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Twelve Months for Five—Six Months for Seven Others.

(Daily Mail, Nov. 26.)

The Communist trial concluded before Mr. Justice Swift at the Old Bailey last evening. All the twelve men were found guilty on each of the three counts. Five of them were sentenced to 12 months in the second division and the other seven, refusing to be bound over, to six months in the second division. The jury were only 15 minutes in considering their verdict. The twelve men were charged with conspiring to publish seditious libels, to incite persons to commit breaches of the Incitement of Mutiny Act, 1797, and to seduce persons serving in His Majesty's Forces.

The sentences were as follows:—
Twelve Months in the Second Division
Albert Samuel Inkpin, 41, Secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain.

William Charles Rust, 22, Secretary of the Young Communist League.
Harry Pollitt, 30, member of the executive of the Communist International.

William Gallacher, 43, and
Walter Hanington, 30.
All these had been previously convicted.

Six Months in the Second Division.
Ernest Walter Cant, 33, formerly London organizer of the Communist Party.

John Ross Campbell, 30, Editor of the Workers' Weekly.

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AGENTS FOR NEWFOUNDLAND.

Thomas Bell, 43.
Arthur McManus, 35, member of the executive of the Communist International.

John Thomas Murphy, 38.
Walter Page Arnot, 34, director of Labour Research Department.

The Second Division.

Imprisonment without hard labor is classified into three divisions. In the second division prisoners are clothed in dress of a different colour from those in the third division, are segregated as far as possible, and are allowed certain privileges with regard to letters and visits.

CLOSING SCENES—THE JUDGE'S SUMMING UP.

When the hearing was resumed all the prisoners had red roses in their button-holes. One of the men occupied himself with a cross-word puzzle during the summing-up.

The Attorney-General (Sir Douglas Hogg, K.C.), concluding his final speech to the jury, said that the whole programme of the Young Communist League reeked with sedition. It included a wholesale attempt to seduce the Army and destroy the loyalty of the Forces.

"If they have so far succeeded," said Sir Douglas, "that they have established in this country a body of no fewer than 5,000 persons—who have been misled by these poisonous doctrines and who were prepared to undertake these illegal activities: if it be true that they have succeeded with good results, as they say, in getting 14,000 pernicious pamphlets spread among loyal servants of His Majesty the King, is it not time these activities were ended, that the public were warned that, in the guise of economic demands, they were in fact attempting to carry out an armed revolution which the people would never desire; that in the guise of sympathizing with possibly just grievances of soldiers and sailors they were really endeavoring to sap their loyalty and to disintegrate the Army of which these soldiers are loyal members?"

Mr. Justice Swift, summing up, said that in cross-examination there was a good deal of criticism of the methods adopted by the police, amounting to a charge of police spying.

Nobody (commented his lordship) regrets more than we do—unless it be the police themselves—that such methods have to be adopted. But if a crime is committed in secret, or is believed to be committed in secret, secret methods and subterfuge have to be adopted in order that it may be found out.

Passing on to the suggestion that the prosecution was inaugurated by one political party in order to exterminate another political party, Mr. Justice Swift said that the fact that the defendants belonged to a political party might or might not have some significance. But that they were prosecuted by a rival political party could have no significance at all.

If the evidence proved the accused men to be guilty it was, beside the question who prosecuted them or why they were prosecuted. If the jury came to the conclusion that in the documents were statements of principles which would lead to civil war, which implied that it was lawful to employ physical force against the Government, that the language tended to subvert the Government of the Empire, then it would be their duty to find the defendants guilty.

Defining what was meant by "the Government of this country," Mr. Justice Swift said it was not a Conservative or Labour Government—not Mr. MacDonald or Mr. Baldwin. When they were talking about sedition the object of which was to overthrow the Government, they were speaking of government by the King in Parliament—that Government which was going on the whole of the time. What was meant by overthrowing the Government was a complete change in the constitution, the abolition of the King and the House of Commons and a substitution of some form of Government by a committee of workers.

Russia.
Dealing with the letters which it was suggested meant the transmission of money from Russia by secret channels, Mr. Justice Swift pointed out that if the defendants had not gone into the witness-box there were people who could have done so and explained what the letters really meant. "But don't let this question unduly alarm you, and do not give it an importance it is not entitled to," he said. "It is due position seems to be that from Moscow the Communist Party achieved its first successes."

If they thought these men had received money from Russia they would ask themselves the further question: "Would the Communist Party in Russia be likely to send their money to people in England to preach doctrines other than those which were desired by every Communist International all over the world?"

It would be laughable if it were not so serious to suggest that anyone could persuade sailors and soldiers not to carry out their orders. What would happen if they allowed that? There would soon be a revolution. It would be a sad day for our country if, when such things as treason, insurrection, tumult, and sedition occurred, the Government of the country was not strong enough to bring those suspected of them before the courts of law.

When the two prison motor vans containing the sentenced men left the Old Bailey there were about fifty people waiting. The prisoners in the vans started cheering, but the crowd responded only faintly. Two mounted City constables rode in front of the vans and Blackfriars Bridge was reached, while three police vans full of Metropolitan constables followed the prisoners to the gates of Brixton Prison.

It is understood that to-morrow the men will be drafted to another prison, probably Wormwood Scrubs.

The convictions will be discussed at a joint meeting at the House of Commons to-day of the executive of the Labour Party and the general council of the Trades Union Congress.

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"It is an important case," said Mr. Justice Swift, "you must weigh the evidence carefully; you must remember that it is for the prosecution to make out their case. Since our history as a nation began our country has happily been singularly free from treason, insurrection, tumult, and sedition. But from time to time in its history these things have occurred, and they will occur again."

It would indeed be a sad day if, when sedition was proved to have occurred, there was the slightest hesitation on the part of the jury or judges in putting down such offences.

The jury retired and found a verdict of Guilty against all the prisoners.

"It Must Stop."

The judge, addressing the prisoners, said:

The jury have found you 12 men guilty of the serious offences of conspiracy to utter seditious libels and to incite people to induce the soldiers and sailors to break their oath of allegiance. It is obvious from the evidence which was given before the jury that you are members of an illegal party carrying on illegal work in this country. It must stop.

Addressing Inkpin, Rust, Pollitt, Gallacher, and Hanington, the judge said they had been convicted before. "You have had your warning as to the dangers of what you do. You will now be sent to prison for 12 months, and in order that you will not be associating with the ordinary criminal class, you will be sent to the second division."

The judge intimated that if the remaining prisoners would promise to have nothing to do with their association or the doctrines which it preached he would bind them over to be of good behaviour. They refused, however, to give this promise, and were sentenced as already stated.

A request was made that the married prisoners might see their wives. The wardens stated that it would be very inconvenient, but the judge said: "Let the inconvenience be overcome. I desire that their wives may see them."

Mrs. Rust, wife of one of the prisoners, collapsed on hearing the sentence and was taken out of court unconscious.

Off to Prison.
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Teaching of Economics in Public Schools is Urged

ST. LOUIS—Teach economics in the schools to prevent the nation from being overwhelmed by governmental expenditures. Gen. Guy E. Tripp, chairman of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company told the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce and the Electrical Board of Trade at a joint meeting here.

The rapid growth of government expenditures—Federal, State, and local—is one of the most pressing problems we now have to face, said Gen. Tripp.

While it must be recognized, he said, that the services of the government to every individual are invaluable, and that the demand for improved roads, better schools and other betterments will constantly increase the cost of government, nevertheless business men are beginning to criticize the present tax situation because a large proportion of the increase of the tax burdens is used for repression rather than for constructive purposes; because the nation and the communities do not get full value in services received for what they pay for taxes, and because the cost of collection is in itself a very heavy burden.

No Chance for Business
The situation, said Gen. Tripp, is one that requires the best of our abilities to handle. Successful business men who are experienced in solving similar problems should properly play an active part in solving the economic problems that now confront the country. Indeed, they are constantly being criticized for not becoming active in politics.

But, unfortunately, it is practically impossible for a successful business man to get elected to a high official position.

"Because men cannot do much in office because few of them can get there if they want to," said the speaker, "and if you, who are experts, can't or won't devote your abilities to public service, then the best you can do is to press for a widespread economic education."

"Education and training have demonstrated their value in almost every department. Then why not try them in economics? Why not establish in our grammar schools, a simple course where it can be iterated and reiterated to the children that the only safe course in life is to spend less than they earn both in their private affairs and in public expenditures? It seems to me it would be just as simple and effective to teach a child in school a few plain economic facts as it is to teach him to brush his teeth and keep clean."

"There can be no honest difference of opinion about doctrines of thrift, honesty and the duty of a citizen to know something about his responsibilities. It is worth trying anyhow, and perhaps the next generation may then handle their financial affairs more intelligently than we are now handling ours."

CONFEDERATION LIFE.
nov23.1f

**How Water
Flows Up-Hill**

The ascent of sap in plants is so commonplace an occurrence that we seldom stop to consider what a truly amazing thing it is, writes Dr. Frank Thorne in Science Service's Daily Science News Bulletin (Washington). Here is an apparent contradiction of the law of gravitation, going on all about us all the time. On every summer day, in every field and woodland, water flows up-hill, whether only a fraction of an inch in the humble mosses or a couple of hundred feet in a towering tree. We read:

A single full-grown maple or linden will evaporate from its leaves as much as a barrel of water in a single day, and this must, of course, be replaced by sap flowing up the trunk. The water sent into the air by all the plants combined must be comparable in quantity with the water carried off by the rivers.

How the water gets up-hill in the trunks and stems of trees and plants has long been a sore puzzle to scientists. Several theories have been proposed, none of them very satisfactory. Until recently the one most commonly favored was known as the theory of "capillarity," which assumed that the water rose in a stem much as oil rises in a wick, through the natural tendency of liquids to climb up in narrow tubes and crevices. The trouble was, however, that ordinary capillary attraction could not raise water high enough or fast enough to account for all the losses through evaporation and use within the plant. Then there was another theory that took into account a supposed pumping action by the roots, or a so-called "root pressure."

A comparatively recent development is a theory that seems to explain the phenomenon and at the same time to be free from the objections that have overwhelmed the earlier ideas. This theory is largely the outcome of experiments by a British scientist, Professor Dixon. He found that by sealing a column of water in a glass tube

and using appropriate experimental means, he could make the water carry a considerable weight without breaking. Ordinarily, of course, we think of a system of water as a thing as unstable as a rope of sand, but the trick seems to lie in getting rid of all the air, for when this was done the water column could support a strain of several hundreds of pounds per square inch.

This is exactly the condition we find in the stems of plants. The fine fibers of which all stems are largely made up are really exceedingly slender tubes, in which water is carried as sap, but from which all air is excluded.

These tubes are connected with each other from the ends of the remotest roots to the edges of the topmost leaves. It is thus possible to think of the evaporation from the leaves setting up a strain or pull on the water in the tubes, which is transmitted as through a system of slender silver wires, drawing the water up as rapidly as it is needed, and even reaching out into the soil in contact with the roots and obtaining a fresh supply from outside.

Trade and the Flag
(A. M. Samuel says we owe our Indian Empire to the craving of human nature for pepper.) In spite of our long struggles with the Dutch for the Spice Islands, pepper was not the only bait that drew English adventurers to India. We have a kindness for the pepper hypothesis. There is a pleasant irony in the fancy that England's share of the world depends upon her love of the crust. But we are not able to believe it. These theories which trace everything in man's history to material and economic needs, the Siege of Troy to the corn trade, the Roman Empire to the mining interests, the Empire to the grocers, are

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