHERS IS SELF DEFENSE."

If vote getting is in order President Harding may well take heed. There are still many people in America with a healthy passion for justice. They know that there are still sixty-four men in prison for expression of opinions. They want them released immediately. They feel that Wendell Philipps was right when he said, "A COMMUNITY WHICH DOES NOT PROTECT ITS WORST AND MOST HATED MEMBER IN THE FREE UTTERANCE OF HIS OPINIONS, NO MATTER HOW HATEFUL, IS ONLY A GANG OF SLAVES."

Magon Honored By Mexican Workers

(Federated Press)

Ricardo Flores Magon, the political prisoner of the United States and hero of the Mexican people, who died behind the bars of Leavenworth federal penitentiary, is not to be buried at the expense of the Mexican government, as voted by the Mexican congress. Mexican radicals wired in protest to Lucile Magon Norman, the dead editor's daughter in Los Angeles, saying that he belonged not to governments but to the people. Mrs. Norman has agreed that Magon is to be buried without any participation by any government.

played except by the prosecution. Dolsen has started for the east to present the civil liberties situation in California to the public.

The other defendants were J. E. Snyder, J. R. Ragsdale, C. A. Tobey and J. G. Reed. E. B. Smith, also indicted, is in Russia. They were tried under new indictments issued last February covering the 1919 raid. Dolsen had been tried separately in April, 1920, when he also conducted his own case and the jury also disagreed. All the defendants who went to trial are Americans born except Reed, and his parents brought him to the United States when he was less than a year old. The defense contended that all the acts done by them were legal and within the rights guaranteed to American citizens.

Will Scientific Discoveries Wrest Control Of Machinery From The Capitalist Class?

New York.—The capitalist structure of society is based upon control of machinery, writes John Dewey, philosopher and educator, in the December issue of The World Tomorrow. "Were I a capitalist," he says, "I should be kept awake nights more by the expectation of scientific discoveries than by bolshevism and socialism. Suppose it were true that chemists had found a way to make gold and silver as

"SOVIET RUSSIA" BECOMES A PICTORIAL

New Form to Give Graphic Story of Russian Events From Month to Month; Large Size and Artistic Get-up.

New York.—Beginning with the new year, the magazine "Soviet Russia" will be issued as "Soviet Russia Pictorial," a lavishly illustrated monthly review of Russian affairs, it was announced at the offices of the Friends of Soviet Russia. It will be 10 inches by 14 inches in size, will sell at 20 cents a copy, and will be as heretofore the official organ of the F. S. R.

Through the use of plentiful pictures, unique features and regular departments, the new publication frankly aims at developing a large circulation through a popular appeal. At the same time, however, the text and general content will measure up to the standard of excellence in the choice and handling of material established during the

AMERICA SPURRED FRANCE TO WAR; NOW DENOUNCES "TIGER" CLEMENCEAU

By PAUL HANNA
(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON.—Clemenceau is caught in the grip of "hands across the sea."

Denunciation of the aged tiger of France, which now rings through the halls of congress and the columns of newspapers has little to do with the merit of his speeches. The selfish old man from Paris is denounced because the United States, official and financial, is determined to stand with Great Britain against the rival power of France.

The Washington Post, mouthpiece of the administration, gave the press its cue that Clemenceau should be handled without gloves. No sooner had the French politician made his first address in America than this newspaper flew to Senators Borah, Capper, Caraway, Ladd and other foes of foreign alliances for a batch of comment hostile to the Frenchman.

Throughout the war and while the misery of Europe was being written in to the Versailles treaty, the Post had only praise for Clemenceau and all his works, while it has seldom been known to mention Borah, Ladd and the other independents except for its own purposes.

As now revealed to the blindest reactionary, the fact stands out that there can be no peace or prosperity for any part of the world until central Europe is permitted to revive. Official French demands upon Germany make that revival impossible. American bankers and exporters are hostile to France because they suffer from the degradation of Europe and will suffer more unless the impending bankruptcy of that whole continent can be averted.

Between Great Britain and France the issue is clear. If France can be made to release her strangle hold on Germany and confess her own ruin from the war, then England will be rid of her last rival in Europe and the slow process of general recovery would set in. But if the French government can hold on to a while longer Germany may completely disintegrate and permit French armies to seize all that is left of her natural resources and strategic territories.

In effect, the world war is still in full force, with the specter of ruin for all the participants drawing nearer to complete the destruction of modern civilization. But in this final stage of the conflict British interest demands the salvation of Germany, while that of France is bound up in a bitter end policy.

Clemenceau speaks the capitalist truth when he says France is struggling merely to save her life. When she lets go her grip on Germany she will perish as an imperialist power. Her last hope is that, in the interval between Germany's death rattle and consequent French collapse, France may float ashore on a raft made from the German wreckage.

In ordinary circumstances advanced years and faithful service to the masters of finance insures a respectful hearing for one like Clemenceau. But this blinded envoy from dying France is outside the pale of such courtesy.

Nations that live by the sword shall perish by the sword, and the hour of France draws near. America, who spurred her on to battle, now salutes her doomed ally, and turns away.

of misrepresentation of Russia in the American press, the avidity with which lies have been manufactured and multiplied, must welcome the appearance of a publication with a popular approach which has both the intention and the facilities for spreading the truth. The readiness to misrepresent Russia has by no means abated.

"Watch for the January number and you will be sure to watch for the February number without being asked to do so."

Predicts Communism For All Of Europe

New York.—Within two years, all of Europe, except France and England, will have turned to communism, or some modification of communism, in the opinion of Louis Joseph Vance, novelist, who has just returned from abroad. Austria will be the first, he said, and it will be followed by Hungary and the Balkans.

I. W. W. Make No International Affiliations

Chicago.—Officers' reports and discussion of international affiliations occupied the second week of the fourteenth annual convention of the I. W. W. in session here.

The importance of immediate demands in place of utopia—dreams is being stressed by the retiring officers, who are limited by constitutional provision to one term of one year. Revision of I. W. W. literature to make the class struggle more easily grasped by all workers is also recommended.

The organization continues to fight shy of international affiliations. The Anarchist-Syndicalist International at Berlin, with which the General Federation of Workers of Mexico recently affiliated, was disapproved by the I. W. W. because the international sanctions sabotage and violence in specified circumstances, to which the I. W. W. is opposed.

The Red International of Labor Unions at Moscow suffered rejection of its invitation because of its advocacy of political action as well as mass action. The policy of "organizing on the job" was adhered to by the convention.

The executive board was instructed to issue a call for an international conference of marine workers. This followed a plea by the Marine Transport Workers, an I. W. W. unit, which has footholds in many world ports.

It was claimed at the convention that penetration of the coal fields is being made by the organization. Many members of the United Mine Workers, the A. F. of L. body, are said to be holding I. W. W. cards as well, in violation of the U. M. W. constitution.

true trend of events in Soviet Russia and thus to cement a friendship between the working classes of the two countries.

"The new form is calculated to reach a much wider circle of readers than the magazine as it now stands could achieve. The Pictorial will give a graphic history of Soviet Russia from month to month. Its editorial attitude will be wide and flexible enough to allow the use of artistic and literary subjects, retrospective matter, special features of all sorts, original drawings, anything, in fact, which will make each issue more readable, more interesting, more useful than the preceding one."

"We wish to emphasize, although the very first number of the new magazine will attest to this point and will thus eliminate the necessity for emphasis, that the magazine will not be exclusively pictorial. In conformity with the larger appeal of the new form, articles will necessarily be briefer. But the same high standard of excellence in the choice and treatment of subject matter which led thousands to save our magazines and to bind them in volumes will be maintained. Such departments as "Books Reviewed," vital official documents, historical articles—to mention only a few—will be continued. The admixture of what in American journals is called "human interest stories" will round out the content.

"Whoever has followed this course

ONE MILLION ORPHANS ONE MILLION DINES ONE MILLION DINNERS THIS CHRISTMAS

Just the same as other children, or you or I
THE ORPHANS OF SOVIET RUSSIA
MUST EAT—OR DIE.

There they are, a million hungry little tots. They have never in all their little lives had a meal such as you enjoy EVERY day. We want to fill their plates HEAVING FULL this Christmas. We want to give them so much to eat that they will for once feel COMFORTABLE.

The problem which the famine, the blockade, the allied attempts at counter-revolution has created is colossal. One million of the coming generation, future heritors of the Russian Revolution, are threatened.

If Soviet Russia is to live, its children must live. The future is built upon children. Active spirits are needed, the kind that will not only give of their own means, but who will also request others to give.

How many Christmas dinners will you help to provide for these hungry little waifs? How many will be your guests this Christmas Day?

Enter into the spirit of this task at once. Visit every one you know. Tell them the story of Soviet Russia and its orphans.

JOIN US IN A NATION-WIDE COLLECTION OF
ONE MILLION DINES

for one million meals for one million hungry orphans.
The Friends of Soviet Russia,
201 West 13th Street, New York City.

JUST WRITE TODAY AND SAY

Friends of Soviet Russia,
201 West 13th Street,
New York City.

Here are my dimes totalling \$-----
with which to buy ----- Christmas
dinners for Russia's hungry orphans.
I shall collect dimes from all my
friends and make another remittance soon.

Name -----
Address -----

WE SUGGEST: Write for a coupon book. Fifty coupons per book. Each coupon sells for ten cents. Each ten cents will buy one Christmas dinner, yes, a whole day's meals, for one of these needy children.

ADOPT AN ORPHAN

Pledge yourself to pay \$2.00 each month for the care of one of Russia's million orphans. Square yourself with your conscience by feeling assured that there is one needy child in Soviet Russia that eats every time you eat.

GOVERNOR STEPHENS REITERATES HIS STAND AGAINST MOONEY'S RELEASE

MAYOR HYLAN KIDS THE KU KLUXERS

By HARRY GODFREY
(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

New York.—Although in all the years of hysteria and radical-baiting since 1917 it has not been proved that any so-called "red" ever threw a bomb in New York, Mayor Hylan has taken it upon himself, in a telegram from French Lick Springs, Ind., to instruct Police Commissioner Enright to treat Ku Kluxers in New York "as you would the reds and bomb-throwers."

Aside from this characteristic bit of bombast the mayor's telegram seems to have evoked no fear among the Ku Klux organizers here. About the worst they probably expect from the city administration is being classed with the "reds," against whom the Klanners are leagued as they are against Jews and Catholics and Negroes. They—the Ku Kluxers, are going right on organizing here. They have opened headquarters in the Hotel Hermitage, under the direction of the Rev. Oscar Haywood of Calvary Baptist church.

Haywood has made an adroit answer to the Hylan telegram. First denying that the Klan was anti-catholic, anti-Jewish, anti-Negro or anti-alien, he announced:

"There is a sweeping bolshevist and Socialist propaganda moving in large areas of the Jewish population. We oppose movements of this kind."

Then he declared that the work of organizing the Klan here would go right on.

Meantime the American Civil Liberties union, a national free-speech organization, has called upon the mayor to prosecute the Klan under the criminal laws and not deport its organizers lawfully as the mayor has ordered the police commissioner to do.

It may be said that should the police department actually carry out the mayor's instructions to treat Klanners as the police of this city have treated reds and those whom the police wished the public to think were reds, there would be not one organizer or official of the Klan left in New York in 24 hours.

All that has been done, however, is the printing of the mayor's telegram and handing out a copy of it to the members of the police force.

And the police department, according to the officials in charge of

Fremont Older has been active in defense of Mooney and Billings almost since the inception of the frameup, becoming convinced of their innocence following the testimony of Frank C. Oxman, "star" perjurer for the prosecution. In his recent letter to Governor Stephens, after a brief resume of the highlights in the testimony against the convicted men, Older said:

"There is no one now in California or elsewhere, who has followed the case closely, who is not thoroughly convinced that neither one of these men was in any way connected with the Preparedness Day crime. I realize that the case has aroused a great deal of feeling in California and that there was a very large and powerful group of people who felt that even though these men did not commit this particular crime they were bad men and it was better for them to remain in prison for what they might have done prior to this time, even though they were there on false evidence. I think as time passes, that these violent opinions have subsided, and those who at one time held them have modified them and would be, in their hearts, glad if you were to release these two prisoners. This has been such a glaring case of the miscarriage of justice in our courts, that I feel quite sure that the vast majority of the citizens of California would welcome the clearing up of the case once and for all. May I not hope that you will seriously consider this matter before you retire from office?"

The Mooney defense committee, commenting on this latest development said:

"Despite the accumulated evidence of perjury and framing in these cases, substantiated by the confessions of witnesses for the prosecution and despite the demands of thousands of trade unionists and other fair-minded citizens, Governor Stephens still refuses to perform a simple act of justice by pardoning Mooney and Billings. His latest letter to Fremont Older merely reiterates his previous stand, taken some time ago, when he refused to receive a committee appointed by the American Federation of Labor to take up the cases of Mooney and Billings with him and said, in a public statement, that 'labor must purge itself of Mooneyism,' meaning simply that labor must forego all redress in these cases and content itself with accepting the verdict of a framed jury, upheld by a biased Governor."

the work, isn't going to make any arrests until it gets "definite evidence of misdeeds or lawbreaking."

MEXICAN WORKERS WANT POLITICAL PRISONERS FREED

Syndicalist Tendency Is Dominant in General Federation

By F. W. LEIGHTON
(Federated Press Correspondent)

Mexico City.—The General Federation of Workers met in second annual congress in this city Nov. 4-12, and resolved to organize a series of national 24-hour strikes in protest against the continued imprisonment of political prisoners throughout the world, including Magon and Rivera, who are held in custody in Leavenworth. The federation voted to affiliate with the Berlin syndicalist international, instead of with the Red Labor Union international of Moscow.

Other matters coming up for discussion were the project of the formation of "one big union" to include the industrial organization of the working class of Mexico and the formulation of an agrarian policy.

Though the General Federation of Workers was founded largely through communist influence and has adhered in the past to the Moscow international, it has of late come to have more of a syndicalist and anarchist tendency. It is anti-governmental, abstained from political action in the recent congressional elections, and expelled several members of the executive committee on charges of trying to sell out the organization to the politicians. Its chief strength lies in the organized bakers, and the electrical, telephone and street railway workers. Organized workers to the number of 65,000 were represented at its first convention, a year ago.

The federation makes a bid for new members in the following conclusion to its official call:

"Comrades, if you wish to demonstrate here and abroad that you do not belong to the ignorant legions commanded by audacious traffickers in the aspirations of the proletariat; if you wish on the other hand to contribute to the drastic purification of this federation, increasing its capacity for the realization of its postulates of liberty, be represented at this convention to which you are called in the name of the love that inspires the high principle of human solidarity and the ideal which impels our struggle for redemption."

DINNER PAIL EPICS

By BILL LLOYD.
(For The Federated Press)

At last I can report I'm able to get a seat at the press table. I wuz afeared that I might die before I ever could get by. It came about the other day at the mass meeting for Longuet. The Man'ging Editor wuz in doubt who he could send to that there bout. The star reporters wuz away; the office boy wuz out that day. The editor he sez to me, "Bill, go and see what you can see."

I walked right in through a big crowd, and I spoke up and talked quite loud; "I'm representing the F. P.; please point the press gang out to me."

Well, I set down beside a guy who wore a nifty suit and tie. He looked me over, near and far, and said "I represent the Star."

Sez I: "I write for working folk, and writin' copy ain't no joke."

"It ain't," sez he, "it keeps me late, so I shall lose out on my day." Then later on he sez to me: "Debs ain't here yet, so far I see."

Sez I: "No Debs he ain't here yet, but he will come, you better bet."

"Just kindly point out Debs to me when he arrives, will you?" sez he.

"Young man," sez I, "you'll surely know when Debs walks in to this here show."

The chap he knew when Debs came in. You never did hear such a din. The gang stood up, that whole big crowd, and yelled and screamed and shouted loud. And that reporter stood up too; he didn't know what else to do. The International wuz sung, with lots of breath from out the lung. Of course at the first note I stood, that guy rose too, as well he should, but I will bet you folks enuf he thought it wuz Star Spangled stuff.

That guy's all right, a good nuf sort, although on brains he wuz some short. He wuz the kind, I will confess, that writes for capitalist press.

Now when I get my daily jar by reading news from out the Star, I haven't any sort of doubt about the crew that puts it out.

FIRE

B. N. Z.

The burning crater—its lava at white heat—
Bursting forth from hidden bowels of clay,
Fire—driven by relentless force carrying desolation everywhere;
This mad fire, this fearsome fire,
From earth's vast depths—

Brick chimneys tall—belching smoke—
Telling of hellish heat below
Where the red steel is poured by iron-nerved men,
Who release the energy, long stored and hid away
Till fire—man-tamed—shall set it free—

Spirit fire—God's urge in man—
Transforming, making strong the soul,
Leaping from mind to mind,
Sleeping in human hearts till it glows, living flame,
To test his handiwork—

Divine energy,
In crater mart or human heart,
I bow before thy power
Always.

1500 Men On Strike At Edison Co's Camps

Big Creek, Cal.—The I. W. W. claim that 1500 men are on strike at the Southern California Edison Co.'s mountain camps here. The construction camp is 12 miles long, and the work has been in progress five years. It is one of the biggest construction jobs in the west.

The first demand of the men, as at Hetch-Hetchy, is for amnesty for political prisoners, including the criminal syndicalism victims of California; the other demands are for the eight-hour day, abolition of the blacklist, and decent food. The state labor commissioner says only 270 men are out, 4800 men in all are employed at the camp. In advertising for men to break the strike, employment agencies, which are obliged to post strike conditions, state that "some workers are out."

Letters From Voters Asking Amnesty Ring Out Like a Gong Now

By PAUL HANNA
(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

Washington.—A letter from any voter in the Northwest, saying that he or she favors the release of political prisoners, rings like a gong through the White House these days. And if a thousand such letters should reach Washington in the course of a fortnight from voters in the upper Missouri and Mississippi valleys it would do more to liberate men jailed for their opinions than any other kind of agitation.

A sample letter of this sort has been received by a farm country senator from a famous editor in his state. The editor in question is known throughout the land as a champion of liberal opinion and a judge of political sentiment in the west. On condition that neither the writer, nor the recipient be named at present, a copy of the letter has been handed over for publication through The Federated Press. It reads as follows:

"I think it is up to the liberal Republicans to take some action to see that the political prisoners of the war who are in jail, committed during the war for some offense which would not be an offense under the law today, should be pardoned."

"Can't you see the president and persuade him that this is a wise course? I realize perfectly that this group of liberals who are most

District Convention of The Workers' Party

H. E. Keas, Acting District Organizer for District Nine of the Workers' Party has sent out notice of the coming District convention. He says:

"The District Executive Committee has decided that District Convention will be held at Superior, Wis., Sunday, December 17, 1922. Convention will be called to order at 10:00 A. M., in Finnish Hall."

"Election will be held in the branches and C. C. C's, according to the provisions of Article VI of the Constitution, but must be held not later than December 10th."

"The basis of representation will be 1 delegate to be elected to District Convention for each 50 members or major fraction thereof, branches where there are no C. C. C's, being entitled to one delegate."

"The expenses of District Convention are to be covered by an assessment of \$10.00 for each delegate (including fare) which C. C. C's, or branches must raise and send to District Convention with their delegate."

"The tasks of the Party are many and serious and it is hoped all points on the agenda will be thoroughly discussed in the branches so that if local units of the Party have constructive suggestions to offer, they will send them to the convention with their delegates. The agenda is as follows:

1. Report of District Organizer.
2. Reports of C. C. C's, and Branches (to be written and submitted to convention).
3. Agenda of the National Convention (Topics B. to L. inclusive).
4. Finance of District.
5. Election of D. E. C.
6. Election of delegates to National Convention.

keenly anxious for these pardons is an ultra-liberal and pretty radical group, but on the other hand they have got an argument, and the way to make the country jump the traces and blow up, going over to the ultra-radical crowd, is to give these ultra radical leaders the argument which they have with these men in jail."

"I would not put it up to him (the president) on a moral basis, but on a cold blooded proposition that any country that is electing men like Shipstead, Brookhart, Frazier and La Follette is playing with dynamite when it gives men just about four jumps ahead of these liberals an argument which may draw the people even further than Shipstead, Brookhart, Frazier and La Follette."

"A martyr in jail is worth more

votes than ten soap box orators out of jail to the cause of radicalism. Think this over and act. If you know where I can get my oar in, let me know."

The senator who received that letter has never spoken a word in favor of political prisoners. But he is a busy candidate for the next presidential nomination, as a mild progressive. And it would spoil his sleep to have the western voters jump the traces and blow up" for something more radical than he offers.

At this moment the White House is almost persuaded that the G. O. P. got spanked Nov. 7 by men and women who believe, among other things, in political freedom in America. One midwest Republican who refused to assist in the campaign because of White House reaction was specially invited to the executive mansion this week, and while there he told Harding that no faith would be placed in Republican promises of reform until men still in prison for their opinions were set free.

PRIZES!

NOTICE!

PRIZES!

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Important Facts From Various Countries

RUSSIA.

As a result of the new economic policy the Russian trade union movement is confronted with new and difficult tasks. The manner in which it intends to solve them is best shown by the resolutions adopted at the All-Russian Trade Union Congress in session from the 15th to the 20th of September.

In the resolution on the report of the chairman of the Supreme Economic Council, the Congress states, that although the economic situation of the working-class has been improved materially, the transport system, the supply of fuel and the metal industry are still in the throes of an acute crisis.

The Congress demanded that the

State organs do everything in their power to improve and increase, especially by financial help, production in the government enterprises which are to be developed by a corresponding tariff policy and through rational organization. State commerce is also to be strictly organized on the basis of systematic economy.

In the resolution on the report of the Commissariat of Labor, the strict and general realization of a minimum of labor protection is demanded of all State organs, and furthermore, close cooperation between the trade unions and those State organs entrusted with the protection of labor. The same cooperation must furthermore be applied

to the labor exchanges. The institution of labor inspection must be extended to all industries. The trade unions must have a voice in filling of the posts of labor inspectors. The new tasks of the trade unions were formulated in the 18 theses of Comrade Tomskey which the Congress adopted. These theses read as follows:

1. The new economic policy imposes upon the trade unions tasks varying with the situation in their respective industry, thus necessitating a stricter centralization along the lines of industrial unions.

2. In doing this, however, the influence of the old trade union organizations which look after the general interests of the trade unions and the proletariat must not be restricted.

3. The penetration into the trade unions of petty bourgeois elements must be prevented.

4. All means must be employed to strengthen the State-owned large industry.

5. The trade unions must see to it that a certain minimum of labor is performed. It would be a wrong policy to bring wages on the same level irrespective of the situation in this or that industry or declare collective agreements as binding under the law, because such a policy would act as a break on the development of activity and independence. On the other hand, wages in the poorer enterprises should be raised.

6. Close cooperation between the economic organs of the State and the trade unions must be achieved.

7. Special attention must be paid to cultural work and to the campaign of enlightenment among the workers, as well as to their welfare.

8. The division of trade unions activities in various directions should be avoided.

9. The class interest of the en-

tire proletariat must never be lost sight of, even in the smallest matters.

From all these decisions it can be gathered that the Russian trade unions are working towards the realization of the immediate interests of the Russian workers, as well as towards the advancement of their great and general interest—the strengthening of the Soviet Power.

TURKEY.

The Union Internationale des Travailleurs in Constantinople is affiliated with the R. I. L. U. It derives its main support from the building trade workers and the wood workers and also from the seamen. It is at present endeavoring to combine all existing organizations and is being savagely persecuted by the authorities. The organization publishes a regular paper in the Greek language Neos Anthropos.

LUXEMBOURG.

The Fourth Annual Convention of the Luxembourg Ore and Metal Workers' Union which took place from July 22nd to 23rd in Rumelingen saw a Communist opposition of 15 members among the 40 delegates.

THE UNITED STATES and CANADA.

The Trade Union Educational League which is conducting the revolutionary propaganda in the A. F. of L. organizations has groups in 300 cities in the United States. For the first general conference which took place in Chicago on the 26th of August, 156 delegates had been announced. Owing however, to the arrest of the Secretary, Comrade Wm. Z. Foster, and the police raid on the headquarters only 55 delegates could attend the Conference. The League is publishing a paper, The Labor Herald, which has a circulation of 20,000. The League claims a membership of 422,000. Its influence is especially strong amongst the garment workers (90,000), the railwaymen (80,000), the miners (60,000), and the metal workers (48,000). Two districts of the Miners' Union in Canada with a total of 16,000 members have affiliated with the R. I. L. U.

Apart from these there are a number of so-called independent organizations not affiliated to the A. F. of L., especially the provision workers with a membership of 12,000, in accord with our principles. The independent unions of New York are united in the Labor Council and have a membership of 24,000. The left wing of the I. W. O., which is making propaganda for the I. L. U. is publishing its own organ, Labor Unity.

The Lumber Workers' Union-affiliated with the R. I. L. U. in January of this year. It already has as many as 23,000 members, but owing to unemployment and the crisis, its membership dropped. The organization has already conducted 150 strikes, having been in existence but three years. The organization is the most revolutionary in Western Canada.

Intern. Press Correspondence.

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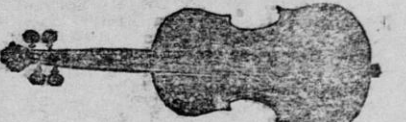
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LABOR HAS NO STANDING IN CONGRESS; IDLE FEW GOVERN IN INTEREST OF CAPITAL

(Editor's note:—This is the fifth article in a series by a man who sat for twelve years in his seat in the senate and saw so much hypocrisy, fake and vicious greed that it made him virilic. He is not a Communist nor an I. W. W., but he has good eyes and ears and is tired of injustice.)

(Copyright 1922 by R. F. Pettigrew. Reprinted by permission of The Federated Press, from IMPERIAL WASHINGTON, published by Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago.)

I have tried in the preceding chapters to describe some of the more important economic changes that have occurred in the United States during the past fifty years. All of them relate to business, to the rich, the powerful. The control of the banks; the right to issue money; the tariff-privileges enjoyed by the favored few; the organization of the trusts, and the manipulation of the railroads—these were the outstanding features of a system that gave property-holders first choice in all of the important economic relations of life.

A visitor to the United States, during these years, would have supposed that the workers did not count for much, one way or the other, but that the very heart and soul of existence consisted in putting more money into the hands of the rich. Indeed, this was the attitude taken by a majority of my colleagues in both houses of Congress.

The whole trend of legislation was toward the granting of privilege. The lawyers, who composed both houses of Congress, were representatives of the business interests. They never asked the question: "What does the public welfare demand?" Instead, their one thought was: "What do my clients want?" Therefore, their actions were always directed toward the protection of property and never toward the protection of the workers.

During the twelve years I was in the Senate, that is, from 1886 to March 4, 1901, the Congress of the United States enacted laws upon every conceivable subject, which fills a volume of many thousands of pages, and these laws were enacted by the attorneys of the property interests of this country who had complete control of both houses, and most of these laws were privileges to the owners of stolen property to exploit the people of the United States.

So much for the standing of labor before Congress—it had no standing at all. And why? Partly because of the lack of organization; partly because of the ignorance and weakness of the leaders; partly because labor can hope to gain little or nothing at the hands of a Congress composed of corporation lawyers and other representatives of the business interests. Perhaps a word with regard to my relations with the American Federation of Labor will help to make my meaning clear.

Gompers Stands With Employers.

I became acquainted with Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, many years ago. At that time, I supposed that he represented the labor unions of the United States in the interests of the toiling masses, and that that interest extended to the public in general. But I very soon found that Samuel Gompers and the American Federation of Labor were a combination something in the nature of a trust, organized even before the great industrial combinations were formed, for the purpose of exploiting everybody except the members of their own combination. I found that Gompers was standing in with the employers of labor and undertaking to get all he could for his crowd, without reference to the general welfare.

On August 8, 1911, Mr. Almont, one of the organizers of the American Federation of Labor, came to me at Sioux Falls, S. D., and said that he had received a letter from Samuel Gompers, or from the office of the American Federation of Labor, requesting Almont to secure a letter from me giving my opinion regarding the trade union movement. I thereupon wrote Gompers the following letter:

"Sioux Falls, August 8, 1911.

"Samuel Gompers,
"President American Federation of Labor."

"Dear Sir:

"F. C. Almont, one of your organizers, has asked me to write you and give an opinion with regard to the Trade Union Movement.

"The Trade Union should be universal and include every man who toils, not only in the factory, but on the farm. The strike and boycott are but crude and savage and warlike remedies, and I am sure labor will never receive what it earns until the land and implements of production are co-operatively or publicly owned.

"Capital cannot exist without labor and is entirely dependent upon labor, while labor is independent of capital, can and does

exist without it. Yet under the present system of production capital exploits labor, and takes more than two-thirds of the earnings of labor, and, until the system is changed, labor will struggle in vain to secure what it produces.

Yours truly,

"R. F. PETTIGREW."

During the fall of 1911, I visited Washington and called upon Gompers. He brought up the subject of my letter, said that he had received and read it and that it was an impertinence to write him such a letter. He began, in a rather excited way, to announce that it was socialism and then to attack the socialists and the socialist doctrine. That interested me very much, so I stayed and talked with him for a long time and got a very fair insight into his theory of the labor movement. Later, I continued the investigation and had at least one meeting with four or five of the principal union officers of the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor at Washington.

Labor Has No Standing.

Labor has no standing in Congress. Its acknowledged leaders—in conjunction with the masters of industry and finance—the labor hand and foot. The American Federation of Labor has been in existence forty years (since 1881). During the period of its power the position of the American worker has become, on the whole, less, rather than more, advantageous. The big rewards, the great winnings have gone to the owners, while the workers have received only the crumbs.

Labor produces the world's wealth. The vast majority of the American people work for their living. Civilization is built upon labor, and labor is civilization. Yet the public life of the United States is so organized that the workers receive scant consideration, while every attention is paid to the owners of the property.

All our legislation has been aimed to increase the power and promote the interests of those who have as against those who produce. The great question then that is presented to the laboring people of the United States is:

Shall the rights of man be superior to the rights of property? Inasmuch as all property is created by labor, if the rights of man are safeguarded by legislation, no laws will be required to protect the rights of property in the hands of the men who produce it, but under our present system the laborer who produces the wealth has none of it. He is exploited out of it by the landlord, by the corporation which employs him, by the corporations which furnish him public utilities, by the insurance companies and trust companies which charge three times what it is worth to do the business, and by the general system of combinations of the parasites and idlers of society, who get away from the producers of wealth what their labor has created.

Workers Justified in Eliminating Usurpers.

If forty laboring men were shipwrecked upon a distant island in the ocean, which was practically never frequented by ships of commerce, and there were about one thousand acres of fertile land upon the island and only one spring of pure water, and one of their number should rush at once to the spring and the thousand acres of land and claim it as his property because he saw it first and insist that all the others should pay him a portion of their products before they would be permitted to raise food upon the land or to drink water from the spring, the other thirty-nine people would be justified in taking it away from him, and proceeding to exercise their natural rights, giving, of course, the greedy usurper the same right which they all possessed—that of going to work and earning, with the rest of them, his own living.

Of course, the exploiters of labor are always talking about the dignity of labor and extolling the laborers, and the Labor Day orators—men who have never done a day's work in their life or produced a dollar's worth of wealth of the country—will speak of the laborers in the highest terms.

Why Let Idle Few Govern?

Why then should not the producers of wealth organize and take possession of the Government and run it in the interests of the workers rather than to have it run in the interest of the idle few, as at present?

It seems to me that it is about time we abandoned the barbarous doctrine of "the devil take the hindmost," and that, instead of universal selfishness and competition, we could find a civilization based upon the rights of man in the interest of the general welfare for all the people. Such a step would raise the mental, physical, and moral standard of the population, and would be the beginning of a new stage of civilization. This work must be done by the laboring classes. It will never be done by the beneficiaries of a special privilege economic system now existing in the United States.

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TRUTH openly declares for the overthrow of the present capitalist system. It does not believe in patching it up. If you think this decaying system can be patched up you will not like TRUTH.

TRUTH stands for square for the industrial form of organization on the economic field. It realizes that the workers must adopt such methods as will give them power to demand their rights, and demand them in an effective way. The workers must also be trained to take full charge of industry when the capitalist system has ceased to function.

TRUTH stands for square for Communism. It realizes that there can be no middle-of-the-road arrangement in the economic world. All the earth must belong to all the workers. All the people of the earth must be workers and not some shirkers. No loafing by any class and no advantage taken by any class over the weak and helpless.

TRUTH is in line with the Third International and supports Soviet Russia and the world revolution. It is convinced that Communism cannot thrive in any one country as long as capitalism attacks it on all sides; that Communism must be international and thus develop into its full fruition.

TRUTH declares that the working class must capture the capitalist state and establish their own state until the class antagonisms have been destroyed and until there remains no further need for the state. During this period of transition there must be the Dictatorship of the Proletariat. It is folly to think that the capitalist class will give up possession of the wrongfully owned industries without a struggle. In this struggle there must be a well disciplined working class and a clear visioned and firm leadership. The task is no Sunday school play and no lazy man's job. It will mean sacrifice and hardship and much study and much training. The workers must prepare for it.

It is to reach the workers with this message that TRUTH exists. It is the child of the loyal workers in Duluth who recognize the imperative need of the change from capitalism to the Workers' Republic. Come with us!



IS IT THE MASSES OR VIM?

Now it's the Labor Party. Two million organized workers, those in the sixteen railroad unions, the United Mine Workers of America, the Typographical union, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers are all simply *busting* to fix their political battles in a labor party.

So say the wisecracks who claim to know how the masses are reacting to the low wages, the high prices, the injunction, the lost strikes and the imprisonment and suppression by the masters. They say the economic condition are forcing the workers together into a labor party.

We belong to the Workers' Party and remember when the wisecracks thought that the organized workers, the millions in the unions mentioned above and the unorganized workers were being forced by economic conditions to use the Workers' Party as the instrument to fight their political battles. But it seems that our "united front" is either too far in front or else absent and the masses are not there.

Now the masses really speak, we are told, and in Cleveland, December 11, a new political party will be born, the child of the masses, the 2,000,000 organized workers who send their representatives to meet the representatives of political parties already existing in labor circles like the Socialist Party, the Farmer-Labor Party, the Workers' Party and all other little cliques for political purposes.

Then these representatives will agree, after a fashion, and there will be a concise statement of principles and program and then action. No more volumes of words to make us seasick when we try to locate the platform and principles. No more floundering in swamps of united fronts and manifestos and advanced guards and forwards and imported up-with and down-with. It is to be a mass program in American mass language, concise and clear.

Well and good. We like concise statements so we know exactly where we are at. We detest swamps and bluffs. We believe in working with the masses. That is the Communists' chief business in life to preach the Communist gospel to the masses. Hence if the masses are going to Cleveland next week, that is where the Communists should be.

And the Workers' Party is still to function, we are assured. It will not be a mass party but it will be a sort of service-station where its members can charge and re-charge each other with revolutionary vim and literature to use in the Labor Party.

We hope the time is ripe for a labor party and that the masses of the workers will learn to work together in it and secure immediate victory. We repeat what we have so often said in TRUTH that it will take a political victory by the workers in a labor party, in order to teach them that patching up capitalism will get them nowhere. A labor party in power with capitalism nearer its breaking point will wake the workers up as nothing else will. Let it come!

EDUCATION WEEK.

Now we have Education Week on top of Health Week, Prayer Week and Everything Week. That we have education week is evident every day to anyone not totally blind. Army draft tests showed that out of 1,552,256 persons examined 24.9 per cent could neither read nor write. The 1920 census showed that more than 5,000,000 persons or 6% of the American people can neither read nor write. This number is far too low because it is based upon the individual's frank admission to the census taker that he is unable to read or write. It is certain that some of them lied because they were ashamed to admit illiteracy. No tests were given.

Ten other countries have fewer illiterates than proud America. Germany, Denmark, Switzerland, Holland, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Scotland, England and France all are ahead of the United States in literacy.

Our schools are taught almost exclusively by inexperienced ignorant young girls who use it as a stepping-stone to marriage. Of the older women only those fitting well in the grooves of tradition are retained. Young and old teach the sound capitalist viewpoint that some must have the privilege of exploiting and others of working. The few teachers who are the exceptions lead a precarious existence, liable to have their jobs ended at any moment. Men seldom teach and the few who do are quite as intelligent as the women.

Our working class children are only in school until the ripe age of fourteen, then they are hitched to a job in order that they may continue to eat. In beloved Minnesota we permit them to work even in mines and quarries at the age of fourteen. We want to give them every opportunity. Not one child in ten finishes high school and not one in two hundred finishes a university or college.

Our schools are the outgrowth of our industrial system. It functions for the benefit of the few, and so do our schools. The children of the masses will never be in the schools until the workers get control of the industries. When industry functions for the benefit of the masses then the schools will also change.

However, granting that our teachers are poorly prepared, that capitalist propaganda is taught, that the masses cannot go because of economic pressure, still there are some children who could go to school but their parents take them out because they realize the facts mentioned above. This seems short sighted to us. The natural sciences, mathematics and languages cannot be perverted by capitalist dogma. History, economics and sociology are the most fertile fields for propaganda, but even they can be studied to advantage with a wise parent in the home to give the child the right incentive to study. Nor that he may become a more efficient slave under this system but that he may fit himself to be-

come capable of doing something valuable under a new system.

"Learn, learn, learn," is what Lenin tells the young in Russia. The masses of people in Russia are workers with good brains but they haven't been trained. They haven't any technical knowledge. This retards the building even though the workers are in control of their own government.

Some industrial courses in our public schools were put there primarily to help make good efficient slaves, but such courses may also help to make efficient workmen under a new order if the right use is made of them.

We have much sympathy with the young boys and girls who are going to the schools to get the meat that is there, discarding the non-essential. They use the libraries and work-shops to get the maximum training that there is in them. They are getting technical training. Under a new system they will be the substantial corner stones. They will make the revolution a real success.

RUSSIA FRANKLY BACKS THE TURKS.

From the sessions at Lausanne which were planned to be secret all sorts of information seeps forth. How accurate the statements are we do not know.

We think it is probably true that Russia's frank admission of standing back of the Turk is worrying the Allies. At least the assertions, that have been made recently by the capitalist press, of a rift between Russia and Turkey and a tendency for certain Kemalist leaders to court British friendship are made no more. George Tchitcherine speaking for the Russians has formally asked that the Turkish straits be closed to all foreign warships, and that they be open to all merchant commerce. Of course this does not please the allies who want their warships there. If this were permitted then the Dardanelles might be neutral in name but would in reality be controlled by the strongest maritime power.

Tchitcherine argues that Russia and her allied republics have no aggressive, bellicose or militaristic designs against the liberty of other peoples; therefore, they are in an advantageous position to watch over the interests of the working masses and to contribute to the world's economic development.

Naturally the delegates present from the Allied countries are doing their best to baffle the issue. Lord Curzon's statement that Ismet Pasha was not showing respect at the conference by refusing to outline Turkey's position in detail, is an example. It will mean more skirmishing for the Allies to line up new schemes to obtain their goal, oil. But it is not going to be as easy as they thought.

AT WHICH DO YOU LAUGH?

The tales about the "nationalization of women" in Russia are now as discredited as the tales about witchcraft, but there is still a tendency on the part of some to laugh at the ease with which Russians may become married or divorced. Some smiled when Roy Anderson, an American business man, returned from Russia and said: "In Russia if Sophie and Michael like each other and think they can live happily together, they both go before the local registrar and so announce to him. They sign a paper to that effect and start on the venture. If after two or three months they find that they have made a mistake, they return to him and so state. Another paper is signed and away they go."

How do Sophie and Michael do it here in America? If they are rich enough to pay for the transportation from one state to another they may have their choice of 48 varieties of marriage. They may be sacredly married in one state and find that they are bigamists in another. Or they may not be married at all and can thus continue to be married and unmarried without the aid of any official as they journey along.

If Sophie is fourteen and Michael sixteen they may be legally married in N. Carolina and return to their home on the boundary between North and South Carolina. As long as they stay in their home they are sacredly married. The moment they cross the road and enter his parent's home in South Carolina they become social outcasts because they are no longer married. The law in South Carolina says Michael cannot marry until he is eighteen. The baby arrives in the course of a year and is a perfectly respectable baby in their home but the moment it arrives at grandmother's house across the road it becomes an illegitimate child, the innocent cause of whispers and sneers. If Sophie and Michael should come to the conclusion that they had made a mistake in choosing each other they would not be able to obtain a divorce in South Carolina on any ground but in North Carolina on two grounds and a mile or two farther away in Kentucky they might get it on any one of eleven grounds.

At which country do you laugh, America or Russia? Which country seems nearer to having a system based on common sense and human needs?

Club women, such as the Professional and Business women and the League of Women Voters have been showing up our marriage and divorce mess by getting figures to back their statements. Here are some of them: "Out of 12,384 marriages that took place with girls of fifteen, 499 divorces resulted. Out of 41,626 marriages which took place with girls of sixteen, 1,268 divorces resulted. Out of 90,930 marriages which took place with girls of seventeen, 2,792 divorces resulted. New Hampshire permits divorce on fourteen grounds, Kentucky on eleven grounds, Connecticut on nine, North Carolina on two, New York on one, and South Carolina on none."

"In Kentucky and Louisiana the marriageable ages fixed by law are twelve for girls and fourteen for boys; New Hampshire, thirteen and fourteen; Kansas, twelve and fifteen; in North Carolina, Iowa, Utah, and Texas, fourteen and sixteen. The majority of states have eighteen and twenty-one, but seventeen states fix no marriageable age at all."

In this connection it is interesting to quote what Judge Ben Lindsey of the Denver court of domestic relations said recently at Mitchell, S. Dakota. He said: "When we compare the startling record of one divorce in three marriages of the present day to one in ten of ten years ago, the writing on the wall can be easily read. It simply means that a new standard of relations must come."

HOW TO GET A GOOD BOOK AND A GOOD PAPER.

Read "What the Elephant Said" and you will decide that your boy or girl shall have all of Mary Marcy's *Jungle Tales* about tree people and growing cold and how cave men learned to milk goats and how Big Nose first found potatoes and other tales equally fascinating and each telling a part of the wonderful story of organic or of social evolution.

If you wish to possess this book send \$2.00 to Kerr & Co., Chicago, or you may send us \$2.00. If you order through us we will RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO TRUTH FREE FOR SIX MONTHS or we will send TRUTH FREE TO A NEW SUBSCRIBER FOR SIX MONTHS. As TRUTH is regularly \$1.00 for six months, you can save a dollar by ordering from us.

The tales are beautifully illustrated with woodcuts by Wharton H. Eschrick. Hence you are getting the work of two talented people and are not only educating your child but you are making a valuable addition to your library.

DISAGREED WITH THE EDITOR.

Says the Editor: "Once we mourned because Debs warned the Russians to spare the counter-revolutionists. I seemed as if this old warrior had joined the motley group who fight and hinder Russia."

The writer of this letter is as old in the war as Debs though not nearly so active and powerful, yet I have the same view on the Russian situation as Debs did and I disliked very much the criticism by "TRUTH" over his pleading for mercy for the convicted rebels. Because the Social-democrats were not as has been said Czarists and in accord with the groups of General Wrangel and others but first cousins, so to speak, of the Communists. While they had a different program they had a right to fight for it as much as we have a right to fight our enemy the best way we know how and in such a way as condition dictates at the time of war.

Now why should the loser be executed? Because they plotted and conspired against the life of those in power, is, of course the answer. If this theory is sound and fundamental then it is correct and just that the political prisoners, Debs included, should stay in prison, because they, and we, are plotting and conspiring for the political life of our political opponent and are against their industrial and political methods of doing business.

But in this country we call this cheap revenge, smallness of a bowery inhabitant, and below the dignity of statesmanship unbecoming men of large vision and foresight if not hindsight.

We like a fighting and even a revengeful spirit in the underling, we like his coming-back spirit but never did the smallness of President Wilson show itself more despicably than when he wrote across the petition for Debs' release the word, "Refused."

It was when Lincoln shook hands with his antagonist, his enemy of four long years of war and told him to "go home and help the folks" that his bigness and chivalry outshone the mid-day sun. It is the men in an exalted position who can win by being considerate and lose by being revengeful. Debs is a big man.

Signed, TOM LEE.

Editor's note:—In justice to ourself we must state that we were glad when their lives were spared. We hope we are not vengeful. We have much confidence in the Russian Communists and we were willing to trust them to do what was expedient and just under the circumstances.

A BIT OF INTERESTING GEOGRAPHY.

One of the latest official maps of Soviet Russia brought over by Captain Paxton Hibbon of the American Committee for the Relief of Russian Children, was published in the Nov. 25th issue of the Literary Digest.

According to this map the list of the fifty-five Russian provinces in Soviet Russia, Europe, are nearly all familiar names to the student of Russia. With a few exceptions, they can be found on the old maps. The independent republics are White Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia.

There are also sixteen autonomous areas or republics as follows:

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|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Zyrian. | 9. Crimea Republic. |
| 2. Votjak. | 10. Daghestan Republic. |
| 3. Mari (Cherniss). | 11. Mountain Republic. |
| 4. Chuvash. | 12. Kabarda. |
| 5. Kalmyk. | 13. Karatchaev. |
| 6. Tartar Republic. | 14. Abkhazia. |
| 7. Bashkir Republic. | 15. Adygai. |
| 8. Kirgiz Republic. | 16. Ajara. |

In Soviet Russia, Asia the following are given: Kirgiz, Turkestan, Autonomous Republics, Part of Russian Socialist Federated Soviet Republic. Khiva, Independent Soviet Republic. Bokhara, Independent Soviet Republic. Far Eastern Republic. Siberia, Soviet Republic.

Yakutsk, Buryat, Oyarat, Autonomous Regions. The anti-Soviet writers claim that the government at Moscow "binds the independent republics and the autonomous areas so closely to it that their ministers are really only the provincial officials of the central government at Moscow." But the Constitution of the Russian Socialist Federated Soviet Republic, dated July 10, 1918, declares in Article XI that the Russian Soviet Republic is "founded on the basis of the free alliance of free nations as a federation of the National Soviet Republic." Article VIII of the Constitution says: "The central power confines itself to laying the basic principles of the federation of the Soviet Republics of Russia. The workmen and peasants of each nation have the right to decide for themselves at their own congress of soviets, whether they desire, and under what form, to participate in the federal government and in other federal institutions."

A STINGING TELEGRAM

Kate Crane Gartz, a wealthy radical Pasadena, California, has sent a stinging telegram to President Harding blaming him for the death of Ricardo Flores Magon, a political confined in Leavenworth penitentiary.

The telegram reads: "I weep for my country that has seen fit to let a man like Ricardo Magon die in prison. Five years of his life snatched away from his precious family here in Los Angeles and all because his whole life was spent in fighting for human freedom. You may call it treason. It is treason to the capitalist system, perhaps, but it is loyalty to the welfare of mankind. Again and again we appealed to you in vain and now you will not even pay his burial expenses, but leave him to charity. His family should be subsidized by the state which brought catastrophe to their lives."

"More power to martyrs such as he whose name will live while the names of those who tortured him are already dead."

WHITE COLLAR SLAVES.

The portrait of the economic organization of society would not be complete without describing a class of beings who play nearly as melancholy a role as the industrial slaves of the great city. These are the cultivated men who have to support themselves by intellectual labor. In this branch of labor the supply exceeds the demand to a frightful degree. Those unfortunates, whose efforts secure a public or private situation in teaching, in arts, literature, medicine, civil engineering, etc. are capable of appreciating their wretchedness in a greater degree, due to their intellectual development. Their intercourse with the more prosperous keeps the picture of wealth constantly before them. Social prejudice require them to get a living in a way which lays far greater burdens on their shoulders than those borne by the day laborer. The unsuccessful among them are despised by the wealthy who call them failures. But these failures are the intrepid vanguard of the army that is besieging the proud fortress of society, and that sooner or later will raze it to the ground.—From *Conventional Lies of Our Civilization* by Max Nordin.

HAS MONEY POWER?

By Henry Sara.

It is a commonplace thing to say that money has power, but like many commonplace things it is untrue. The real power lies in the mastership of outlook on the part of a few. They say that they will be gods and they are gods. Gods exist because there are worshippers. No worshippers, no gods. No slaves, no masters. But if the slaves repeat a shibboleth, that outside of themselves there is a power greater than themselves, a power which compels their slavery, then they have no hope, they are doomed to know only toil, they will grovel but they will not grow. Money has no power but what the worker gives it in his mind. Money can command no recognition but what the worker gives it himself.

Money has power today because the few conserve their interests through the ignorance of the many, who in reality are extremely superstitious. The mob believes in magic. It believes in weird signs and omens. It is ever ready to see in a self boomed wizard its saviour. The day of touchstones is not passed, it has but changed its form. Once upon a time people said that certain old women were evil, they were called witches. A black cat was lucky. Or else an old horse shoe. Always it would seem has the mo' seen good or evil influence outside of itself. And so the truism goes round; the "Power of Money!"

Seemingly it works! That's just the trouble. All wonder-working charms are deemed essentially practical—by the faithful. You stuff your pockets with a few notes bearing a number of figures which denote that they are good currency. You have money. How do you get it? Ah! That is the real mystery, but that must be gone into later, at the moment the money is safely stuffed into your pocket.

You can call a cab. He'll come to you, you can whistle him, he won't mind. He'll take you anywhere for money. It may be late at night, you have a night bird with you, but he won't mind. You can use his cab—for money. She, yes, you can use her body—for money. She'll smile at you—for money. People will give you drink, food, music, any kind of entertainment—for money. You want to set up a business? You can get brains—for money. Yes, you can always buy brains, ask any business man. Where would the business man be if he couldn't? Brains will come. It will devise anything that you want—for money. The law is on your side—for money. The law is against you—for money. The church will pray for your soul—for money. The church will prey on your soul—for money. The stock broker will put you on good investments—for money. The tipster will give you certain winners—for money. The journalist will doctor your news for you (give you what is fit to print)—for money. The medical man will keep you well (usually ill)—for money. The artist will paint you—for money. The poet verse you—for money.

Truly! Cash! Thou art a wonderful God—or Devil. Tell us thy secret.

And the notes rustled: "I have no power. It is the blind servitude of the ignorant workman to a cunning master that makes me useful. When the workman throws off his master's Law, Religion, Education, News, and Amusements, ceases to humble himself for coppers and inherits the world, he will know me not; but just as long as he repeats 'Money has Power' will he confess his own weakness; bind and enslave himself by paying tribute to my strength."

FROM THE FREEMAN

Men and brethren, if ever you were inclined to fear that the *Freeman* does not take politics seriously enough and is not sufficiently respectful to "the great movements of the day," or that it fools away too much time on literature and the arts, just look about you—just give one look at things as they now are! In Washington, Robert La Follette, leading spirit in the "little group of wilful men," four years ago reviled and cursed as traitor, seditionist, pro-German, almost ousted from his seat in the Senate—this man now holds the balance of power in the upper House, and nothing can be done without first "seeing" him, and seeing him mighty respectfully and punctiliously, too. In England, Lloyd George, the saviour of the Empire, is down and out, and none so poor to do him reverence. The leader of his Majesty's loyal Opposition is Ramsay MacDonald, ex-traitor and pacifist. D. Morel, ex-traitor and jail-bird, defeats the idol of the militarists, Winston Churchill, in the late elections, goes to Parliament in triumph, makes his first speech, and even the New York papers report it. The dean of European Premiers—think of it, ye gods!—is Vladimir Ilitch erst-while monster of blood and rapine. So we might go on to a tedious length, but we forbear. Come, then, men and brethren, and let us reason together—let us look ourselves over, get the measure of our little passions and prejudices, see how highly diverting a spectacle we present, and then let us repair to the ruined altar of Laughter, erect its stones anew, and offer a votive sacrifice.

THE ELEPHANT SAID—

From JUNGLE RHYMES by Mary Marcy.

The elephant said: "I'm not afraid,
I'm not afraid; I'm not afraid!
"I own the forests, pools and glade,
"I wander where I will.
"The other beasts all run away;
"All run away; all run away;
"They never stop to say 'Good day'.
"And I may eat my fill."

The tiger said: "My fangs are long,
"My fangs are long; my fangs are long!
"My claws are very sharp and strong,
"And I shall always reign.
"The herds of deer are only mine,
"Are only mine; are only mine;
"The cubs and whelps and calves and swine,
"For this is my domain."

The lion said: "I am the King,
"I am the King; I am the King!
"I'll never run from anything,
"That learns to climb or leap.
"The tiger will not bother me,
"Not bother me; Not bother me;
"I'll make him climb a banyan tree,
"Where all the monkeys sleep."

A cave boy he was very small;
Was very small, was very small;
He could not fight the beasts at all,
And so he built a fire;
The elephant fled away in fear,
The tiger left a stricken deer,
The lion said: "This menace near
"Is not of my desire!"

And so the boy was safe at last,
Was safe at last, was safe at last;
He built a fire big and fast,
The woods were filled with smoke.
He made a torch as best he could,
As best he could, as best he could,
And marched in triumph through the wood,
To show the tribal folk.