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REACTIONARIES POISON YOUTH

THREE COUNTS SQUASHED; FOSTER TRIED ON FOURTH

Premised Money to Subsidize the State Will
Become Important Issue

ST. JOSEPH, Mich.—Quashing three counts of the Michigan criminal syndicalism indictment against Wm. Z. Foster, Judge Charles E. White in Berrien county circuit court ordered the trial to proceed on the fourth count. This count charges voluntary assembly with other named individuals to conspire for the overthrow of the government. The alleged conspiracy was a meeting of labor radicals in this county on Aug. 21, 1922, as a result of which 22 were arrested in a raid or soon after and almost 50 others indicted with them.

Of the 50, 10 surrendered when Foster's case opened March 10 for hearing of preliminary motions. The surrendering were Robert Minor, Rose Stokes, Ella Reeves Bloor, Jay Lovestone, Wm. W. Weinstein, Edgar Owens, Max Bedacht, G. A. Schulenberg, John J. Ballam, Rebecca Sackarow. All were ordered to furnish \$1000 bail each. Lovestone immediately produced his, while the rest were given two days on their own recognizance to produce theirs.

A large majority of those to be tried are of American birth, one of

them a descendant of Daniel Boone. With the subsidence of public interest in the Herrin riot trial after the first acquittals, the St. Joseph syndicalism trial of American labor men and women on political charges takes the center of the judicial stage on which industrial and economic issues are being fought between labor and capital.

The motion of Frank P. Walsh, defense counsel, for a change of venue, was denied by Judge White, who indicated that he would retain charge of the proceedings in the earlier stages at any rate and perhaps after the jury has been picked. The change was asked because the local Republican organization, which is backing White for reelection, has denounced the defendants and because the local American legion has also shown its hostility in a public manner.

The promised use of money from outside the state to help finance the prosecution may become an important issue in the trial on the ground that no private individual should be permitted to use money to subsidize the state in its administration of justice.

CUNO GOVERNMENT MAKES RISKY FINANCIAL EXPERIMENT

German Workers' Suffering Will Increase. Rise
in Wages Will Not Cover Rise in Cost of Living

By Louis P. LOCHNER
(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

BERLIN.—The business government of Chancellor Cuno is embarking upon an exceedingly risky experiment in high finance. In an effort to halt the catastrophic decline of the mark, it is throwing vast quantities of English pounds and American dollars upon the money market so that these exchanges can be bought today at one-half the price of two weeks ago.

It is generally conceded in financial circles that, as soon as the Reichsbank places dollars and pounds upon the market, they are grabbed up at once by the big industrialists and by the exchange brokers. These two groups are thus afforded an opportunity to supply themselves with foreign exchange cheaply. Nobody seems to believe seriously that a permanent stabilization of the mark will take place as a result of the Reichsbank action. On the contrary, there seems to be general expectation that the supply of dollars and pounds from the Reichsbank will soon be at an end and that then an unprecedented rise of these two exchanges, with which will be associated that of Scandinavian, Dutch, Swiss, Spanish and other high exchanges, will take place.

This theory is borne out by a study of the curve of prices for articles of food and clothing. Before the present financial operation of the Reichsbank began, there was a general saying among Germans that as soon as the mark had become stabilized, or its downward trend halted, prices too would be stabilized or lowered. The very opposite is taking place. As compared with January, the wholesale prices for articles of food and clothing have risen 348%. Wages have risen only 100%. When a business man is asked why he does not lower prices, now that the dollar is dropping, he tells you that this is only a passing phase from which the speculators profit, but that he must keep on raising prices gradually in order that, when the big jump comes after the Reichsbank has ceased throwing foreign exchange on the market, his customers may

not be frightened too much much by the sudden jump that he would have to proclaim.

The Reichsbank action will benefit an already enormously rich heavy industry, the foremost exponent of which is Hugo Stinnes. The industrialists, having bought cheap exchange, will be able to continue to import raw materials from foreign countries. The new drop of the mark which is predicted at the conclusion of the Reichsbank action will not affect them adversely; on the contrary they will be able to underbid other countries by the lower costs of production, since German wages always lag far behind the devaluation of the mark.

The sufferers from this whole financial experiment will be the German workers and the German middle classes. They cannot buy dollars even when the Reichsbank offers them relatively cheaply, for they are leading at best a hand-to-mouth existence. The minute the dollar rises, however, their bills at the butcher's, the baker's, and the grocer's, rise correspondingly while their wages are increased only slowly, and never in the same percentage as the rise of the cost of living.

The Rote Fahne of Berlin, organ of the Communist party, has charged that the heavy industry of Germany knew about the plans of the Reichsbank to force the pound and dollar down before that action began. It charges that the companies in question, and their directors, sold a large part of their foreign exchange at a time when they could get 52,000 marks for the dollar, in order afterwards to buy back their necessary supply from the Reichsbank at a price of only 27,000 marks for each dollar.

DULUTH'S IDLE RICH APPLAUD DETECTIVE WHO "CAMOUFLAGES" TALK ON MUSIC TO TURN TEACHERS AGAINST RUSSIANS

By GORDON CASCADEN.

Duluth "society" is resting easier this morning, thank you, following the divine inspiration resulting from the visit of real live Dukes to this "burg" with a real inspiring message that all will be safe in the land of reaction if public school and music teachers repeat to youth the tale of woe that the idle rich of Russia have had to relate since the deaths of Czar Nicholas and Rasputin-monk, degenerate and court dictator.

Since they touched the hand and heard the voice of a real live member of Europe's autocracy and America's plutocracy, Duluth's "nouveau riche" go forth with increased devotion to their campaign to poison the minds of Duluth's youth against ideas of working-class control and the healthful doctrine that none should eat who do not produce.

"Look at Russia," they say. Following the visit of an American woman who married a Russian landed proprietor in the days of Czar Nicholas, Duluth's "higher" stratum of society has developed its program through bringing an English detective, spy and snoop to describe the fearful fact that Russia's former monied class now must live like ordinary human beings.

Next we may look for an Austrian, German, French or Italian school-girl who once caught sight of Czar Nicholas on one of his visits to Western Europe coming to Duluth to tell the "better class" about the late Imperial Majesty's appearance.

Duluth's Latest Craze.

All this, of course, is quite in line with latest developments in Duluth's "best circles" for, according to the funny columns of a Duluth daily newspaper, this is Duluth's latest diversion.

"Would you be in style? Then let the adjective Russian describe your boots, your blouse, your furs, your bobbed hair, your music, and tonight your lecture topic," said one of the members of the committee in charge of the lecture which Sir Paul Dukes is giving tonight at the Edmond M. E. church under the auspices of the Duluth Music Teachers' association.

(Continued on Page 2)

APRIL 29 SET FOR AMNESTY DEMONSTRATIONS

Chicago.—Selection of April 29 as General Amnesty day is announced by Harry Feinberg, secretary, General Defense committee, 1001 W. Madison St.

"On that date," Feinberg declares, "we ask all cooperating committees, and all our friends, old and new, to arrange big demonstrations in behalf of amnesty, protest meetings, parades, distribution of pertinent literature, the sending of telegrams and letters to President Harding, and exertion of effort to get the newspapers to give publicity to this cause."

"Can we depend upon you to begin arrangements at once for such a demonstration in your community? You must not fail us. The 53 war-opinion prisoners have been locked up more than five years. They have paid the price to keep the lines for free speech open in the United States. They have endured incredible suffering, some of them are ill in prison, two are dying in Leavenworth."

"With curious temerity the administration has liberated all the spies who committed overt acts against the army and navy, it has set free all the war profiteers, it liberated a woman who sold doctored eye-glasses to men who wished to escape the draft, it turned loose men who sold draft-exemptions for cash."

"The people of America must make the White House understand that the continued imprisonment of the politicals is a

Anna Leisman Dies Victim of New York Prison Conditions

NEW YORK.—The state of New York killed Anna Leisman, one of the political prisoners recently released by Governor Smith. Last Sunday, about two weeks after her release, her funeral was held, she having died ten days after her release as the result of weakness from exposure suffered while in prison. She had served nine months of a savage sentence imposed upon her by the court when she was pardoned.

She was convicted on framed-up testimony supplied by the notorious bomb squad of New York City. According to her defense at her trial last summer, she was distributing advertisements of a May Day Meeting when arrested. As the detectives knew they could not railroad her on the evidence they obtained from her person, they secured a number of propaganda leaflets issued by a Communist group called "May Day of the Revolution," and accused her of distributing them. Her sentence began last August.

Comrade Leisman was 45 years of age, had been in this country 11 years and was a member of the Workers Party and the United Hat Makers, besides being active in various Lettish organizations. The National Defense Committee is arranging to hold a memorial for her in the near future.

Among the speakers at the funeral were Marion Emerson, member Central Executive Committee, Workers Party; and Rose Barron, for the National Defense Committee. Kate Gitlow, as well as Minnie Kalnin, who went to prison with Anna Leisman, were also at the funeral.

gross betrayal of the national constitution and of the American tradition of freedom."

Sells Lies About Russia to Manufacturers, \$1000 Apiece

Soviets Didn't Tatter As He Promised, So He
Rests in Jail

By HARRY GODFREY.
(Federated Press Staff Correspondent.)

New York. — Thirty-seven manufacturing concerns in the United States, some of them rated among the biggest in their respective lines, have been reading fairy stories and investing \$1000 each in the belief the stories were true. The stories were published in the newspapers, over and over again for several years, and their purport was that the Russian government was tottering and about to fall.

Some of the business men who seem to have gulped down these pretty imaginings were those at the head of the La Crosse Plow Co., the American Fork & Hoe Co., the Detroit Twist Mill Co., the United States Sandpaper corporation, the J. H. Williams Co. of Brooklyn, one of the biggest drop forge concerns in America. Henry Disston

& Sons Co., saw manufacturers, and the Messenger Mfg. Co., Tatamy, Pa.

These concerns, it may be said in justice to them, didn't take the unsupported word of the newspapers and of the National Civic Federation that the Russian government was on its last legs. Before letting go of their \$1000 each they had to have more convincing evidence even than that. It was supplied by Walter L. Webster, who how is in jail here for lack of \$10,000 bail.

Webster disclosed to them, under strict secrecy, according to testimony before a grand jury here, how in a few days, or months at most, the Russian government was to be overthrown by certain Russian and Japanese potentates, how in its place would be set up the "United States of Russia," and how then would come their chance.

There would be billions in it for Webster would be the sole purchasing agent in the United States of the United States of Russia. He

would do it through the Webster Trading Corporation. And to get in on the ground floor, all the manufacturers had to do was put up a deposit of \$1000 each merely as an evidence of good faith.

Thirty-seven, according to the evidence, handed over to Webster \$1000 each. They were business men and practical men, and too wise to buy the Brooklyn bridge or the Woolworth tower or the city hall.

Morning after morning the soviet government was tottering. But a time came when it only tottered once a week; then once in a fortnight; then perhaps once a month. Then it quit tottering—even in headlines.

Then some of them went to the district attorney. So now Webster is in jail, and the mysterious Russian and Japanese diplomats and noblemen he used to talk about seem to have basely deserted him.

Only two of the manufacturing concerns named are listed in the indictments against Webster. Some of the others thought they would rather lose \$1000 than expose their mortification to the vulgar public gaze.

BRITAIN, AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND ENSLAVE NAURU

Industrial Conscripts, Natives and Coolies Exist
Like Animals on \$1.00 to \$1.92 per Week

By W. FRANCIS AHERN
(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

NAURU ISLAND, So. Pacific Ocean.—Scandalous working conditions prevail in the phosphate industry at Nauru Island, an ex-German possession just under the Equator, mandated to Australia by the league of nations.

The phosphate industry is worked on behalf of a joint commission of the British, Australian and New Zealand governments, who are partners in the exploitation of the island and share the profits.

The visible supply of phosphate rock on the island is estimated at 300,000,000 tons, and at the present market value this is worth \$1,750,000,000. The former owners of the industry were frozen out for \$15,000,000.

The labor employed is Chinese and natives. The Chinese are paid \$1.92 per week and board. Formerly they were herded like cattle but lately they have been able to force better terms from the government. The Chinese are organized in their own trade union.

The natives of the island are paid \$1.25 a week and board. A royalty of 1 cent a ton is paid to the native chiefs on all phosphate taken from the islands. The neighborhood natives are "blackbirded"—that is, industrially conscripted—from adjoining islands, mainly the ex-German possessions, signed on for three years, and paid from \$1 to \$1.25 a month for a 9-hour working day.

The Chinese and natives are housed in compounds of which there are ten, accommodating approximately 600 workers. The Chinese now have a better class of compound. The native compounds measure 40x20 feet, and contain 64 bunks each, one above the other, with a narrow passage running down the center. Married couples occupy the top double bunks, single natives and children the lower bunks.

Consumption and venereal diseases are prevalent, and medical men assess the value of the natives' lives at about \$10 each. The compounds are vermin-stricken and unsanitary. The coolies are locked in at 9 o'clock at night and liberated at 5 o'clock in the morning.

Protests have been raised in both the Australian and New Zealand parliaments by Labor members regarding the low wages and the disgraceful working conditions existing at Nauru. Little notice has been taken of the protests.

WASHINGTON FARMER EXPRESSES HIMSELF

Says Farmer Capitalists and Merchant Capitalists
Suffer

H. A. Ahrens.

I am a farmer and as such can give you a true picture of the conditions confronting the farmers in eastern Washington. The latter is largely a wheat country, of which the greatest portion never had a failure of wheat crop. The price of wheat at local points ranges 10-15 cents higher than Chicago prices owing to the proximity of ocean shipping. In spite of these favorable conditions the farmers are on the verge of bankruptcy. Last summer the saying was, "one-third are broke and know it, one-third are broke and don't know it, and one-third will remain right side up."

But since that we have harvested another crop and the last mentioned have been greatly reduced. The farmers have made attempts to dodge the robbers by building their own elevators on the cooperative plan. A year ago a large cooperative sales concern was organized but the expectations were not realized and today there is a great agitation for government minimum guaranteed price of wheat. The distress signals are out everywhere and the SOS calls are loud. The small town Chambers of Commerce are yelling as loud as the farmers. The banks are loaded with chattels. They are also well supplied with horses and machinery which formerly figured as securities for loans. The merchants are overloaded with book accounts and have borrowed from the local bank all they can get on depreciated notes. Both are at the end of the rope and worse will come if the farmers see no improvement of their condition.

Today it is the small town banker and merchant, tomorrow it will be wholesale centers of the country which will have cause to yell "save our ship." The distress will spread and it will reach the great banking centers. Congress has disbanded without having done anything for

the farmer, the provisions made for giving a farmer easy credit on his wheat do not mean anything. The farmer through this measure is given an opportunity to gamble with his wheat during a few months. The farmer could be helped a little through a government guaranteed minimum price. Big business realizes that he must compete with his industrial products on the world's markets. This can be done through cheap labor. If the cost of living rises as it would under the above-mentioned measure, then the worker would again demand more compensation and world's markets would become a mirage.

The farmer could be helped by bringing order out of the chaos in Central Europe but Wall Street has large collections to make for credits extended France. For this reason France is given a free hand on the continent. France is pulling the world farther into economic bankruptcy. Wall Street's blind greed is allowing France to pull the pillars from under the capitalist structure and the crash will extend even to Wall Street. They will then yell louder than the farmer does.

Next fall more wheat growers will be dispossessed. They will surrender their land deeds and sign renter contracts dictated by Mortgage and Trust Companies.

The farmer is being sacrificed on the altar of greed. As a class he voted for all the misery that is now crushing him. Many of them will vote the ticket my father voted again. Many will, however, walk to the polls very uncertain and in a hang-dog way. That proud I-am-a-landowning-capitalist will not be apparent. Some day, possibly shortly, they will be good and tame so that "eating oats out of the hat of one of those red communists who wants to divide up on my land" will not terrify him. It may be his only chance of getting oats.

THE WORKERS' REPUBLIC

The articles in this series are released through the *Friends of Soviet Russia* Press Service

The Greatest Achievement of Modern Times

By Dr. John Hayes Holmes.

The most remarkable thing which I saw on my visit to Moscow this past summer was the evidence on every hand of the successful efforts being made to rebuild the shattered social structure of that unhappy land.

On every hand, of course, were to be seen the signs of what Russia has suffered during the last five years. It was the Great War which led to the initial collapse of the Czar's government and society. Then followed the confusion of the revolutionary break-up, the crime of the Allied blockade, the armed invasions of Kolchak, Denikin, Wrangel and other monarchist brigands, and lastly, the famine. The result of such experiences, of course, was widespread ruin and in such things as the crippled railroad service, the broken pavements of the streets and sidewalks, the damaged buildings and the broken systems of sanitation, we have the record of this period of history.

This period, however, is now definitely ended; so I feel at least on the basis of my observations. What is now significant is not the wreckage of the past but the new construction of the future. On our journey from Riga to Moscow, at one of the stations in Soviet Russia, we saw an amazing collection of brand new locomotives, the largest and handsomest that I saw anywhere in Europe. These were described to us as the first consignment of an order for two hundred and fifty machines which had been placed in the locomotive shops in Germany. In Moscow, we found the street car service restored after a two year interval, with cars running on a regular fifteen minute schedule. The cars were in excellent condition and were crowded with riders. The pavements, streets and sidewalks, which had long been in a dreadful condition of neglect, were being re-laid in various parts of the city; and on one of the important avenues I saw a half mile of pavement which was as fine as the pavement on Fifth Avenue in New York.

A chance visit to the home of a working man showed me an apartment house, completely restored in every part by the labor of the co-operative society of workers to which the building had been assigned by the Moscow Soviet; it was in all respects the best workingman's dwelling that I have ever seen anywhere. The electric light service in Moscow was in first class condition, as was the telephone service. The water system was still defective and the plumbing something awful. But extensive reconstruction was well under way in both departments.

"Come back in two years," said a Soviet official as he bade me goodbye on the eve of my departure, "and we will show you the finest capital in Europe."

What I saw in Moscow, I believe to be typical of Soviet Russia. A process of rebuilding is now well under way and is making rapid progress. This is the only country in Europe, with the possible exception of Czechoslovakia, of which this can be said. The Bolshevik government, commonly described in this part of the world as the wreckers of Russia, are as a matter of fact the saviors of Russia. They took over the country at a time when it had collapsed in every part. Lenin and his associates took over from the weak hands of their predecessors a piece of wreckage which might well have been the despair of less courageous souls. The endeavor to build out of this wreckage a new Communist society failed for reasons which were in most respects altogether beyond the control of the Soviets.

Then, at the critical moment, when Russia was on the very threshold of returning to the primitive barbarism that prevailed before the days of Peter the Great, the Bolsheviks gave themselves to the task of stopping at any cost the process of disintegration, and rebuilding a social structure that would stand. In this Herculean task they have succeeded, or are now in process of succeeding. What the statesmen of our Western world have completely failed to do—namely, to control and direct back toward restoration the destructive forces let loose by the war—these Russians have accomplished. In this achievement they have perhaps saved not only their own country but all of Europe. I believe this to be the greatest achievement of modern times and one which is certain to rank the leaders of Soviet Russia among the supreme statesmen of history.

One Out of Five Women Work Outside Homes, the Census Says

WASHINGTON.—One of every five women in the United States is working to earn money, or, as the census bureau phrases it, is "gainfully employed." And the woman's bureau, U. S. department of labor, which says that the District of Columbia leads all the states in the proportion of gainfully employed women, has been trying to find out just why so many women work outside the home.

It has found, the bureau states, that women work because they need the money; they need it not only to support themselves, but for an even more urgent service; help in the support of their families. To illustrate, a typical family is cited in which the father works but does not earn enough to buy all the necessities of life for a family of six.

"The mother in family doesn't work," says the woman's bureau with grim humor. "At least she doesn't go out to work; all she does is the cooking and the housework and the cleaning and looking out for the two youngest children, and making their clothes and a few other little jobs like that to fill up her spare time! There are two older children, a girl 18 and a boy 20, both of whom work."

The difference is then indicated between the boy's wages in a garage and the girl's in a box factory, although both work the same number of hours. Another difference is that the girl turns over her pay envelope usually intact to her parents, while the boy keeps as "much as he needs." About seven of every 10 women who live at home turn in all their earnings to their families.

In its investigation of why women work the bureau often meets with this reply: "You bet I've turned in all my money to my family ever since I was a kid. . . . Now that I am married and my husband is working, people ask why I get out and work. Well, they don't know financial conditions. Our home is

BOX CAR SPASM On the Hairless Ape

J. FERGUSON.

Many, many years ago There lived upon this earth A hairless ape. The legends go Who had a tail at birth.

He used to swing high in the trees, It was his main delight To play out in the jungles And to sleep there in the night.

But time went on and all things changed; No more he cared to play By swinging on his tail on high But to walk upright each day.

And after ages had gone by His tail got numb and weak From idleness. It soon came A tailed ape was a freak.

He learned to talk and then began The troubles of the race, For they learned to disagree And hurt each other's face.

One monster ape became a king; The rest obeyed with fright. He made the mothers train their young To walk each day upright.

And so since time from us obscure This ape is called Human, And on his hind legs he parades, And thus the legends ran.

But now dame fashion marches in And makes him work for bread, So those who work can see no use Of using their own heads.

Thru idleness their tails they shed, They learned to walk through fear, Soon they'll be born without a head The time is very near.

And science goes with leaps and bounds, Faster and faster still, Soon one man can a button press And regulate the mill.

Then back to the jungles bonehead ape, Too late to think or read, Or sitting up like Aesop's frog Till some "Radical" helps you feed.

Now is the time to think and act While yet we can escape, For unless we ourselves get busy We'll be hairless, headless, bobtailed apes.

mortgaged and if the children are going to stay in school they just have to be dressed."

The woman's bureau repeats that while only about one-fifth of all wage-earning women are married, that fifth is working for the same reason as the other four-fifths; they need the money for themselves and their families.

Oil Men Denounce Government Regulation

By CARL HAESSLER

CHICAGO.—Oil men are spoiling for a fight against what they term radicalism but they haven't decided just where to start the attack or what weapons to use.

"We have organized to fight radical foes of a soundly conducted oil industry," said George D. Locke, Chicago, treasurer of the new American Oil Men's Assn., which elected officers recently in the gold room of the Congress hotel. "Our directors will meet soon and determine on our mode of attack and defense. They will decide whether we shall go into politics, how to employ publicity and what other measures may be necessary to protect our business."

Government regulation will be fought hard. Public ownership of anything smelling of oil is branded as disloyal not only to the business itself but to the best American institutions and proper patriotism, according to former Gov. Charles H. Brough of Arkansas, who made the principal banquet address.

The start of the oil men's war against the mild regulatory proposals of U. S. Sen. La Follette as he made them in his committee report to the senate, came with an editorial in the Chicago Tribune of March 6 entitled, Shall Ruin Be the Penalty of Success? The writer of the editorial stated that he does not own stock in Standard Oil or any other oil company and that he does not expect to own any. He declared, however, that the La Follette proposals were a sort of tyranny over business that cannot go on.

"Such thinking, and such attacks upon successful business of any kind threatens the same disaster. It means demoralization of industry and energy and threatens an end to all improvements," was his verdict. The editorial denounced what it imagined a plan to make the pipe lines common carriers, in ignorance of the fact that under the law pipe lines now are such common carriers. The Standard Oil Co. of Indiana immediately acted as though its own publicity man had written the Tribune editorial. It republished it in bold, large type with lots of white space as a four column full length advertisement in the metropolitan press, including the Tribune of March 8.

The American Oil Men's Assn. has now been organized to carry on. Among its officers are: President, H. M. McKenzie, Superior, Wis.; secretary, Melville C. Hill, Peoria, Ill.; treasurer, George D. Locke, Chicago.

P. P. Cosgrove Back from Kuzbas

(Federated Press)

MOSCOW.—P. P. Cosgrove, American director of the Kuzbas colony, has arrived in Moscow from the Kuznetsk basin and the Urals. He reports that conditions in the colony are much better than he had expected and that the engineering program both at Kemerovo and at the Nadejdzinsk steel plant is progressing quite satisfactorily.

He also reports that the stories concerning Kuzbas carried to America by the "White Feather" group have stirred the 400 American workers to both laughter and scorn.

There is no sickness at the camp at present and the most that have been sick at any one time, according to Cosgrove, was seven, a figure that compares very well with other American groups that have come to Russia for relief or reconstruction work during the past two years.

Another letter Cosgrove had in his pocket was from McDonald, the mine superintendent, who in outlining the system of management now in operation at Kemerovo, writes: "As mine superintendent I take part in every meeting of the miners' union consulting with the men on all problems that arise, and there has been, so far, not a single case of friction between men and management, either individually or collectively."

McDonald adds that the reason for this is probably the fact that the entire technical staff in the field sympathizes and endorses the ideals and aims of the working class.

The same letter from McDonald tells that the acute stages of the housing situation have been passed and that another winter will find the members of the colony well quartered and reasonably comfortable. "One by one we are surmounting the obstacles that confront us, day by day the outlook brightens."

The government has provided all the members of the colony with outerwear for the Siberian winter.

Reactionaries Poison Youth

(Continued from page 1)

So Duluth's tired wage workers may look for numerous news articles if local daily prints about Russian boots, Russian detectives, Russian bobbed hair (however Russian bobbed hair may differ from any other kind of bobbed hair) and other things Russian alongside the comical capers of the "Powerful Katrinka"—who, judging by her name, also must be Russian.

Just as Sinclair Lewis selected a Minnesota hamlet to describe his monotonous "Main Street" and just as he selected Duluth to portray his machine-like "Babbett"—a "new-rich" city with its sameness of thought—so it's quite natural to surfeit a community ruled by the "benevolent" United States Steel Corporation with lectures on Russia and the "horrible conditions" existing there.

Certain members of the Duluth Music Teachers' association are wondering just why it was necessary to camouflage a tub-thumping diatribe on Russian conditions by an English detective under the seductive heading of "Russian Music Before and After the Revolution," and charge one dollar and ten cents to each person paying to hear it.

Says Little About Music.

Detective Dukes said precious little about Russian music whilst retelling tittle-tattle that goes for bright sayings among bankrupt Russian emigres who fled from Russia after the fall of Czar Nicholas and Monk Rasputin as well as among America's "money bags."

Detective Dukes, however, has written a book on Russia, and Duluth's "bourgeoisie," who never would condescend to read such "common stuff" as the works of Turgeneff, Dostoleffsky, Tolstol, Gogol, Poushkin, Gorky and other Russian masters, were so "het up" over the English plain-clothes man's narrative that, according to an advance press notice printed in a Duluth daily paper, "arrangements are being made to have him autograph copies of his book."

Think what a priceless heirloom for Duluth's former kitchen-maids to hand down to their progeny! While Canada is so disgusted with the whole title business that its government called on the British authorities to stop bestowing these "empty baubles" on "new-rich" Canadians and while the British government itself tries to clean up the scandal resulting from the recent sales of titles to various nonentities, Paul Dukes, who recently married into the Vanderbilt family, receives a title!

Detective Shows Ignorance.

Since Paul said little about Russian or any other music it would be out of place to discuss this lofty subject in an article touching on his diatribe before a gullible Duluth audience!

"The 'Internationale' didn't originate in Russia; it is German; it was taken from Germany," Detective Dukes declared in his talk, and the Duluth News-Tribune's report, the next day, has this to say:

"Music fared even worse than the other arts, Sir Paul observed. National music in any form was suppressed. 'God Save the Czar' was supplanted by the harsh 'Made in Germany' Internationale, which is sung not once, but many times on every occasion. The contrast between the two as played by Sir Paul was painful; the first coming straight from the hearts of the people—the Internationale, so obviously artificial."

"Imagine, if you can, a hymn to the Czar of Russia 'coming straight from the hearts of the people!'"

Detective Dukes did not play the "Internationale" correctly on the piano. This is not to his discredit. Possibly he could not do so, though, like the writer of this article, he has heard it played at least a hundred times in Russia, often by the finest orchestras.

Nowhere have I heard it played as Paul Dukes tried to play it though I have heard this inspiring international song of the working class in twenty countries!

Raises Race Cry.

Nor did I ever hear anyone outside Paul Dukes say it is German. Germany, with all its love of music, cannot point to the "Internationale" as its own. The "Internationale" was composed by a Frenchman and the words sung to it in Russia are a translation of the only words sung anywhere—words written by Eugene Pottier, a Frenchman.

Possibly Detective Dukes realizes that many people in this country who feel that Washington officials lost time in getting this country into the bloody mess in Europe, are still fighting the war with Germany. Is this why he adds to his falsehood that the "Internationale" "was taken from Germany," a declaration

CO-OPERATIVES BUSY IN RUSSIA

NEW YORK.—Far from depending entirely on American relief administration assistance, the people of Russia are making every possible effort to relieve the famine situation through cooperation, according to the Cooperative League of America, with headquarters here. The league quotes a report which indicates that millions of the famine stricken in the hunger regions of Russia have been fed through the united efforts of the Russian consumers cooperative societies in the last year.

These societies, last year, purchased and distributed in the famine districts at least 324,000,000 pounds of corn, and 72,000,000 pounds of seeds and potatoes. Co-operative organizations at one time had in operation as many as 10,426 relief kitchens and distributing stations, feeding 1,802,086 persons free of charge.

SAFETY FIRST BLUFF

FALKE BARK.

"Safety First!" "Be Careful!" Big signs, small signs, inside and outside all over the Minnesota Steel plants buildings, posts, and fences. Everything that is big enough to hold a sign, has one. But! Do they mean anything? I was fired out of the place because I refused to work in a department I did not consider safe or healthy. Blast furnace work at ten hours a day, breathing gas did not appeal to me and I told them so. Did they give me work in another department? I received my time. I can now frame their card, Form 874, which says in real bolshevik red ink, "THE BEST SAFETY DEVICE KNOWN IS A CAREFUL PERSON." But when they find a careful person they give him his time. Safety rule number 9 on this card says, "Horse play or fooling will not be tolerated." It should continue and say, "except when indulged in by the bosses."

Safety First! Safety Bluff!

that the ideas of those who overthrew the ruling class in Russia "originated from a German Jew, Karl Marx, who never set foot in Russia."

It does not matter where a man was born. It does not matter what his parents taught him in childhood. Karl Marx was born in Germany, his father dropped religion and the son never was religious. He was exiled from Germany, married a member of the Scottish Duke of Argyle's family, and did most of his writing in England, where he died and is buried. One of his daughters married an Englishman while his two other daughters married Frenchmen. So that Karl Marx was somewhat of an internationalist.

Duluth's "aristocracy of ignorance," however, should not know the truth about the "Internationale" and Karl Marx, for why disturb the mental slumbers of human beings who praise Detective Dukes' ravings about Russia as a "great book" though they never heard of the truly great writers of that wonderful country.

Understands His Audience.

Is Detective Dukes a shrewd student of psychology? How else can we describe his silly reference to Leon Trotsky borrowing ten dollars from the cook of Charles Crane, United States minister to China, when Trotsky lived in New York? Surely such a fabrication would touch the hearts of Duluth's "elite" much more effectively than any discussion of Russian music! Why should Duluth's "aristocracy" not shudder at such a thought? How long is it since a number of these Duluth ladies, who belong to the "new-rich" families of "Babbett," themselves left off working in other peoples' kitchens? Of course, working as maids or cooks in other peoples' homes is no disgrace. Those who want a change in society are proud of all who do useful labor though these former kitchen maids seem to hide this part of their pedigrees.

Trotsky, as a matter of fact, went to New York City when capitalist henchmen forced him to leave Switzerland, Spain and Cuba. He remained in New York for six months carrying on uncompromising propaganda as a world revolutionist while writing for a revolutionary Russian newspaper.

But let us leave Duluth's "new-rich" to their dreams! Here endeth this description of Detective Paul Dukes' talk, a gala event indeed for Duluth's "aristocracy" with its bobbed-hair conception of Russia—a conception as real as the clever caricatures by Fontaine Fox entitled the "Powerful Katrinka."

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JAPAN'S FARMERS WILL CONSOLIDATE

By GERTRUDE HAESSLER

(Fed. Press Staff Correspondent)
TOKIO.—The greatest labor organization ever formed in this country is the result of the amalgamation of the two main agricultural labor unions.

Between 45% and 50% of all farmers in Japan are tenant farmers. Disputes between tenant and landlord have increased so that drastic measures are contemplated by the government to keep the young men on the farms.

The farmer boys have another solution. The farmers are forming a strong industrial union, with the purpose of eventually owning all the land, and also getting all the product of their labor. Until recently all agricultural labor agitations have been directed by the two leading agricultural organizations, with their headquarters in Tokio and Osaka. Representatives of each organization have met and formulated a plan to consolidate.

The farmers claim there is special danger this year to their interests because of the bumper crop and consequent low prices. The men think it queer that the more they produce the less they get, and in consequence many of the younger men are drifting to the cities. The new organization counts in its membership not only the former members of the two main groups, but hundreds who have regained interest in their profession.

The first aim is a general and permanent reduction of rent to 30%. Several men are already touring the country lecturing on the necessity of this move.

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NOTICE!

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

Imperialists Help Backward Nations By Robbing Them

Use Pious Phrases to Cover Their Tyrannical Oppression

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the nineteenth 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 on "Benevolent Assimilation" in this issue.)

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I want American people to know what to say when they are told that United States business men and United States soldiers are in the Philippines, Porto Rico, Santo Domingo and Panama to bless the inhabitants of these countries. I want them to know that it is an oft-repeated story—the plea of "helping the backward nations."

I have before me McKinley's proclamation to the Filipinos. He says: "Finally, it should be the earnest and paramount aim of the administration to win the confidence, respect and affection of the inhabitants of the Philippines by insuring to them in every possible way the full measure of individual rights and liberties which is the heritage of a free people, and by proving to them that the mission of the United States is one of benevolent assimilation, which will substitute the mild sway of justice and right for arbitrary rule. In the fulfillment of this high mission, while upholding the temporary administration of affairs for the greatest good of the governed, there will be sedulously maintained the strong arm of authority to repress disturbance and to overcome all obstacles to the bestowal of good and stable government upon the people of the Philippine Islands."

This reads very much like King George III of Great Britain, who said, with reference to the rebellious American colonists:

"I am desirous of restoring to them the blessings of law and liberty equally enjoyed by every British subject, which they have fatally and desperately exchanged for the calamities of war and the arbitrary tyranny of their chiefs."

PIOUS PHRASES USED TO DECEIVE.

Every conqueror, every tyrant, every oppressor, utters just such pious phrases to justify his course of action. The English-speaking people are particularly adept at this form of hypocrisy. Each act of aggression, each new expedition of conquest is prefaced by a pronouncement containing a moral justification and an assurance to the victims of the imperial aggression that all is being done for their benefit.

What are we about in the United States? Why this rush to control the Philippines, Haiti, Costa Rica? The answer can be given in one word—exploitation! It is the search for markets; the search for trade; the search for foreign investment opportunities that is leading us to the South and to the East. The plutocracy is after more profits—that is the cause behind American imperialism.

The imperialists' aim is to assimilate, not the people of these possessions, but their lands and their wealth. If the people will work, the American plutocrats will exploit their labor as well as the resources of their respective countries. If the people refuse to work, they will be brushed aside, and men and women who will be more amenable to discipline will be imported from some other country to take their places. Who was responsible for the Hawaiian revolution and for the subsequent annexation to the United States? The American and other capitalists who had gained possession of the best land on the islands. What interests led the State Department to interfere in Haiti and in Nicaragua? The same business forces. Imperialism is imperialism he world over. Occasionally it is sufficiently enlightened to have some regard for the welfare of the exploited populations. At other times it is as blind and ignorant and ferocious as the policy of the British imperialists in China.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT POISONS FOR PROFIT.

I spent a portion of the year 1898 in China and Japan, traveling ex-

tensively over both empires. At first hand, and from the best authority, I learned the policy that the British Government had pursued with regard to the traffic in opium, and I submit it as an excellent example of the way in which the empire builders act where they have an opportunity to make profits out of the wretchedness and suffering of a weaker people.

In Peking, I had several conferences with Li Hung Chang, who was then an old man, having been the virtual ruler of China for very many years under the Empress Dowager. In one of the conferences I asked Li Hung Chang why he did not stamp out opium smoking in China. He replied that he could not because the English Government refused to allow the Chinese to interfere with the trade. He then told me that in some of the provinces of China (for China is divided into a number of States) the Governors were raising poppies and making opium, in order to beat the English out of the trade in China. He said that he had tried to secure an agreement with the English under which he was to stop the raising of poppies in China provided the English would stop importing opium. This he had been unable to do, as the trade in opium was an English monopoly conducted by the Government itself.

CHINESE PROTEST.

According to his statement, the English had set apart a million acres of the best land in India for the purpose of raising poppies, and had compelled the people of India to raise the poppies and sell the product exclusively to the English Government. The English had built a factory to manufacture the opium, and every package that left the factory was decorated with the coat of arms of Queen Victoria. Opium was little used in China until the English introduced it early in the nineteenth century. The Emperor had protested against the opium trade, but the English Government insisted upon its right to sell opium to the Chinese. Finally, the Emperor of China sent his men aboard some English ships that were lying, loaded with opium, in the harbor of Canton, and threw the poison into the sea. Seventy years earlier the American colonists had set the precedent for this Canton opium party by going aboard the British ships in Boston Harbor and throwing the tea overboard. Today, the anniversary of the "Boston Tea Party" is one of the fete days of the people of New England. The British liked the exploit as little as the other, however, and they began a war with China (1840). This war, sometimes called the Opium War, was fought to open four other ports to British trade, and the First Opium War, went against China, and she was compelled to cede to pay an indemnity of 5,525,000 pounds sterling into the British Treasury. The matter came in for a good deal of comment in Parliament, but eventually it was dropped. In 1857 a new controversy arose, and the Emperor again undertook to exclude English opium, giving as the reason that it was destroying his people; that the drug was a deadly drug and was causing great injury, and he enacted laws making it a criminal offense for the people of China to smoke opium, or for anyone to import the drug. In connection with this campaign he confiscated the opium that the English had already imported and imprisoned the people who handled it.

SECOND OPIUM WAR.

England thereupon declared another war upon China which was called the Second Opium War (1858-1862). Again China was defeated. Canton was bombarded; Peking was threatened; and, after a disastrous struggle, the Chinese made a treaty under which several new ports were opened to British trade; a British Ambassador was received at Peking, and China paid an indemnity of 4,000,000 pounds sterling to the British. After each war, the British were able to bring opium into a few more Chinese ports.

The British had nothing against the Chinese. They sold them opium because there was money in it. If there had been no profits in the trade there would have been no opium war. Our imperial ventures, like those of the British, are financial. We are in the imperialist business because it pays the plutocrats to be there.

"Ashley even brought forward a resolution for the suppression of the opium trade, but withdrew it after a debate turning on the inability of the Indian Government to part with a revenue of 1,000,000 pounds sterling or more."—The History of England. Sydney Law and L. C. Sanders. Longmans. 1913. Vol. 12, p. 41.

fight, if what they all say is right.

Before the late war was declared, most every dog-goned preacher shared his Master's views of love of man, and was an ardent pro-peace fan. Most every preacher and his brother joined some society or other, against our entering the strife and settling things with gun and knife. They wrote their congressmen a note, in which they urged him not to vote for war, but urged him to stand pat for righteous This and pious That.

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DINNER PAIL EPICS

By BILL LLOYD

A man at Moody Institute is feared we will forget to shoot. He is one of those preacher guys who swallow all the current lies, and peddle out the wordy dope, as slick as grease and soft as soap. He makes it plain, as best he can, that he is really a he-man, who has a complex in his brain that Jesus Christ was hardly sane, when he spoke out for peace on earth and often told of a new birth.

This man, who wears his Master's coat, said things that surely got my goat. For great preparedness he is strong, and thinks small armies is all wrong. He talked of national defense, as if he thinks we are so dense as not to know, what's plain as day, that when they go to war they say that what the fight is all about is our defense beyond a doubt. They ain't no other kind of

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and God's were one, and pacifists were sons of guns.

The parsons, leaving us in lurch, now wonder why we ain't at church.

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He is a candidate at the Primary Election to be held Saturday, March 17, 1923.

He has been a resident and taxpayer of the city for thirty years. He has been a member of Organized Labor for 37 years and a Locomotive Engineer for 33 years.

He represented Organized Labor on the "Dry Committee" through all the campaigns to banish booze.



He stands for the Public Ownership of Public Utilities. He also stands for the determination of the City's business affairs by the Commission as a whole.

He stands for the enforcement of the laws to the letter, as well as Right and Justice for All and Special Privilege for None.

We Ask You to Support M. J. O'Rourke
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POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT.—Inserted by Central Labor Political Committee in behalf of W. F. Murnian and E. T. Hoberstad. Amount to be paid \$24.00.



W. F. MURNIAN



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CAST YOUR LABOR VOTE FOR LABOR MEN!

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!



ON THE FIRING LINE OF THE CLASS STRUGGLE

Who says there is not a class war going on? Each day the evidence of it is so overwhelming that one cannot mention half of it. In Little Rock, Arkansas, the Legislative Investigating committee is bluffing at probing into the armed attacks upon union men. Mrs. Edward Gregor, whose husband, a union machinist on strike, was taken from his home and hung by a mob, has related the story of her husband's brutal murder. But the mob that committed the murder represented the owning class. It was recruited by the Missouri and North Arkansas Railroad, so the committee will whitewash, of course.

Centralia, the burial ground for eight wobs killed by the Legionaires, has a frank judge now. He doesn't employ any hypocrisy about justice for wobs—not Judge Lloyd Dysart. He represents the lumber trust and when he was questioned by an I. W. W. as to whether the sixteen I. W. W. prisoners' constitutional rights were to be considered at all, he answered, "No, I do not consider any of your constitutional rights."

Intelligent workers know that judges do not consider the rights of workers but the frank admission by the judge of this fact is a bit extraordinary.

The Herrin union miners are being tried for a crime that lies at the door of the Lester mine owners. They imported the gunmen to shoot the union men. They also imported scabs. But the mine owners are not being tried. Workers are being tried.

In Berrien County, Michigan, William Z. Foster, one of the seventeen communists arrested in the red raids, is on trial. The owning class have spared neither money nor energy in concentrating on this group of workers, who are active in the labor movement. They preach organization of the working class. This is a crime. The secret meeting was also a crime. Organization and secret meetings are permissible only to the capitalist class. Diplomats, capitalists' errand boys, can hold secret meetings also without being disturbed. Even congressmen may hold secret confabs, but not the workers. The workers are lined up in a capitalist court and given justice. The prisons will hold more.

Mooney, Billings, Bental, Chaplin, Bourg, Sacco, Vanzetti and hundreds of others are still there. But some of them may die soon; then there will be more room. Magon's body is hardly cold; Anna Leisman, New York, died outside the prison; they let her out to die after they broke her health. Their fiendish torture of Sacco will soon be ended by Sacco's death unless the workers act. This is not even half of the story of the conflicts between the working class and the owning class. But it is enough to show that there are classes and that the fight on between them is not a Sunday school picnic. Yet there are hundreds of workers so stupid that they deny the class struggle. They read only the master-class papers. The militant workers can at last help to release the brains of these slaves by circulating working class papers. Educate, educate, educate! *Intelligent workers organized can free themselves.* Dumbheads organized can flounder around in resolutions a life time and get nowhere.

MPLS LABOR CURED OF ISMS

Minneapolis had Sammy Gompers scared. The I. W. W. as well as the Communists there have been noisily boring within the Minneapolis Trades and Labor Assembly. Sammy heard the noise and straightway sent one of his healers, Paul Smith, to cure the Minneapolis labor movement of isms.

Paul Smith gave them their choice. They could have their charter revoked by the American Federation of Labor or go on record officially as opposed to the I. W. W., Communists and advocates of the One Big Union by adopting a set of Gompers' ready-made *Whereases* and *Therefore*s.

They meekly chose passing the resolutions by a vote of 44 to 7. They took their medicine although it was bitter. *Sammy is on his throne. Alf's right with Minneapolis until Sammy tuts.*

The text of the resolution follows:

"Whereas, the Minneapolis Trades and Labor assembly being chartered by the American Federation of Labor the same as all other central bodies, which makes it a trade union organization governed by the constitution and policies as laid down from time to time by conventions of the American Federation of Labor represented by delegates representing the various affiliated bodies of the trade union movement, and

"Whereas, subordinate branches, such as state federations and central bodies have only such authority as is vested in them by the parent organization for the guidance of their conduct in dealing with trade union matters, and

"Whereas, for the past few years considerable publicity has been given by 'capitalist press' and the enemies of the trade union movement by the method of mis-

representation and publicity as to the so-called 'boring from within' resulting in the impression being created that the Minneapolis trade union movement is dominated by the I. W. W.'s, communist and advocates of the one big union for the purpose of destroying the trade union movement, and

"Whereas, the Minneapolis Labor Review, which is owned and controlled by the Minneapolis Trades and Labor assembly, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, which should be a strictly 'trade union' publication, edited in conformity with the policy of the trade union movement as exemplified by the American Federation of Labor, and

"Whereas, we do not believe articles should appear in the Minneapolis Labor Review that would have a tendency to aid and abet those persons and so-called organizations whose motive may be the destruction of the trade union movement, or whose motive is alliance to the 'Red International,' or whose motive is promotion of the I. W. W., or any other dual organization, and we declare our belief that no local trade union should take any such action, and we hereby declare ourselves to be strictly in support of the policy of the American Federation of Labor, and

"Whereas, we do not propose to take any action that would give aid and comfort to such organizations as the 'Citizens' Alliance,' 'The Manufacturers' Association' and the 'Open Shop Movement' in general, or that may be used by such organizations through falsehoods and misrepresentation to injure the trade union movement, it being our whole purpose to correct any misrepresentation as to our loyalty to the trade union movement. Therefore, be it

"Resolved, by the Minneapolis Trade and Labor assembly, in meeting assembled, that we hereby pledge ourselves to a strict compliance to the principles and policies of the trade union movement as laid down by the American Federation of Labor, to the end of dispelling any doubt as to the loyalty of the Minneapolis Trades and Labor Assembly to the trade union movement, and to the elimination as far as possible of any misrepresentation and the so-called 'boring from within,' which may be for the purpose of injuring or destroying the movement.

"Resolved, that the editor of the Minneapolis Labor Review is hereby directed to edit the Minneapolis Labor Review in conformity with the above resolution, in harmony with the aims, aspirations and policy of the trade union movement as exemplified by the American Federation of Labor; and, be it further

"Resolved, that a copy of the above resolution be furnished to all affiliated locals, one copy to the president of the American Federation of Labor, and published in the Labor Review."

TRADE BUT NOT RECOGNIZE

Important trade pacts are pending with Russia. According to dispatches from Moscow more agents of foreign business organizations are there than ever before. The Standard Oil company and the Dutch Shell company are there in the interest of oil fields. Swedish and Norwegian commercial groups are there as are the British engineering coal and timber concession representatives.

Most interesting is the fact that Latvia has made important proposals which if agreed to will reopen the great Riga route into the middle of Russia. There are hopeful signs that indicate Latvia's reunion with Russia soon. The commercial treaty with Poland will be of advantage to both countries. Poland needs raw materials, Russia manufactured products. Negotiations are being carried on between Turkey and Russia which will probably result in commercial pacts between these two countries.

United States business men can trade with Russia but we cannot recognize her officially. We could recognize the Czar's government because it suited us better than the working-class government. Senator Borah's plea for recognition of the Soviet government was followed by an attack upon Russia by Lodge which would be laughable if it were not serious. With the assistance of friends of the old czar he was able to show to his own satisfaction that although the bolsheviks are *not powerful in Russia*, if they are recognized they are *powerful enough* to destroy the old United States. Consistency, thy name is Lodge.

CRUSHING AND MERGING

As capitalism approaches the breaking point the machinery of production becomes concentrated into fewer and fewer hands. More and more small competitors who get in the way of the large interests are crushed. More and more mergers take place between concerns which would otherwise be competitors.

The Anaconda Copper company, the largest Copper producer in the world, has taken over the Chile Copper Company. The independent steel companies are getting together. The Bethlehem Steel company is taking over the Midvale and Lackawanna. This means that forty-two companies will be under one control. The Federal Trade Commission says it shall not be done, bluffing the public, but Bethlehem is willing to take a chance on winning out in the Supreme court. It is going ahead.

Secretary of Agriculture Wallace protests against the merger of Armour and Morris packing companies. But this protest is only for the consumption of the gullible. If the packers want to merge they will merge. They have the money to buy their right to merge. Between 1910 and 1919 the Big Five packers killed off over 185 competitors. Wallace couldn't stop the merger if he wanted to.

This is the natural result of the development of capitalism. Fewer and fewer kings of industry, more and more wage slaves. More wealth for the few, poorer fodder for the many. When some of the small business men are driven to the wall and reduced to fodder more hell will break loose. They will not like fodder, they have tasted real food. Maybe they will put some pep into the masses of the workers who seem to have become resigned to a fodder diet. They may speed up organization.

VERY PROGRESSIVE!

The Farmer-Labor block in the Minnesota state legislature refused to endorse a bill to repeal the Criminal Syndicalism and Espionage laws of this state proposed by one of its members. This shows how those who are most progressive when chasing for office are soon nice and docile for the system tools when they are once safely in.

HOPE IN SPITE OF FASCISM

German monarchists are busy. They are aided and abetted by the French whose aim is to break Germany's resistance by means of internal dissensions.

Counts, princesses, princes and other representatives from the monarchists of Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Italy have gathered in Munich. A Mussolini to lead them is also on hand with troops at his command. Herr Hitler, a half mad, shell-shocked Austrian, is now leader of the White Terrorist troops. He has already consulted with Mussolini on tactics and he is reported to have plenty of funds at his command.

When the Communists were in control in 1919 the Social-Democrats approved when the White Terrorists murdered the Communists. They were the "dirty reds" then. By this time even the Social-Democrats are considered "dirty reds" and are terrorized. Trade union members are hunted and also treated to violence if they resist.

As far as the German workers are concerned they are at the present time really under a monarchist dictatorship. The Cuno-Stinnes bunch that is using them to fight the French capitalists is quite as disastrous as a bourgeois dictatorship by any other name.

In spite of the chaos abroad the Russian trade unionists are not pessimistic yet. They have confidence in the intelligence and backbone of the German workers in the Ruhr. They have shown this by sending the Germans money from their own scanty supplies. Mussolini may keep the proletariat suppressed, underground and in prison for a time, but they cannot save the capitalist system which is in a blind alley. M. Maisky of Moscow says:

"As long as the Comintern and Soviet Russia continue to exist, European reaction cannot raise its head very high. Fascist possibilities are limited, and every grade of bourgeois dictatorship obtained under such circumstances furthers the revolutionary education of the workers. The Italian Fascismo will not annihilate the Italian proletarian movement, but it will certainly annihilate the reformist opportunist delusions of this movement. It will be the same in other countries. The epoch of reactionary offensive brings much suffering and sorrow to the working masses of the west, but it steels their heart and strengthens their will. And thus the bourgeois dictatorship of to-day paves the way for the proletarian dictatorship of tomorrow, for the all-European socialist revolution. And there are many signs that this day is not so far distant."

SKIMMING SCUM

A copyrighted article in the Chicago Sunday Herald Examiner says, *Revolutions skim the scum off the top of society.* It avers, "this helps society even as skimming helps the soup." It even mentions the Russian revolution as having a wholesome effect because it wiped out the Czar, Grand Dukes and more of the scum on top. While we are bobbing our heads in approval it is well to remember that *scum* whether it be at the top or at the bottom is the *result of the profit system.* And revolutions that do not secure the end of this system are of no lasting benefit, for more scum will be bred.

ITALY TAKES BEST OF TRIPOLI

During the war the population of Tripoli rebelled against Italy. Mussolini says this was due to a group of agitators who were not satisfied with a constitution that granted them the same rights as Italian citizens. When the Fascisti came into power they immediately began military operations in Tripoli and now they have driven out all the rebels and control all the habitable part of Tripoli. This is for the good of the population of course. Tenderhearted imperialism, the natural growth of capitalism, wins.

BUSINESS IS BUSINESS

Business is business, particularly when it is international business. Just when the German and French governments were being most vituperative to each other last month, an innocent little bill regarding a fertilizer factory came before the French Chamber of Deputies. The curious thing about it was that this bill included a fifteen-year agreement with the Badische Anilin Works, by which German engineers were to equip a factory at Toulouse in southern France, and the German workers of the Haber process of nitrogen extraction were to give the French company all their formulas and processes, and the right to inspect all parts of their German factories at any time. In return France was to pay these Germans five million francs per annum, and from 2 to 4 per cent of the net profits. The agreement also included a division of markets so that the Germans and French would not undercut each other's prices by competition. The debates in the French Parliament made it plain that the French realized the military importance of the Haber process, which saved Germany when her Chilean nitrate supply was cut off in the war. Presumably the German owners—whose shares doubled in value a few hours after the French Chamber ratified the agreement—also realized the military importance of their invention to France. But—business is business. That is M. Poincare's motto, too: M. Tardieu has just revealed the fact that the French War Ministry supplied the Turks with 10,000 uniforms, 10,000 rifles, 2,000 horses, and ten airplanes before the Greek offensive last summer, and that just before putting through the 400,000,000-franc loan to Poland M. Poincare approved selling French airplanes to Russia.—*The Nation.*

FLANDERS FIELD

BELLA NEUMAN ZILBERMAN.

*Green grasses wave o'er the ill-made mound,
Or a poppy, red, springs from the blood-soaked ground—
Where the soldier-dead in silence sleep—
That the gods of greed may prestige keep.*

"Wherever on this earth men are concerned about justice the *Mooney Case* is known and California is damned."—*Rev. Mercer G. Johnson.*

"When you are not slandered, when you are not denounced, when you are not put into prison, it is because you are not doing your duty."—*Anatole France.*

WORKERS ARE APPENDAGES TO MACHINES

Carl Marx—*Communist Manifesto.*

But not only has the bourgeoisie forged the weapons that bring death to itself; it has also called into existence the men who are to wield those weapons—the modern working-class—the proletarians.

In proportion as the bourgeoisie, i. e., capital, is developed, in the same proportion is the proletariat, the modern working-class, developed, a class of laborers, who live only so long as they find work, and who find work only so long as their labor increases capital. These laborers, who must sell themselves piecemeal, are a commodity, like every other article of commerce, and are consequently exposed to all the vicissitudes of competition, to all the fluctuations of the market.

Owing to the extensive use of machinery and to division of labor, the work of the proletarians has lost all individual character, and, consequently, all charm for the workman. He becomes an appendage of the machine, and it is only the most simple, most monotonous, and most easily acquired knack that is required of him. Hence the cost of production of a workman is restricted almost entirely, to the means of subsistence that he requires for his maintenance, and for the propagation of his race. But the price of a commodity, and also of labor, is equal to its cost of production. In proportion, therefore, as the repulsiveness of the work increases, the wage decreases. Nay more, in proportion as the use of machinery and division of labor increases, in the same proportion the burden of toil also increases, whether by prolongation of the working hours, by increase of the work enacted in a given time, or by increased speed of the machinery, etc.

Modern industry has converted the little workshop of the patriarchal master into the great factory of the industrial capitalist. Masses of laborers, crowded into the factory, are organized like soldiers. As privates of the industrial army they are placed under command of a perfect hierarchy of officers and sergeants. Not only are they the slaves of the bourgeoisie class, and of the bourgeoisie State, they are daily and hourly enslaved by the machine, by the over-looker, and, above all, by the individual bourgeois manufacturer himself. The more openly this despotism proclaims gain to be its end and aim, the more petty, the more hateful and the more embittering it is.

The less the skill and exertion or strength implied in manual labor, in other words, the more modern industry becomes developed, the more is the labor of men superseded by that of women. Differences of age and sex have no longer any distinctive social validity for the working class. All are instruments of labor, more or less expensive to use, according to their age and sex.

No sooner is the exploitation of the laborer by the manufacturer, so far at an end, that he receives his wages in cash, than he is set upon by the other portions of the bourgeoisie, the landlord, the shopkeeper, the pawnbroker, etc.

The lower strata of the Middle class—the small trades-handicraftsmen and peasants—all these sink gradually into people, shopkeepers, and retired tradesmen generally, the proletariat, partly because their diminutive capital does not suffice for the scale on which Modern Industry is carried on, and is swamped in the competition with the large capitalists, partly because their specialized skill is rendered worthless by new methods of production. Thus the proletariat is recruited from all classes of the population.

CRIPPLED LOCOMOTIVES HERE AND IN RUSSIA

The shopmen's strike, or lockout, as the railway-employees call it, is still unsettled on roads comprising half the mileage of the country. The latest strike-bulletin issued by the employees gives a list of seventeen roads, representing over a fourth of the total railway-mileage, on which, according to the report for November of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the average of unserviceable locomotives was upwards of 35.1 per cent. The worst of these was the Missouri, Kansas and Texas, with nearly forty-eight per cent of its locomotives in bad order; two other roads averaged over forty-six per cent. The Department of Commerce recently reported that on October 1 last, 59.6 per cent of the locomotives on Russian railways were unserviceable. This appears, as the strike-bulletin points out, to be only twelve or thirteen per cent worse than the condition of locomotives on some of our railways. When one considers that this country has not been devastated by foreign invasions and civil wars, and has not suffered from any economic blockade, the terrible blight of bolshevism would seem to be making a fairly creditable showing as compared with our boasted American efficiency.—*The Freeman.*

POTATO GROWER GETS RICH

On September 28, 1923, J. D. Nelson shipped 657 bushels of potatoes from Zimmerman, Minnesota, to Humboldt, Iowa, a distance of about 190 miles. The potatoes left Zimmerman on the 28th of September and arrived at Humboldt, Iowa, ten days later. The freight amounted to \$191.38. During the ten days the price of potatoes had gone down so Mr. Nelson stored them. They are still in storage at 15 cents per hundred pounds per month. Potatoes can be bought for 50 cents a bushel today, according to grocers. Who wants to take Mr. Nelson's potatoes off his hands?

DON'T FORGET!

On Saturday night, March 17, at Workers' Hall there will be a St. Patrick's Masquerade at which one of Carl Nordmark's beautiful paintings will be given away as a prize to the one wearing the most original costume. Admission 50 and 25 cents.

On Tuesday evening, March 20, the Ladies' Sewing Circle entertains with a short snappy program and then a dance and refreshments, all for thirty-five cents. This is the first Spring Festival of the season. Don't miss it.

On Thursday evening, March 29, the Hall Association will entertain. Come and see who gets the piano. A chance goes with every ticket of admission. Watch next week's notice in Truth.