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MICH. FED. OF LABOR ASKS REPEAL OF SYNDICALISM LAW

This Vicious Class Legislation Is Used by Corporations to Fight Not Only Communists But All Labor

JACKSON, Mich.—"The Michigan Federation of Labor does not subscribe to the principles of communists, nor does it maintain any relations with the Workers' party, but it does insist that the rights guaranteed under the constitution by state and nation protecting citizens in their right to meet, talk and print, shall extend to all persons without discrimination because of their unpopular industrial or political theories," declares a report by a committee of the Michigan State Federation of Labor on the criminal syndicalism law and its application to the red raid of Aug. 21, 1922.

The report was prepared at the request of Pres. Albert Saeffer and approved by the federation. It recalls that the federation has repeatedly demanded the repeal of the criminal syndicalism law of Michigan as class legislation against labor of the most vicious type.

As an example of how the act could be used to visit severe punishment on excited strikers while exempting company gunmen from its provisions, the report states:

"It would be comparatively easy during the course of a strike for some overzealous and prejudiced law enforcing official to charge strikers arrested for assault and battery with violation of the criminal syndicalism act, under the provisions of committing or attempting to commit crime, violence, sabotage or other unlawful methods of terrorism to accomplish political or industrial reforms. That the act has not yet been so used is no guarantee that it may not be so employed in the future.

"Thus the act could be used to magnify an ordinary case of assault and battery punishable by a nominal fine or imprisonment into a felony punishable by ten years of imprisonment or \$5000 fine or both. Even if the imprisonment is not imposed, the fine could be used as a handy means to deplete the treasury of an organization.

"The danger and the unfairness of the act against laboring men and women of the state can best be illustrated by another example. If during the course of a strike, some strikebreakers or gunmen, often times employed by corporations during strikes, should assault and even seriously injure some of the strikers, they would not be exposed to the danger of being convicted under the criminal syndicalism act, because their crime, violence or sabotage would not be for accomplishing industrial or political reform but on the contrary to prevent it."

The report which is signed by Eugene Brock, Detroit, concludes with the recommendation that "every effort should be made to repeal this stupid, vicious, un-American piece of class legislation. Our criminal statutes are amply adequate to take care of any contingency that may arise, where violence or crime occurs, and for the abuse of the spoken and written word, we have the penalties for libel and slander."

NO HOPE IN CAPITALISM

DEBS PLEADS FOR INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM TO HELP REPLACE PRODUCTION FOR PROFIT BY PRODUCTION FOR SERVICE.

CHICAGO, Ill.—"Everything has changed since your grandfather's time, except his grandson," said Eugene V. Debs, speaking here in the Socialist municipal campaign. "Your grandfather has been a long time dead, and you are too, if you go on voting the old party tickets, merely because your grandfather did."

"The most melancholy fact in all creation is the labor market. The time was when poverty was excusable. Now there is no physical reason for its existence. Nothing is so easily produced today as wealth. Everyone should have the right to work and to produce the necessities and comforts of life. There is in fact but one issue today. Social production versus production for private profit.

"Some of you are in the habit of saying that the capitalist pays you wages. Rather you pay the capitalist the greater part of what you produce. Without you, the capitalist would starve and every parasite would perish. The present system exists because you allow it to, and rest assured it will never be changed by those who profit by it. There is no hope of betterment in the capitalist system."

In the course of his address, Debs made an eloquent attack on war. "Six weeks before war was declared, Wilson thought as I did," he said. "He changed. I did not, and I went to Atlanta. I have not enjoyed one moment of my liberty since my release, when I think of the political prisoners behind the bars. I am thinking especially of the 50 prisoners who are members of the I. W. W., the most persecuted group in the country. The Socialist party will also stand by the defendants in the Michigan syndicalist trials."

INSANE STOOL HAS BRAIN STORM

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—W. E. Townsend, professional anti-radical witness, seems to be getting ready to go back to one of the insane asylums that have harbored him before.

Judge Permits Bunk to Pass. At the current trial of criminal

Tallentire Comes To Duluth & Superior

Norman H. Tallentire, one of the victims of the Bridgman, Mich. raids, speaks at Workers' Hall, Superior, Wis., Corner 5th & Tower on Monday, March 5th, 8:00 P. M. and in Duluth Workers' Hall, 19th Ave. W & 1st St. on Tuesday evening, March 6th. There will be no admission charged, at either meeting.

Prior to his arrest in Michigan Tallentire has already become well-known in the labor movement through the extensive work he did in the Tom Mooney defense committee. Tallentire was one of the San Francisco workers who dropped everything in order to tour the country to arouse the labor movement in behalf of the Tom Mooney defense. During the Mooney agitation Tallentire became exceedingly well-known to the governmental authorities because of the outspoken message he brought to the American workers in regard to the Mooney case. In whatever town Tallentire worked for the Mooney defense, there were few workers who did not know of the real reasons why the labor haters had determined to send Mooney to the gallows. It is very likely because of this that the authorities in Michigan are so anxious to put Tallentire out of the way.

Since he participated in the Mooney campaign, Tallentire had been very active in Russian Famine Relief and toured practically the entire country to speak to large and enthusiastic audiences. His coming to this city is eagerly awaited by those workers who realize that the campaign to put 22 militant trade unionists in the Michigan jails is part and parcel of the nationwide attacks on the labor movement.

syndicalism prisoners here, he produced a wild brain-storm about an "inner-circle" in the I. W. W. of 500 members who were organized to blow up public buildings and assassinate judges who were trying criminal syndicalism cases. The judge let Townsend get away with this nonsense, and he may succeed in sending 22 men to jail for 14 years on account of such ravings.

EUROPE FACES DISASTER

NOTED QUAKERESS, RETURNING FROM FRAGUE, SAYS AMERICA WILL ALSO BE ENGULFED.

PHILADELPHIA.—Blind hatred is animating France in her invasion of the Ruhr. Europe is collapsing in disaster and America may also be engulfed.

These are the convictions brought back from Europe by Lucy Biddle Lewis of the Society of Friends where she attended the Hague conference of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom presided over by Jane Addams. "It is a black tale," said Mrs. Lewis, "but I talked to a number of men and women in Europe and the facts are generally recognized. Everywhere in Europe the results of the world war are working disaster and sooner or later America will surely be engulfed in the general ruin if Europe falls into chaos."

"Not only has France invaded the Ruhr, but she is using her influence to force Poland to attack Germany on the east. Poland realizes the seriousness of such a step, but France finances the Polish army and largely officers it. Now she demands this return. Russia is ready to come to Germany's aid, and the Poles know only too well what this means. They have had enough of fighting and their distracted country needs peace and settlement, but it will be difficult to refuse France's demand."

"At the close of the war the new German republic had little bitterness toward France, and many of the people were ready to be friends and to pay reasonable reparations for the devastations they acknowledged they had committed. It seemed possible the feud of centuries might be healed. Unfortunately France took the other way, determining to ruin her adversary rather than try to make a friend. By the impossible provisions of the Versailles treaty, the spirit in which they have been enforced so far as possible, and the terrible conditions under the army of occupation, a widespread spirit of hatred has been engendered amongst all classes in Germany, and revenge is likely to be the cry in the future."

"Meanwhile the Turk awaits results, postponing any settlement at Lausanne; the Balkans are a seething cauldron of hatred, strife, jealousy, ambition; and Islam grimly, eagerly, watches as the Christian nations kill each other and destroy their vaunted civilization."

RUHR COAL BARONS RESIST FRENCH STEEL PRINCES

WORKERS LOSE IF EITHER GROUP OF INDUSTRIAL OVERLORDS SUCCEEDS

By LOUIS P. LOCHNER
(European Director, The Federated Press)

ESSEN, Germany.—I have just completed a journey of investigation which took me through the principal cities of the Ruhr valley and the adjacent occupied Rhineland—Dortmund, Essen, Bochum, Muelheim, Duisburg, Ruhrort, Duesseldorf. Most of this distance was covered on overcrowded, dinky little tramways, amid endless delays caused by the unexpected congestion of traffic. The fact that the railwaymen in most of these towns are on strike leaves one no other alternative save that of traveling by automobile, as do most of the capitalistic newspaper correspondents here, or by street car, which latter method offers the opportunity of mixing with the native population and learning to know how the man of the street feels.

The issue here, stripped of all essentials, is: Stinnes versus the Comité des Forges; the coal barons of Germany versus the steel princes of France. The governments of France and of Germany are but the marionettes of these two gigantic economic powers. Nationalism, patriotism, racial hatred, coercion on the one hand and stubborn disobedience on the other are merely so many tools in the hands of the industrial overlords who are fighting a bitter feud as to which of the two groups should control.

Whichever way the outcome, the rank and file of German labor will be the loser, unless the workers start a new revolution and this time really master their own economic destiny.

To understand the conflict in the Ruhr, one must recall what happened toward the close of 1922. Last November Stinnes and the French Comité des Forges got together to size each other up and to

see in what way they could come to terms. The French possess the iron—the Germans the coal.

The French, according to the Rheinisch-Westphaelische Zeitung, an organ of big industry, offered a 60-40 arrangement, according to which the French iron and steel industry and the German coal and coke industry were to do business jointly, with the French group exercising a 60% control and the Germans having only 40%.

Hugo Stinnes balked. The coalition cabinet headed by Wirth was got rid of. A business man was put into the chancellor's place—Wilhelm Cuno, captain of industry. The industrialists could face their French adversaries with the knowledge that the government and the entire non-working class population of Germany were behind them.

To the present moment it has not been cleared up whether the failure to make certain deliveries stipulated by the treaty of Versailles to the French was intentional or not.

It seems reasonable to suppose that the German industrial barons were glad to have nationalism as a means of exerting pressure upon the French. And the French industrial leaders were equally glad to furnish Poincaré with the pretext for attempting to put over the dream of his life—the permanent annexation of the Ruhr valley.

Meanwhile, according to the Manchester Guardian's special correspondent, Stinnes is already busy behind the scenes to propose a new basis of compromise between the two conflicting groups. The white-hot excitement of the plain folk of the Ruhr, the total dislocation of transportation and the inability of the French to put it back in shape, the hatred fostered by the nationalistic press—all this is good material in Stinnes' hands to exert pressure upon the French.

French Girls Divorce Amer. Husbands Easily

By PAUL HANNA
(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON.—If you are a French girl who married an American soldier during the days of war and exaltation, this will interest you. You can go back to France and get a divorce for the mere asking.

That is a decision handed down by the civil court of Brest, the French city where so many Americans got their first sight of Europe. Moderately interpreted, the decision means that the "allied and associated powers" are no longer associated or in alliance, and the French birth rate needs to be increased.

There are some 2,000 French girls, it appears, who have been deserted in France by Yankee soldiers and sailors to whom they were joined in marriage during the great adventure. One of them bore the first names of Emilie Sophie, and the sailor she married was Jeff Pritchard.

Where Jeff is at present the French court does not pretend to know, but to Emilie Sophie the court says: "The law which says you can't sue in a French court because you ceased to be a French woman when you married is all wrong. You have brought suit in this court and the court grants your petition for a divorce. If you see any of the other 1,000 deserted wives of American soldiers just let them know that they can sue in French courts if they wish to."

Moreover, says the report, if the French girls who went back to the United States "are dissatisfied with their environment, with prohibition or with anything else" they can go back home and get legal absolution for their mistakes and be given a fresh start in life."

A just decision, truly. When governments repent they should allow their citizens to do the same. It required years of hectic agitation and many ponderous debates in our

Pie Card Artist Resigns

RECEIVED \$10,000 FROM GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR EDUCATING LABOR.

SAN FRANCISCO.—A sensation was caused in labor circles this afternoon when a telegram was received from P. H. McCarthy, former mayor, for years head of the Building Trades council, resigning his post of general adviser to the council.

McCarthy has been requested to appear before the building trades council to explain his acceptance of a \$10,000 fee from the Pacific Gas and Electric company to fight the water and power act on the November ballot. The former labor leader was in Washington and wired his resignation from there.

Industrial Unionism Is a Live Issue

MONTREAL.—Industrial unionism has been made a live issue in the Trades and Labor Council of this city. A resolution, introduced by the Machinists' union, proposed to commit the council to a declaration that all unions should be federated by industries. This proposal, involving a departure from the dominant craft unionism of the council, was defeated by a motion to refer the matter to the executive.

Last month the shop craft workers of this city decided to circulate all the railway unions in Canada with a view to holding a convention to discuss the amalgamation of the sixteen standard railroad unions. The proposal is the Minnesota plan.

congress before American girls were allowed (a few months ago) to marry foreigners without losing their citizenship. The world war and its accumulating dregs have brought the same right to French women without benefit of legislation.

Union Man Elected After Mob's Violence

Evidently the conduct of the Harrison mob has not made a great hit with the voters of Arkansas. At an election held in Pine Bluff on January 30, W. L. Toney was nominated for mayor over P. M. Kilroy by a majority of 4 to 1.

Toney was endorsed by organized labor, while Kilroy was recognized as the representative of the St. L. S. W. Railroad. He had the backing of the local Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, Ad Club and other civic bodies. Despite this powerful support he made an exceedingly poor showing.

Foster First to Face Trial in Michigan

CHICAGO.—The national office of the Labor Defence Council here announces that William Z. Foster, secretary, Trade Union Educational League, and editor of its official organ, "The Labor Herald", will be the first of the victims of the Michigan Raid to be put on trial. It bases this announcement on reports received from Michigan.

The trial of Foster is scheduled to start at St. Joseph, Michigan, Monday, March 5, postponed from Feb. 26, before Circuit Judge Charles E. White, Frank P. Walsh, the famous labor defender, will be the chief counsel for the defense. He will be assisted by Humphrey S. Gray, a prominent Benton Harbor, Mich., attorney, Counsel for the prosecution will include Charles W. Goff, Prosecuting Attorney for Berrien County; Assistant Attorney General O. L. Smith, of Michigan, and Max Bengier, until recently an agent for the department of justice in Chicago, who has now been announced as associate counsel for the State.

Foster is perhaps the best known progressive trade unionist in the United States and has an international reputation for his constructive trade union program and

NICOLA SACCO IS ON HUNGER STRIKE

By KARL PRETSHOLD
(For The Federated Press)

BOSTON.—Declaring that he despaired of justice in the Massachusetts courts, Nicola Sacco has gone on hunger strike in the Dedham county jail, the Sacco-Vanzetti defense committee announces. The hunger strike began Feb. 15 and will be continued, Sacco says, until he is released from prison dead or alive.

Convicted in 1921 with Bartolomeo Vanzetti of a payroll holdup and murder, Sacco has found it impossible to endure the long delays of the law in waiting for Judge Webster Thayer to pass on motions for a new trial.

Perjury confessions by important witnesses for the prosecution and additional evidence have convinced most investigators into the case that the two radical Italian-Americans were victimized by the authorities and a crime committed by gunmen fastened on them to stop their organizing activity among the foreign born workers of New England.

"I am innocent of the murder charged against me," declared Sacco after going several days without food in any form. "It is now 34 months that I am in prison for a crime which I did not commit. I refuse to permit my imprisonment to continue without protesting. My friends have tried to dissuade me from so extreme a stand but I think it is the only way."

"My refusal to eat is a protest against the inability of workers in America to secure justice in American courts. Look at Mooney. There is not a thinking person in America who believes he is guilty. Yet he is in prison and will spend the rest of his life there."

for his established success as a labor organizer.

The Labor Defense Council, 166 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill., the organization formed to defend Foster and his associates depends upon the labor movement for financial support. To enable it to carry on a successful defense, trade unions and individual workers are urged to support this campaign generously. Funds should be addressed to the above address.



THE SITUATION IN ITALY

By EDMONTO PELUSO (Rome).
(Inter. Press.)

The solemn entry of the victor into the city of the Caesars, escorted by the great Fascist army, the ovations of the bourgeoisie, the approval of the king—all this but a few weeks ago, aroused the belief, that Mussolini's reign would be a fairly long one.

But despite all this, it has sufficed to watch him at his work for barely two months, and closely to observe his first actions as head of the government, to arrive at the conclusion that the dictatorship of the Fascist chief will not die of old age.

The great masses who helped Fascism to power, because they hoped to find in it a new Messiah for their salvation, began to disintegrate immediately after the first days of the Fascist ministry. For the economic basis of this party is completely lacking in firmness and stability, and Mussolini is quite unable to pursue a policy calculated to even half satisfy all the heterogeneous elements which have gathered around him outside the great masses of the proletariat.

The hour has come for him to redeem his promises. Mussolini's follower's, greedy for booty and profits, are pressing around him and demanding their reward for having changed their creed. Thus the first experience of the dictator is the deep disappointment of the band of adventurers and career hunters. According to Mussolini's announcement, he appointed to governmental posts, that is, as accomplices in his policy, generals and men possessing the "required elasticity" of movement for these "delicate" and confidential functions (governmental and police presidents). In this manner not only have the liberals and democrats of yesterday been swept out of the way with one blow, but also the nationalists, the brothers-in-arms of the Fascist, and these now feel themselves to be treated as patriots of an inferior quality, if not actually as suspicious characters. Their motto: "The king and the nation," has gone out of fashion, for in the eyes of the ex-revolutionary there is but one motto which has any value to validity today: "For Mussolini, God, and fatherland."

Germs of Disintegration in Fascist.

All who do not fully share this view are suspicious characters. This "Legion of the Bold," by which a is the reason why so many organizations have been dissolved; among them d'Annunzio's organization, the strong band of fiery and belligerent youth has been driven into the ranks of the opposition. The dictator has wrested the weapons from their hands, but he cannot disarm their spirit.

The germs of disintegration, long present but still latent, have now penetrated openly into the ranks of the great Fascist army. In Ferrara, Rome, and other places, the Condottiere are fighting briskly against

the Fascist bands for the maintenance of their dominance in their sphere of activity.

Discontent Increasing.

One of the first official acts of the dictator was to dismiss numerous officials, and to replace these by tools of his own. By this he has considerably increased the number of discontented in the ministerial and administrative bodies. And instead of improving their material position, he has on the contrary, done away with the special remuneration for overtime work, and has further burdened these and all other workers by a wage tax.

Since 1870 the schools of Italy have been secular. But Mussolini has recently proclaimed that the secular teaching of the schools is to be done away with, and religious instruction reintroduced. According to Mussolini "Religious instruction will form in future the main foundation of the public educational system, and will effect the whole work of restoring the 'Italian morale.'" The irony of fate wills it that this religious reformation is to be the work of the one-time school-master and arch-Jacobin Mussolini. But the anti-religious and freemasonic strata are still fairly powerful in Italy, so that this decision of the Fascist government may only have the effect to bringing to a head the dull hate of Italian freemasonry for the dictator. There are a large number of leading commanders in the Fascist ranks, as for instance Italo Balbo of Bologna, who are at the same time high dignitaries among freemasons, and are by no means in agreement with Mussolini on this subject.

The annulment of the compulsory housing measures, in force since the war, has been announced by the new ministry to take place within a short time, and this has brought about a certain feeling of panic among the petty bourgeois circles who chose Mussolini for their idol. For such a measure will plunge a great number of petty-bourgeois households into the greatest possible uncertainty and confusion through fear of notice to quit, of the troubles of house hunting, and especially of the inevitable rise in rents.

Compulsory Military Service Increased.

By increasing the term of compulsory active military service in Italy to 18 months, the Fascist government not only further ruins the state exchequer, already burdened to a deficit of 6 billion lire which the Fascist government had promised to cover, but it has also aroused the dissatisfaction of the great masses of Italian peasants, who form the main strength of the active standing army and are by no means pleased to make the government a present of long years of slavery.

The above is a fair outline of the whole of the positive work accomplished by the dictator since October.

RUSSIAN WORKERS GET SPECIAL PRIVILEGES

PAY ONLY ONE-TENTH OF RENT PAID BY CAPITALISTS. COURTS FAVOR THEM ALSO

By ANISE.

MOSCOW.—The 10th All-Russian congress of soviets, meeting in the sixth year of the Russian republic, marks a return to normalcy. The congress is meeting only once a year now, instead of every few months. The political upheaval which made frequent meetings necessary no longer exists.

It must not for a moment be imagined that the return to normalcy is a return to the common state of a capitalist country. On the surface, life goes on much as in other countries, except that the vast majority of industrial enterprises are in the hands of the state. One million workers are employed in state industries, whereas all the private industries taken together employ about 80,000 workers, and of these about half are in co-operative establishments or semi-state trusts.

In trade about 90 per cent of the operations are private, 70 per cent by state or co-operative organs. Foreign trade is completely in the hands of the state, as in banking. All the land is state property, but about 95 per cent of it is at the disposal of the peasantry.

The Russian situation is essentially different from that in any other nation. The political power is firmly placed in the hands of the working class. There is no pretense that equality exists, either before the courts or in making contracts with the government or in paying house rents. A worker will pay one-tenth of the rent paid by a capitalist in the same house for the same kind of room; a worker will be let off in court for a misdemeanor while a bourgeois (whose superior educa-

tion should have taught him better) will be punished; a cooperative will get much better terms in the way of concessions than are granted to private individuals.

This is not democracy, and does not pretend to be. But this is the first time a society has begun its own destiny. That is the new thing in Russia; that is why this year, in spite of its surface capitalism, is more truly revolutionary than even the glowing moments of overturn and seizure of power.

28. It would be a waste of time to enumerate all the persecutions of the proletariat, all the restrictions of every description imposed on the press, on the right of holding meetings, etc., quite contrary to law and even to the constitution. It will suffice if we mention that only a few days ago, in Turin, a specially mobilized Fascist troop was able to slaughter ten proletarians in cold blood, in the open street, without the government taking any steps whatever to prevent it, as a reprisal for the death of two Fascisti killed in a tumult.

Royal Guard Replaced by Fascist Guard.

But the dictatorship against the workers can only be maintained if the bourgeoisie succeeds in maintaining unity in its own ranks. But the latest measure of the dictator, the dissolution of the Royal Guard and its substitution by a Fascist guard, seems to have struck a severe blow at the foundation of the military basis which constitutes his real power. As soon as the formation of a Fascist guard was announced, the Corriere della Sera, the organ of the educated Italian bourgeoisie, uttered the first cry of warning and clearly pointed out the dangers attendant on the formation of a guard for the special purposes of a single party, or rather of a single person: Mussolini.

The decree announcing the dissolution of the Royal Guard, and coming into force on January 1, has aroused the bitterest indignation among the 100,000 police officials who thus find themselves thrown unceremoniously into the street, for the most part entirely without means of support. This fact allows us to better comprehend the events which took place on December 31 and January 1, in almost all the large towns of Italy, but especially in Turin and Naples, where the Royal Guards, hitherto comrades-in-arms of the Fascist, killed and wounded a large number of them, burnt down the Fascist club houses, and marched through the main streets to the accompaniment of revolver and rifle fire, and of cries of "Down with Mussolini! Down with the Fascist!"

The government prohibited the newspapers from publishing any other than the official report of these occurrences. But the fact that it seeks to hide the truth is in itself sufficient proof of the importance of the movement, though the government asserts that it has successfully suppressed it. Even if we assume this to be correct, we may confidently believe that the government is only temporarily successful in suppressing one of the forces which it has chained against itself.

For it will be Mussolini's fate to fall by the hands of the forces which he will encounter in ever increasing numbers on his road of oppression. And the day is not far off.

For this is the first year of peaceful and uninterrupted construction on a new foundation.

RECALL BLOODY SUNDAY.

MOSCOW.—All Russia held holiday in honor of the fatal day of January 9 (according to the old calendar, but January 22 by the new) when the bloody massacre took place in front of the winter palace, and the Russian masses lost faith in the czar. It was the beginning of the 1905 revolution, and the real beginning of the present revolution.

A thousand workers were shot down in cold blood and 3,000 were left lying wounded in the great palace square 18 years ago, as a result of a peaceful procession to take a petition to the czar. The demonstration was the climax of two years of dissatisfaction of the workers of Russia.

They had just carried through a most unpopular war, the Russo-Japanese war, carried on by a few robber imperialists in the czar's retinue, and not popular even among the business interests of Russia, still less among the workers. The disaffection in the factories of Petrograd was very great. Unions were rapidly organized, and in their ranks were many members of the secret police as provocateurs.

A priest named Gapon took the lead. He claimed that the miseries of the people were unknown to the czar, who was good at heart and would listen. The populace surged forth with ikons and crosses and pictures of the czar to tell the Little Father their troubles. When they were massed in the great square, blocked in by great stone buildings, and with only a few narrow arches of exit—the machine-guns from the palace opened fire.

Gapon that night appeared at a meeting and pronounced anathema

Ohio Has "Open Shop" and Hungry Children

H. E. KEAS.

CLEVELAND, Ohio.—This state is the center of the "open shop" war. But the citadel of the "American Plan" is Cleveland, largest city in the state, with a population of 800,000, of whom 300,000 are either working in or are in some way connected with the iron industry.

And it is in the metal trades that the American Plan Association has most deeply imbedded its grip upon the lives of the workers, for in the thousands of plants and shops, large scale or smaller, the metal trades unions have little or no organization. These unions still adhere to the old craft fallacy of individual union autonomy, separate agreements (if possible to obtain at all), separate action by individual unions, or at the most a federation or alliance of crafts which is utterly unable to bring effective pressure to bear against one of the most highly organized combines in American industry. But the workers in the metal industry will learn what effective organization means. The lesson is being hammered into them. Regardless of the obstructions placed in their way by shortsighted or dishonest leaders, the amalgamation movement is having an ever-increasing influence over the rank and file in this industry. And once the lesson is fully learned the American Plan Association employers will have the merriest battle of their greedy lives before them—and eventual defeat.

Of course our dear American Plan employers do not "snatch bread from the mouths of workers!" They just hand them a nice, neat little wage cut of 12 1/2 percent like the Akron rubber workers got, as a result of which one-fourth of the school children of Ohio are suffering from malnutrition resulting in a dangerously increasing physical disability among them. (Figures based upon reports of federal health service.) In certain parts of the city of Cleveland, 142 out of every 1000 babies die before they are one year old. (Dr. R. J. Ochsner, Chief of Cleveland City Child Hygiene Bureau.) "American Plan." Bah! The aroused workers of this country will one day shove the insults of the "open shop" employers down their dirty throats!

BERGER IS FREED WITH FOUR MORE OF DRAFT CHARGE

CHICAGO, Feb. 26.—Charges of conspiracy to obstruct the recruiting and enlisting of military forces against Victor Berger, Milwaukee Socialist, and four other defendants convicted with him three years ago, were dismissed before Federal Judge James H. Wilkerson two weeks ago, it became known today.

Berger, with Adolph Germer, national secretary of the Socialist party; W. F. Kruse, national secretary of the Young People's Socialist party; Louis Engdahl, editor of the American Socialist, and Irwin St. John Tucker, Episcopal rector, were sentenced to 20 years imprisonment.

A new trial was ordered and Edwin A. Olson, district attorney, reviewed the evidence. He said he found that the government's case was weak because of matter ruled out by the circuit court of appeals. Because of this fact, Harry M. Daugherty, attorney general, agreed to dismiss the charges.

F. S. R. Now Only Organization Empowered to Send Packages to Russia Duty-free

The Friends of Soviet Russia is now the only American organization which is permitted to send packages to Russia duty-free. A cablegram just received from the representatives of the relief group in Europe conveys this information. Tentative arrangements for such a centralization has been made by the Soviet authorities a little earlier, but the F. S. R. waited with this announcement until definite word arrived.—F. S. R. Press.

on the head of the czar and freed the people from the pacifist oath they had taken, calling upon them to go forward with the struggle, but with arms. It is not known how far he was a revolutionist and how far a provocateur. But at the beginning of 1906 he was accused of provocation, tried by a secret revolutionary group and hanged in the presence of the man who became commandant of police of Petrograd, under Kerensky and is now holding a concession from the British government in Palestine.

Compulsory Arbitration Measure Pending

MASTER-CLASS TOOLS SEEK BETTER MEANS OF ENSLAVING WORKERS.

WASHINGTON.—H. R. 13522, the Mills bill, to provide for compulsory arbitration of labor disputes, is now pending in the House of Representatives, Congress of the United States. It is the most vicious piece of anti-labor legislation that has so far been attempted in Congress. Unless there is adequate and united action it will go over.

This bill is drawn to appeal to the uninformed average worker.

Compulsory arbitration is the biggest bunk and the biggest fake ever known. But there is one part of the world that knows that fact and knows it henceforward and forever.

No one will ever be able again to fool New Zealand with this little trick.

If New Zealand's experience were well known in this country nobody here would have the nerve to talk about compulsory arbitration.

About 25 years ago, following a big maritime strike, a neat little law was put over providing that all labor disputes thereafter were to be settled by a board of three arbitrators, one chosen by the labor unions, one by the employers' associations, and the third being a justice of the Supreme Court.

This meant, of course, arbitration by one man—the justice of the Supreme Court.

Fines were provided for employers or workers that refused to accept the awards of this tribunal; heavy fines.

For some time the awards were in favor of the men.

After a time the employers said that wages had gone as high as they could stand, and if there were any more increases manufacturing would quit the country.

The next award was against the men.

The men refused to accept it and went on strike.

The courts levied fines. The men refused to pay them. When executions were issued there was nothing to levy on but the family wash boiler, and that was exempt. So the strike went on and the award went glimmering.

The social doctors then said that the law wasn't strong enough. What was needed was a jail sentence and no exemptions on levies for fines. So the law was amended and made as strong as human ingenuity could make any law. Compulsory arbitration to the limit. Jail sentences and everything.

The next year there was an award in the coal mining industry that the men refused to accept. So down came the magnificent new law full tilt. Strikers were arrested and slung into jail. Levies were made on all they possessed—wash boilers and all.

Then the social doctors became aware of three things. First, putting men into jail didn't end the strike. Men can't mine coal in jail. Second, there weren't jails enough in all New Zealand to hold one-tenth of the strikers. Third, the levies on the wash boiler all crumpled up.

When the officers of the law had seized all the contents of a miner's home, and offered them for sale, the highest bid would be 25 cents. Whereupon the purchaser would move the goods back into the miner's house from which they had been taken.

After butting heads for a few weeks against this situation the social doctors learned, what they might have known from the beginning, that you can't make men work if they don't want to work, and that consequently compulsory arbitration is an idle dream. There isn't any such thing, and can't be. If it should be passed here it would deprive labor of the little it has gained.

Russia Backs Lithuania

SOVIET GOVERNMENT ASSURES KOVNO IT WILL SUPPORT LATTER'S CONTENTION AGAINST POLAND.

Paris, Feb. 27.—Russia entered the Lithuanian-Polish controversy over the neutral zone. The Soviet government assured the Kovno government that it would support the latter's sovereignty and its claims to the railway from Dwinsk to Vilna as "materially affecting Russia's interests." Paris is informed.

A new Jersey doctor died in his automobile and the machine kept running in a rut with his cold hand at the wheel. There's a parable in that. All ruts are more or less filled with dead issues running on momentum.

St. Patrick's Masquerade

Get Your Costume Ready for the Grand Party

SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 17th

A PRIZE WILL BE GIVEN FOR THE MOST ORIGINAL COSTUME.

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Admission: 50cts and 25 cts.

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DANCING BEGINS 9 O'CLOCK

Admission 15c and 35c. — Come Early.

Illinois Lawmakers Vote \$75,000 to Help Convict Herrin Miners

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—The Illinois house of representatives has concurred with the senate in granting Atty. Gen. Edward J. Brundage \$75,000 as an emergency appropriation for conducting the prosecutions of union miners in the Herrin riot cases. Brundage had previously been assisted in the criminal cases by the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, which raised \$50,000 to help the state win against the defense.

The house also examined Adj. Gen. Carlos E. Black, asking why militia had not been sent into Williamson county when the Herrin strip mine situation became serious last June. Black replied that troops were ready but that the local authorities had not asked for them.

Trades Group Plans Banquet for Shipstead

A banquet in honor of Dr. Henrik Shipstead of Minneapolis, Minnesota senator-elect, will be given Thursday, March 1, in the Owls' hall, 418 East Superior street, by the Duluth Trades Assembly. Entertainment features include singing by the Lormanna chorus and arrangements are being made to engage an orchestra. A buffet luncheon will be served.

Something for 100% Americans to Ponder

MINNEAPOLIS.—"Abraham Lincoln died a martyr at the hand of an assassin who thought himself a patriotic 100% American," Henrik Shipstead, Farmer-Labor U. S. Senator-elect, said at a Lincoln dinner.

MPLS. ARMORY MAY BE CLOSED

MINNEAPOLIS.—Closing of the local Minnesota national guard armory and disbanding of the Minneapolis units of the state militia is likely to result from the refusal of labor and Socialist members of the

BOOKS! BOOKS!

"Rhymes of Early Jungle Folk," by Mary Marcy. Illustrated with 71 wood cuts, fine for children \$2.00
Prison Poems, by Ralph Chaplin. Price \$1.00

Red Labor International, Resolutions and decisions of the First International Congress of Revolutionary Trade and Industrial Unions \$0.15

The Revolutionary Crises of 1918-1921 in Germany, England, Italy and France, by Wm. Z. Foster. Price \$0.25

War of the Classes, by Jack London. This book has been reduced from \$1.00 in order to cut down the stock \$0.50

A. B. C's of Communism, by N. Bucharin. Price \$0.50

Imperial Washington, by R. F. Pettigrew \$1.25

"Kuzbas", a pamphlet about an opportunity for engineers and workers in Russia \$0.10

An Introduction to Sociology, by Arthur M. Lewis \$1.00

Communist Manifesto, by Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, \$0.10

Communism and Christianity, by Bishop William Brown D.D. \$0.25

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NOTICE!

Duluth Scand. Local meets every Tuesday Night at Workers Hall, Cor. 19th Ave. W. & 1st St. —New Members welcome!!

city council to vote a \$4000 appropriation for the upkeep of the building.

Without this appropriation by the city the state refuses to allow an additional \$4000 and, unless the amount can be raised by means of rentals for dances, meetings, prize fights, etc., the building will be closed, members of the building commission say.

Alderman A. G. Bastis, Socialist, who has led the fight against the use of city funds for the armory upkeep has charged that state troops have been used unfairly against workers during strikes and that he will continue to oppose any move that will be of assistance to it.

CRIMINAL AGGRESSION IN THE PHILIPPINES

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the seventeenth article in a series by R. F. Pettigrew who was a senator at Washington for twelve years. His exposure of the activities of those at Washington shows that government is the instrument used by the owning class to further their own economic interests at the expense of the working class. Space prevents using the complete chapter about the Philippines.)

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

The annexation of Hawaii and the Spanish Treaty, which provided for the acquisition by the United States of Porto Rico, Guam and the Philippines, started this country definitely on the course of empire. From that time—the years 1898 and 1899—we were committed to an imperial policy.

"Imperial policy" is a phrase with a pleasant sound and a dismal echo—dismal for the rights of man and women. The moment we adopted an imperial policy we committed ourselves to certain lines of national conduct that are as far from the principles of the Declaration of Independence as the east is from the west. In our new possessions it was necessary:

First, to beat into submission any of the native population which displays a spirit of independence;

Second, to extend the imperial boundaries in order to have more opportunity for exploitation;

Third, to establish measures that will insure the effective exploitation of the native population.

Our first imperial duty—that of beating the native population into submission—was presented only in the Philippines. The Cubans were nominally self-governing; the inhabitants of Porto Rico had welcomed the Americans as saviors.

OUR RECORD IN PHILIPPINES IS BLACK.

The Filipinos had followed the same course at first, but, when they found that they were not to be free, they turned about and fought as stubbornly for their independence of American rule as they had fought during the preceding century for their independence of Spanish rule. It was the strength of the American army, not the justice of the American cause, that reduced the Filipinos to submission.

Perhaps nowhere in American history is there a record so black as that which describes our dealings with the Filipinos. Before the seizure of the islands by Admiral Dewey, McKinley had taken a high moral stand on the subject of forcible annexation. In his message to Congress (April 11, 1898) he had said: "I speak not of forcible annexation, for that cannot be thought of. That, by our code of morals, would be criminal aggression." So it would, but we practiced it toward the Filipinos with the same zest that the British have displayed in India or the Japanese in Korea.

AMERICANS ARE ARMED BANDIT.

When we decided to attack Spain, when Dewey was ordered to sail from Hongkong and to destroy the Spanish fleet, a rebellion was going on in the Philippine Islands. The inhabitants of those islands were trying to throw off the Spanish yoke. Knowing that at Singapore there was a man, the most capable among the Filipinos, who had led a former revolt, our officers in the East induced this man to go back to Manila and organize the insurgent forces. Aguinaldo arrived on the 17th day of May, 1898. He immediately organized the insurgent forces. He purchased arms in Hongkong. Admiral Dewey furnished him with arms taken from the Spanish forces, and he attacked the Spanish garrisons all over the province of Cavite and secured arms from his prisoners. He pursued this course during the summer of 1898, until he had captured the entire island of Luzon except two Spanish garrisons—very small ones—and before winter he captured those. Dewey, in his report, says his progress was wonderful. He took 9,000 prisoners. After having captured the entire island, he set up a government, which was a peaceful government, a government suitable to those people, a government which protected life and property throughout the entire area of that country. He also captured the Southern Islands, the Island of Panay, of Cebu, and Negros, and organized governments there.

WE DECEIVED THE FILIPINOS.

He assembled an army of 30,000 men and surrounded Manila. He army was intrenched. He invested the city on the land side while our navy blockaded the port on the ocean side. We acted in absolute concert with each other, consulted together, and, when Manila was finally taken, our troops landed, asking the insurgents to give up about a quarter of a mile of their trenches. They marched out and allowed our troops to occupy a portion of their works. They believed that they were to act in concert with us in the attack upon Manila. When the attack was ordered their troops marched into the city along with ours. They took the principal suburb of Manila. We took and occupied the walled city. When they came to the walled city, which contained less than one-fifth of the population of the city of Manila, they found our bayonets turned against them. They were told that they could not enter. They had lost thousands of lives in their contest with Spain; they were in possession of that entire country, and yet, although in the assault upon the city they had lost

more men than we did, they were denied admittance to the city, and they yielded and occupied the suburbs for some time.

WE DID NOT CONQUER ISLANDS FROM SPAIN.

Finally, we requested that they retire from the suburbs and they retired. Aguinaldo asked that he might be permitted to retire slowly, as it was difficult to govern his people and convince them that it was right that they should surrender possession of territory which they had conquered and for which many of their comrades had laid down their lives. He also asked that, in case we made a treaty with Spain, the territory which he had conquered should be returned to him; and this was refused. So we did not conquer the islands from Spain, for Spain had been conquered and driven out by the government of Aguinaldo. We had simply helped to take the city of Manila. Therefore, we took no title by conquest from Spain, for, at the time of making the treaty with Spain, we had not conquered any territory from her.

We did not require title by purchase, because title by purchase required delivery of possession and, as Spain was not in possession, she could not and did not deliver the islands to us. By what right are we there? By no right in morals or law; by no right that can be defended before God or man. We are there as conquerors; we are there as armed banditti that would enter your premises in daytime, and we have no more right to be there than the bandit has to enter and despoil your home.

MILITARY CONTROL EXTENDED.

In October Aguinaldo was again asked to give up more territory. He was again asked to retire his troops beyond not only the city of Manila, but the adjoining towns. Then he called the attention of General Otis to the fact that the towns which Otis desired him to surrender were not a part of Manila—you will find it on pages 20 and 21 of General Otis' report. General Otis said, "You are right; the territory which I now demand I cannot find as embraced in the city of Manila or its suburbs, but," he said, "that makes no difference; I insist on the possession of the territory anyway." So our lines were pushed out constantly, creating irritation and bad feeling.

Finally Dewey seized the ships of the Filipinos in the harbor. Was not that an act of war? Why talk longer about who commenced the war in the Philippines, when in October we seized the vessels of our allies—and they were vessels of war—dismissed the men who manned them, took down the Filipino flag, and removed it from the sea?

On the 24th of November, Otis again wrote to Aguinaldo, saying that he must retire beyond the village of Santa Mesa, and that if he did not he would attack him. On the 21st of December the President sent a proclamation to be published in the Philippines, telling the inhabitants that the United States has assumed sovereignty over the islands—a proclamation which was a clear declaration of war—a declaration that we would extend our military control, then existing in the city of Manila, throughout the entire area of the group.

This proclamation was published in the Philippines on the 4th of January, 1899. We seized their ships in October; we drove them beyond the territorial limits of the city of Manila—the only country we had occupied or had any right to occupy under the protocol with Spain; we, on the 4th day of February, attacked their forces and fired the first and second shots, and killed three of their people. After that, on the 5th day of February, the day after hostilities were inaugurated, Aguinaldo asked to have hostilities cease, and said that he had no notion of making an attack on our people and had not done so. The reply was that fighting having once commenced, it should go on to the grim end.

It seems to me that Lincoln, with his prophetic vision, must have foreseen this day when prosperity, breeding tyrants, should undertake to declare that the Declaration of Independence no longer applies to any body but the people whom we decide are capable of self-government.

The holding of tropical countries, the conquest of unwilling people, their retention in subjugation by a standing army, means of necessity not a republic where all the people must be consulted, but a despotism where the will of one man can march armies, declare war and act with great rapidity. A republic is naturally slow in action, because the people must be considered and must be consulted.

We took on many of the semblances of monarchy and imperialism during the McKinley administration—concealment of facts from the people, denial of news and information, no knowledge of what is going on, no announcement of policy and purpose; and the excuse for it all was that if we should allow the people to know the facts there was danger of creating disapproval of the course of our monarch, and if the enemy should secure these facts it would be of some assistance to them. This is necessary in monarchy. Press censorship too is a necessary adjunct of imperialism—one of the things our forefathers would not have tolerated for a day. And yet our people are becoming so numb that they are willing to accept it, and even criticize men who protest.

We annexed the Philippines forcibly. That, according to the principles laid down in the Declaration of Independence, is a criminal aggression. We departed from the foundation principles of this country; violated its most sacred obligations to the world, and pursued the same brutal, unjustified policy that Great Britain has pursued wherever her conquering armies have mowed down naked savages with machine guns.

without specialists in their representative organs, rather than elect bourgeois specialists whom they do not trust.

As regards the education of the members of the executives, the proportions are as follows: 6.7 per cent with high school education, 16.5 per cent with medium, 66.6 per cent elementary school, 7.9 per cent self-taught, and 0.3 per cent with very slight education.

These statistics show the Soviet republic to be very poor in educated administrators. But this is not our fault. The ruling classes gave the people no education, and it was extremely difficult to make this good during the years of civil war. These figures only go to show that in Russia the Soviet democracy rules. This democracy is still uneducated to-day, but the process of appropriating cultural advantages has begun, and is continuing rapidly. Our high schools, our workers' educational institutions, are filled to-day with representatives of the city proletariat and the peasantry. A few years more, and the reigning Soviet democracy will have the cultural level it falls short of to-day.

Rules For Keeping Out of Or Getting Into Jail

NEW YORK.—The following rules for keeping out or getting into jail are published by the joint amnesty committee in an article by Ellen Winsor:

To keep out of jail:
1—Be a shipbuilder and during a war rob the government.
2—Profiteer in food while your country is at war. For this you may be fined. Remain calm. The government will pay your fine later.

3—Conspire to defraud the government on wartime contracts.
To get into jail:

1—Attempt to better your living conditions or to raise your standards of living in any way.

2—Tell your employer the food is rotten or that the bunkhouse in the lumber camp is lousy and sour.

3—Demand a living wage from your boss.

Miss Winsor then lists four reasons for presidential pardons, as follows:

1—Conspiring to set on foot a military enterprise directed against a foreign country. (Jacobsen, pardoned for this, Dec. 25, 1921.)
2—Providing doctored eye-glasses to draft registrants, so as to get them off under the draft. (Kennedy, pardoned for this, Dec. 25, 1921.)

3—Leaving the country unlawfully, during a war, in order to sell plans for a new gun to the German consul in Mexico. (Freese, pardoned for this, Dec. 25, 1921.)

4—Attempting to blow up munition ships. (Capt. Robert Fay, pardoned for this, Dec. 25, 1921.)

ARKANSAS FASCISTI

Mob rule continues in North Arkansas. Operating under cover of a blanket of surface peace, mob rulers continue to dominate. Mob guards still patrol roads leading into Harrison.

This mob rule now has continued for one month.

At no time during the last month has civil government been able to reassert itself and act independently of mob policies.

The "committee of twelve" which has ruled the mob has not yet been questioned by the legislative committee, but may be heard when the committee opens hearings in Harrison.

A court of inquisition operating under the name of the Cleburne County Welfare Association now function for the "Committee of Twelve" in that county as the agency of the Missouri and North Arkansas railroad. The first plank in the platform reads:

First, that we endorse the efforts of J. C. Murray and his associates in the management of the Missouri and North Arkansas Railroad and the service they have given us in the face of the opposition of the so-called strikers, and we pledge Mr. Murray and his associates that we will give them every effort in our power to bring to justice the criminals who have been destroying the property of said railroad, and to assist the management in resuming service on the road and in keeping it in operation.

The so-called justice of this "welfare" group has not changed in character since the Harrison mob hanged a striker who, everybody later admitted, was innocent of any wrongdoing.

The investigation of the legislature has brought out testimony showing that both Luther Wise and E. D. Orr, strikers sentenced to seven years in the penitentiary on a bridge-burning charge, were innocent, but pleaded guilty on the advice of Circuit Judge J. M. Shinn and Prosecuting Attorney Karl Greenhaw of Boone County, who warned the men they might be lynched if they insisted on standing trial.

The committee of the Arkansas Legislature which recently concluded hearings at Little Rock is scheduled to open hearings at Harrison immediately. These hearings will of course be held where the power of the mob has been most effectively demonstrated and where the atmosphere is still colored by mob domination.

Despite the continued activity of the mob rulers and despite the continued defiance of law, no action has been taken by the governor of the state to restore civil authority.

—A. F. of L. Information and Publicity Service.

LOVE.

He—I've just been to see the doctor and he says I'm liable to drop dead any minute with tobacco heart, so I'm gonna quit th' weed right now!

She—What! Just when I've started saving the coupons to get a washing machine! I should say you won't!

—J. R. Williams

HE'S DEAD.

"The only man poor old Jenkins ever told the truth to was a bootlegger."

"What did he tell him?"

"He said: 'This is my last drink.'"

—Wilmington Star.

All Wrong.—The rookie was grumbling about some dirt in his food—for he was at the tender age of rookishood before the time when a little dirt is necessary to lend the proper savor.

"Smatter?" bellowed the mess officer. "Stop whining. Don't you know you're here to serve your country?"

"Yes, sir," was the humble reply, "but not to eat it, not to have it served to me."—Infantry Journal.

Man given a year in jail for stealing two cents should have taken a million and a suspended sentence.—Wall Street Journal.

Life: Teacher—Now tell us, Johnnie, which is the least-used bone in the human body?

Johnnie (promptly)—The head!

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TRUTH

Issued Weekly By The West End Labor Association.

"Entered as second-class matter November 12, 1920, at the post office at Duluth, Minnesota, under the Act of March 3, 1879"

Subscription: 1 year \$2.00. — 6 months \$1.00.

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 four 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 four 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 this.

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!



BLUFFING WITH 14,000 BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

As the 67th Congress enters the home stretch the big bluffers called senators and representatives are stepping on each other in their efforts to serve the business interests. Fourteen thousand bill and resolutions are pending. Most of these will of course be consigned to the legislative boneyard. This is no loss to the working class. Most of the bills are merely different plans for picking the geese. The geese of course are the workers. The greater the law-maker the more adroit he will be at camouflaging the picking.

We are interested to see whether the ship subsidy bill will be saved from the boneyard. President Harding's proposal to dispose of \$3,000,000 worth of the best merchant ships for \$200,000,000 and to pay the purchasers a bonus of \$750,000,000, lend them \$125,000,000 at 2 per cent and exempt them from taxation, seem rather poorly disguised robbery to us. They may not get by with it. The Mills Bill H. R. 13522 to provide compulsory arbitration of labor disputes belongs in the boneyard also. It is a good bluff at justice but it will deceive no one who comprehends that the government is the instrument used by the master class to suppress the workers. They use compulsion, but why call it arbitration?

Some master-class flunkey seeking light occupation should classify the bunk proposed in the 14,000 bills and resolutions and sell it as humorous literature written to conceal the real motives of the exploiters.

ON THE RUHR

Nationalism is at white heat in the occupied territory. Exaggerated reports of French atrocities come just as a short time ago exaggerated reports of German atrocities were spread. But inasmuch as the people have been fed up on atrocities they are discounted as they should be.

German workers are continuing to sabotage on their jobs to help their German masters defeat the French masters.

The communists alone are attempting to keep the class struggle clearly before the workers by pointing out that Stinnes and Company and Poincare and Company are both enemies of the workers. They charge the German government with responsibility for the French occupation—because it refused to give some of the capitalists' wealth as guaranty for reparations. Furthermore, the Government had deliberately evaded payment of reparations, paying only what it extracted from the working population instead of conscripting the huge fortunes made out of the war. They urge the workers to prepare to strike for a working-class Germany and a working-class France.

THE BLOOD IN COAL

Twenty-four thousand miners have been killed in mines in the last ten years. The workers are maintaining at Washington a staff of so-called experts to study causes and means of prevention of mine explosions. It is claimed that the Bureau's chief mining engineer, George S. Rice, and his assistants know so much about the matter that they can cause and prevent explosions at will. But it doesn't mean anything except that when explosions occur this group is used to whitewash the mining corporations who are guilty of negligence. H. Foster Bain, Director of the U. S. Bureau of Mines, said that the Dawson mine, where 383 lives have been snuffed out in ten years, "is most carefully equipped."

Judging by the results he should have added, "for death." Human lives in America are cheap. They are worth even less here than in England. We are three times as careless of human life in the mines as England. Per thousand miners employed we average three times as many mine deaths. Fresh recruits from southern Europe are always welcomed by the operators. Chinese, Mexicans and negroes are also quickly made into one-hundred per cent Americans by way of the mines. Funerals are merely graduation exercises.

MARVELOUS INVENTIONS TO INTENSIFY CLASS STRUGGLE

When H. Gooding, a radio amateur in California, was heard in London and also across the Pacific it was taken as a matter of course. Nobody seems greatly thrilled because Uncle Sam can say hello to Johnny Bull without central's "Number Please." Signals from three hundred amateur stations here have been heard in England, France and Switzerland. And signals from European amateurs have been heard in the United States.

But science promises us greater miracles. In a short time an all seeing eye will enable us to tell the cut of Johnny Bull's coat while we are bidding him good morning. Edouard Belin, a French scientist announces that he will soon be

able to see across the ocean. Nicola Tesla, the American electrical wizard who harnessed Niagara and won the Nobel prize, also says that television or seeing at a distance will be accomplished just as wireless has been. He even expects to see as well as to communicate with the life on Mars.

With the development of these marvelous scientific inventions the grabbing game of the masters will be intensified to the nth degree. Neither the gleam of a copper nor the clink of a cinder will escape them nor the slightest move of a rebellious slave. Unless the workers organize they will be ground to dust. These wonderful strides in science could help bring the world into one cooperating human family. But as long as the profit system remains, they will only augment the class struggle.

REFLECTIONS ON LAME-DUCK SQUAWKS

Senator Miles Poindexter from Washington was one of the lame ducks who was repudiated in the recent election on the ship subsidy plank. He takes his departure from Washington March 4th. While packing up his wife let out a few squawks about how things are done at Washington which make interesting reading for those who know something about the huge cost of governing us.

According to figures given by capitalists (William Helm Jr. and the publishers of the Budget, New York, are not communists), government employees number 2,000,000 and on the basis of five persons to a family, the cost of government is about \$400 per family per year. Helm says that distributing the cost to the 40,000,000 workers in the United States each worker toils one day in seven for the government.

With these figures in mind Mrs. Poindexter's departing remarks are most interesting. She says:

If I were choosing, I think I should ask to be made the Secretary of the Navy, because there seems to be so much that goes with it. An automobile with driver, the use of those fine, small boats that go about in the waters near by, and the opportunity to take one's family on wonderful trips, such as the one that Secretary Denby and his family took to the Orient last summer; and, besides all these things, when the Secretary's wife has her "days at home," she can have a band to furnish the music for her functions.

The Agricultural Department furnishes flowers for the house of the Secretary of Agriculture for all occasions. The War Department furnishes the good-looking officers for functions given by the Secretary of War, and so on.

This is good reading matter while the working class families are digging up the \$400 per year.

And what do the Washington bunch say about their naughty playmate who runs and rattles everything? According to press reports some acted like caught thieves, others said, "Why pick on Secretary Denby when all do it? And why not mention the government airplanes as well as the government autos at the disposal of officials and their friends?" "Why shouldn't the naval bands play at social functions and why not shop in the government limousines?"

And we also say, "Why not"? The only reason the workers haven't comforts and luxuries is because they are not looking after their economic interests. They number 40,000,000. But they let a small powerful economic group rob them of the things their labor produces. The parasites at Washington are there at the beck and call of the small powerful economic group—the Mellon-Guggenheim-Rockefeller-Morgan group and their satellites. These interests are organized internationally. The masses of the workers are not organized at all and most of those who are organized are scabbing on each other in trade unions.

If it is true that they sweat one day in seven for the maintenance of the government, it is equally true that the greater part of each day's work goes to the exploiters who own the tools of production. But why not? The exploiting class is satisfied to continue this system. They are organized to protect it. The 40,000,000 get little but they must be satisfied, for they are not organizing, they just work.

THE WAR-MAKERS

Full many a ruthless king has bought his crown of laurel leaf
At the cost of thousands, dead—of men's lives made brief
By the lying and the spying of the strong
Who know no way to settle wrong
Except by war and hate.

Men, men,—if ye be not fools—call to reckoning all such idle
Who by their vile aggressions, your whole lives thus do bridle.
You protect and die for a foreign throne
While the tiny spot your children call a home
Floats like a boat on the tide.

Be ye not silent—cease to forbear,
Take from life your rightful share;
Swear that the shot from their gun shall fly home.
Guardsmen of Labor, take heed of your own,
Swear it, men, swear it.

Tyrants confess to the itch for gold
Their greed-ridden souls growing bolder and bold
Through the triumphs of war—by profits ever blessed,
And they'll know not defeat in victory dressed,
Unless ye so declare it.

B. B. 1922.

WHY NOT?

Capitalists WANT the profit system.
The profit system DEMANDS markets.
Market-greed CAUSES commercial rivalry.
Commercial rivalry CAUSES wars.
Capitalists WANT wars.
Politicians DECLARE wars.
Preachers PRAY for victories in war.
Workmen FIGHT the wars.
They say, "war is hell."

Well, then, let those who want hell go where they can get what they want, and let the workers organize to end the hell producing system.

—Revised from Exchange.

\$1,000,000 FOR JOY CRUISE

Let joy be unconfined! Elbert H. Gary and his fellow cruisers to the Mediterranean are well housed and comfortable. They paid the little sum of one million dollars for the accommodations on the Mauretania. Rear Admiral Charles P. Plunkett is excited over this and calls it a disgraceful display as long as there are starving people. But who cares for the excitement of one of capitalism's supporters? The slaves who sweat twelve hours in Gary's steel pens are not objecting. They stagger to the movie and there behold for their entertainment the vision of their overlord's luxury. They are exhausted animals and exhausted animals do not think. They sleep or walk in stupor. Are they interested in organizing? Are they reading working class papers? Are they even conscious of the fact that it is their labor power which produces the wealth squandered by the worlds' Garys? No. They sweat themselves into stupidity.

The steel workers in Great Britain, Italy, Poland, Roumania, Jugo-Slavia, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland have, according to the International Labour Review, established the eight-hour day on a three-shift system.

Outside Europe, the three-shift system has been introduced in isolated cases in Canada, India, and South Africa, but Gary says it can't be done. So his blast-furnace slaves work twelve hours for fodder and a stall, while he is on his joy cruise.

X-RAY DISCOVERER DIES

Wilhelm Konrad Roentgen, who died the other day, enjoyed a distinction which is probably unique in the history of thought. During his lifetime his proper name became incorporated in the common name of an important division of sciences—Roentgenology. His discovery was a combination of accident and genius. He was experimenting with a vacuum (Crookes's) tube; on the table under a book, there happened to lie an ordinary photographic plate. When this plate was developed, Roentgen found on it an outline (the stories differ but the main fact is the same) of the bones of his hand or of a metal object used as a bookmark. His genius, the spirit of scientific inquiry, made him go back to see what had happened. Thus he found the X—that is, the "unknown"—ray. The discovery wrought a revolution in theoretic physics, and in the practice of medicine and surgery. In the diagnosis of many important disorders of human flesh an X-ray examination is now a matter of course. The doctor does not probe or open the patient on the blind chance of finding something; he literally sees the trouble first. In addition the X-ray seems to have power to check the growth of morbid tissue; but its therapeutic value is still a matter of dispute. On the other hand, a power that can cure can kill. The pioneer workers, Dr. Walter Dodd, Dr. Infront, and others, were terribly burned and died of carcinoma caused by the power which they had not yet learned to control. Today both patient and operator are perfectly safeguarded; in the hospitals the X-ray machine is taken for granted like an electric light or an ordinary camera. All this has happened since 1895, when Roentgen, a German professor of physics, stumbled into a new light.

—The Nation.

THE WEAVERS

It is nearly a century ago since Henri Heine wrote the following poem, but the weavers are still weaving.

Their eyelids are drooping, no tears lie beneath,
They stand at the loom, and they grind their teeth:
"We are weaving a shroud for the doubly dead
And a threefold curse in its every thread
We are weaving, still weaving.

"A curse for the Godhead to whom we have bowed
In our cold and our hunger, we weave in the shroud:
For in vain have we hoped, and in vain have we prayed;
He has mocked us and scoffed at us, sold and betrayed—
We are weaving, still weaving.

"A curse for the gang of the wealthy and proud,
Who for us have no pity, we weave in the shroud;
Who take our last penny to swell out their purse;
While we die the death of a dog—yea, a curse
We are weaving, still weaving.

"A curse for our country, whose cowardly crowd
Hold her shame in high honour, we weave in the shroud;
Whose blossoms are blighted and slain in the germ,
Whose faith and corruption engender the worm—
We are weaving, still weaving.

"To and fro flies our shuttle—no pause in its flight—
'Tis a shroud we are weaving by day and by night;
We are weaving a shroud for the worse than dead,
And a threefold curse in its every thread
We are weaving, still weaving."

STEPS FORWARD

The 30,000 members of the Dress and Waist Makers' Union are moving forward. The cartoonists, Walker and Mockman, picture it clearly in the Call. In 1909 there was the general strike and the union was permanently organized with a 54-hour week.

In 1913 came the first collective agreement.
In 1919 occurred the 16-week strike and the 44-hour week
In 1916 the 49-hour week was won.
In 1921 it defeated the anti-union Dress and Waist-makers' Association.

By 1923 the 40-hour week was won.
This shows progress.
But there are still many steps to be taken before industrial freedom is attained.

"Ez for war, I call it murder—
There you have it plain and flat;
I don't want to go no furder
Than my Testymont for that."

—James Russell Lowell.



I see they have woke up King Tut, who has been lying in a rut for some three thousand years or more, behind a sealed and walled-up door. These wise Egyptian scholars choose to break right in upon his snooze. It seems that when he went to sleep he thought he'd rest in slumber deep, until the very end of time should yank him out of stone and lime.

It seems that having now thrown down most every guy that wears a crown, they're goan to yank the dead ones out from tombs that's scattered round about. For having been small use while living, they now can serve us well by giving information of the day when they played king at some big pay.

Now what I really wants to know is who it is that's goan to go and set a very loud alarm to break our rulers' very peaceful charm. There's Harding now, for an example. (I merely use him for a sample.) He doesn't know Kerensky's fell and has been gone for quite a spell. He thinks that ships can't go to sea, without a great big subsidy. He does not know that foreign kings has done away with all such things as prisoners who were held because they busted up some war time laws.

And Harding he don't really know that founding fathers were some slow, though they had no hunch wisdom died when they laid mortal things aside, and didn't really aim to shut the doors to later things than Tut.

Somebody otta interview this old, embalmed, Egyptian screw, and learn of him just what he thinks of our own modern ruling ginks. I'd really like to know for su'e just what he thinks about the Ruhr, and get his ideas of French laws that Huns make bricks of without straws. I'd like to know his hopes and fears about the world, the past nine years, and if he thinks the Christian kings might learn from Egypt some few things, or if they have done really worse than Egypt under Pharaoh's curse.

But most perhaps I crave the shock to come if someone set the clock to wake up every ruling mut who is as drowsy as old Tut.

REMEMBER THESE

MILWAUKEE.—Birthdays in March of political prisoners still confined in American prisons are announced by the Workers' National Prison Comfort club, 2923 Chestnut street, as follows:

At Walla Walla, Wash., Box 520: March 4, Britt Smith, No. 9408; Ray Becher, No. 9413; O. C. Bland, No. 9409.

At San Quentin Prison, San Quentin, Cal.: March 6, Richard Bendig, No. 35713; March 12, Wm. Baker, No. 35714.

At Folsom penitentiary, Repressa, Cal.: March 21, James McLaughlin.

At Leavenworth, Kan., Box 7: March 10, H. F. Kane, No. 13161; March 13, Geo. Voetter, No. 13584; March 18, James Slodick, No. 13142; March 20, Ed. Quigley, No. 13578; March 22, Godfrey Ebel, No. 13567; Wm. Hood, No. 13573; March 28, Joe Graber, No. 13156; Michael Sapper.

Cora Meyer, national secretary, invites friends and sympathizers to send birthday postcards and letters to these political prisoners. Money is advisable for gifts. For list of articles which may be sent into the prisons write the wardens.

Among messages to club members from political prisoners, are the following:

H. E. Herd writes: "I offer my sincere thanks for the beautiful cards and gifts. It shows a fine spirit. Since July, 1917, I have served at Box 58, Boise, Idaho, as a class-war prisoner—also as a parasite. We have nothing to do; we rest all day long—winter and summer, only break the monotony by playing ball, and other games like kids."

D. Caplan writes: "Thank you very much for letter and gift. The very knowledge that someone is thinking of us, is in itself very gratifying and prison doesn't look half so gloomy. The fact that we are able to produce a stir in the human breast toward solidarity and justice—in a world of greed and selfishness, shows that our confinement was not in vain. A few months more and I shall have served my full sentence in San Quentin (10 years)."

TALLENTIRE AT COMRADE MEETING.

Tuesday March 6th is Comrade Meeting. Norman H. Tallentire, one of the victims of the "Michigan Raid", will speak. Dancing after the program. Bring your friends and acquaintances. Everybody is welcome. No admission. Workers Hall, 19th Ave. W. and 1st St.

EXERCISE 'EM

You may have been encouraged by false friends, in the belief that your brow is lower or flatter than somebody's—You may have been unduly influenced to think that a certain amount of brains in your head won't work as well as the same amount of brains in another head; that a certain kind of ivory must surround a man's brain or it won't work. How ridiculous! Our heads are as wide as the best of 'em; our forehead as high as the rest of 'em; of brains, we are simply "possest of 'em"; in fact, we've got a full crest of 'em—(nest of 'em).

If only we had opportunity to make a test of 'em; give them an airing and occasional (educational) exercising
T-bone Slim—Indus. Worker.

FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND SPEECH; RIGHT OF ASSEMBLY

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.—First amendment to U. S. Constitution, adopted in 1791.