

Our English Page.

Swedish Industrial Triumphs Abroad.

By Holger Lundbergh.

Assistant Manager, The American-Swedish News Exchange, Inc.

"The World is Our Territory" might well be the proud boast of Sweden's modern industries. The Swedish match, probably the best known article on the globe to-day, is being struck against "lädans plan" countless times a second in the remotest places of the earth. Swedish telephones on the L. M. Ericsson manufacture carry messages in a score of languages through hundreds of thousands of miles of wire and cable. The "Primus" kerosene stove is equally well known by campers from Copenhagen to Calcutta. The one carried by Andréa on his balloon flight toward the North Pole was found intact and in working order after 33 years in the ice. The SKF ball bearings reduce friction and save operating expenses in a manifold of manufacturing branches.

Elektrolux suction sweepers and refrigerators facilitate the work of housewives in Rome, New York, and in Rome, Italy, while the automatic AGA bacon keeps seafarers on their course towards Portsmouth or Pernambuco. Electric motors bearing the well known ASEA stamp perform uncountable duties of lighter or heavier kind. Swedish lumber helps to prop the pits in English coal mines. Swedish iron-ore is greatly depended upon to keep the German iron works in the Ruhr valley going, and on paper made from Swedish wood-pulp are printed millions of newspapers, magazines, and books.

It is, indeed, thanks to these world-wide ramifications, that the Swedish industries have been able to weather the universal trade depression. Naturally, a certain slowing down in employment and output has been noticeable, but so far it has been of minor importance. In the first place, the financial position of the major Swedish industries is unusually sound and strong. Also, the introduction of modern time and labor saving machinery have helped to increase the output, maintain a high quality of the manufactured articles, and at the same time assure the industrialists of a fair profit and a favorable price on the world market. The largest undertaking of Swedish industry and engineering abroad is the construction, in cooperation with other nations, of two railroad lines in Turkey, measuring in all 1,1000 kilometers. Twenty-one Swedish engineers are now engaged on this gigantic enterprise, for which the majority of the rolling stock is being supplied by the Nydquist & Holm Company, of Trollhättan, near Gothenburg.

One branch will link the capital, Ankara, with the port city of Ereğli, the ancient Heraclea, while the other will run from Keller, on the Bagdad line, to Diarbekchr, in Kurdistan. In addition to this work, the Nydquist & Holm firm has also been commissioned to help in the building of a bridge across the river Euphrat, and in establishing a ferry route from Europe to Asia.

In the hydroelectric field, Swedish industry and engineering have also scored, the most important work done in this line being the installation of generators and turbines in the power plants at Volhov, in Soviet Russia, and at Imatra, in Finland. Turbines of this make will also be used at Svir, where Soviet Russia is erecting three huge power units. They will supply current to Leningrad. Swedish electrical machinery of the ASEA brand is also used in the station at Aranpunis, New Zealand, and at the plant on the Perak River, on the Malaccan peninsula.

Swedish iron and steel, both in their natural state and in the form of all kinds of tools and implements, world industries began its activity very modestly, in the ancient town

of Arboga. That was forty-seven years ago. Ten years later, it transferred its headquarters to Västerås in central Sweden, where its main office and principal manufacturing plants still are located. The company now, besides its huge electrical plants, has mines, forests, cable works, iron and steel works, a paper mill, and steam turbine works of its own in Sweden. It also has important manufacturing plants in England, Norway and Russia and a net of subsidiary companies, agents, sales offices, and different countries.

The manufacture includes electrical locomotives, tram cars, elevators, cranes, and switchgear. The company specializes in the electrification of railways and mills of all kinds, the building of power stations, transmission, hydroelectric plants, etc. To give an idea of the size of its production capacity it may be mentioned that the department for the manufacture of small electric motors has an annual capacity of over 40,000 motors in the sizes of 1/10 to 300 horsepower and a floor space of about 300,000 square feet.

The ASEA manufacturing activity comprises practically all machinery and equipment used for high tension electrical purposes, from switches, safety fuses, and sewing machine motors to the biggest generators and transformers made in the world, several of which have been installed abroad, even in distant countries such as Canada and New Zealand. The company also is commissioned to carry out the extensive electrification work and to make the locomotives for the Swedish state railways.

The ASEA also controls the important financing and exploitation companies, The Electro-Invest and the Aktiebolaget Skandinaviska Elektricitetsverket. These concerns were formed for the taking over, organizing, or financing of electrical enterprises. The Electro-Invest operates in foreign countries, while the Aktiebolaget Skandinaviska Elektricitetsverket confines its activity mainly to Sweden.

Under the direction of Mr. J. S. Edström, the present managing director, one of Sweden's foremost industrial organizers and leaders, the ASEA concern is continuously developing its activities and its foreign markets. Thanks to the rationalization of its manufacturing methods and its technical perfection, it is regarded as one of the most progressive and efficient enterprises of its kind in the world.

Tankar och reflektioner.

(Forts. fr. sidan 6)

Slutsatsen av det hela är, att så länge privat monopol över penningflödet existerar, så kommer folket — den produzierande klassen — och al- som utföra nyttig tjänst att uttisgas. Arbetslösheten växer och den stora massan bli allt fattigare och existensen otryggare. Men privatmonopol har vidare utsträckning och följen är som ovan nämnts. Den hopade vinsten i form av pengar och varor m. m. kontrolleras av finansmännen och industrimagnaterna och exportbolagen ha ett mål i sikte: nämligen investering för ytterligare vinst — den största möjliga. Därfor måste man finna marknad i utlandet för detta överskottskapital, som ut- siktts från den producerande klassen hemma. Man måste finna marknad för de produkter och varor — som ej folket hemma konsumerat eller kunnat köpa. En del av dessa marknadssorter ha vunnits med indirekt såväl som direkt väld — krig. Sedan man då vunnit fotfäste för sina investeringar och därav försvarande utsugeri av främmande länder arbetsklass, så driver de respektive hem — sänder var regering att med flotta och militär skydda kapitalisternas intressen i de olika länder, där de ha gjort sina investeringar och driva sin handel. Det är detta förhållande som förhinder konflikterna mellan England, Indien, Egypten och Kina m. fl. länder. Frankrikes, Amerikas och Japans kapitalister äro, naturligtvis i samma läge, och deras respektive regeringar, måste skydda deras intressen, investments och marknader. Härav uppstår konflikt mellan imperiets kapitalistintressen, konkurrens mellan dem, okände rust-

Den stora faktor jag här berört är den enda, roten till det onda men hjärteroten under vårt stora industriella, kommersiella och politiska träd. Alla reformer, som icke går rötterna eller rötterna på det onda, kommer att misslyckas eller för att i gagna en annan liknelse — "att säta nya lappar på en gammal klänning" duger icke och ej heller "hälla nytt vin i gamla legiar". Nuvarande system är vägt på en v och har befunnits för lätt.

"Det som nu är skall icke förbliva det är, och vad lägt är skrappnings, vad högt är skall förmjukas — om törts. Omstörta skall detta av mig — det skall ej hava stånd" o. s. v. Hez. 21:26-27.

Om detta kunde sägas på den — och om det furste- och regeringsystem, som, då härskade, huyt mycket mera skall det icke kunna ges om vår tid, då det gäller vårt varande system. "Ty en dag har Herren bestämt, skall komma överstolt och övermodigt, över allt så är upphöjt det skall bliva förödning". Ty Herren står redo att tillräcka. Han träder för att dö folken (nationerna). Han skall till döms med sitt folks äldste o med dessa furstar. "I haven skövl ringården, rov från de fattiga är edra hus. Huru kunnen i så kros mitt folk och söndermalda de fatga?"

"Den som kan läsa han läse o den som har öron att höra, han höra. Watakiwin, Alta, den 28 dec. 1928. N. J. L. Berg

Synd att man inte b'livit näst a "et a grisen, när man har så g huvud.