The St. John Standard

VOL. X., NO. 277. | TEN PAGES | MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 24, 1919. | CLEARING. | PRICE TWO CENTS.

BRACE GIVES HIS VIEWS ON LABOR UNREST

Believes Present Situation is Result of a New and Clearer Vision on Part of Workers, Brought About by War.

EDUCATED LABOR HAS NEW IDEA OF DIGNITY

The Men Now Refuse to Tolerate Conditions the Existence of Which Their Fathers Accepted as a Matter of Course.

By F. A. Wray.

(Special to The St. John Standard and New York Tribune. Copyright, 1919, New York Tribune, Inc.)

London, Feb. 23.—"The present labor unrest is the result of a new and clearer vision on the part of the workers, brought about through the war. Labor, instead of progressing haltingly along the path of progress as during the past generation, has suddenly plunged twenty-five years ahead in its views and demands," said William Brace, M. P., today.

He is one of the chief labor statesmen of Great Britain, who began life cutting coal and now, with his military mustache, looks like a cavalry leader. He is also the best dressed man in an exceedingly well dressed parliament. In the last administration he held the post of secretary for the Home Office. If Labor hadn't decided to leave the coalition, he would have been one of the chief members of the cabinet.

"Educated labor today has achieved a new idea of dignity," said Brace. "The men now refuse to tolerate conditions, the existence of which their fathers accepted as a matter of course. We have suddenly reached a point where the laborers with brains and hands refuse to remain mere cogs in a machine and are determined to play a part equal to that taken by the employers themselves."

I asked Brace whether this justified the use of the strike weapon, which, as in the present instance, can absolutely paralyze the industry of Great Britain.

He replied: "We haven't reached a strike yet and shall not do so until every means of conciliation is exhausted. We miners are slow-moving, responsible people. We take the point of view that the strike is our only means of being placed in equality with our employers when the question of collective bargaining arises. If the administration finds other machinery to provide this equality, we are willing to use it, but, as a last desperate resort, we feel we are justified in using the strike as a perfectly legitimate instrument of warfare."

Asked his ideas on the immediate cause of the unrest, Brace replied:

"It must be remembered that the unrest in general as applied to the population is caused partly by war restrictions, strain and insufficiency of food, but as regards the miners particularly it is the result of the cumulative effect of innumerable individual grievances.

"Every other man has his grievance but the means of remedying it are insufficient. Consequently he either quits or nurses it. Our conciliation has failed. There must be some means of meeting individual hardships on the spot. We want some local, get-at-able tribunal for immediate decisions without letting bad feeling nourish itself.

"The administration realized this by making a concession to me last week where the workers' grievance was righted, a decision invariably retrospective.

"While we are aiming to remedy the situation by methods of conciliation, the administration must not permit the provocation of profiteering. If a strike should occur, we shall have done all possible to prevent it."

Asked whether the official position had changed his previous views, Brace said: "No, but I have discovered that a sympathetic labor administration can sometimes make even a bad law into almost a good one."

Premier Clemenceau Shows Satisfactory Continued Improvement

Paris, Feb. 23—Premier Clemenceau spent a very quiet night, considering his condition, and an official bulletin issued at 9.30 o'clock this morning says that satisfactory improvement continues. Members of his household reported that the premier seemed very cheerful this morning. He will be permitted to receive some visitors this afternoon.

The official bulletin reads "Satisfactory improvement continues. Temperature 36.9 centigrade (about 98.4 fahrenheit); pulse 68. The premier will be allowed to receive some visitors in the afternoon."

NEWSPAPERMEN AT MONTREAL

End Their Maritime Province Trip With a Banquet Tendered by Canadian Railway War Board.

Montreal, Que., Feb. 23—The tour of the Canadian newspapermen through the Maritime Provinces debarkation points and Quebec terminated here, Saturday, when a banquet was tendered them by the Canadian Railway War Board at the Ritz-Carleton. S. F. Backus, general manager of the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway, occupied the chair. Speakers who paid tributes to the courtesy extended to the journalists during the trip, were Lindsay Crawford, Augustus Bridle and E. J. Archibald. The various members of the War Board, who went on the trip, were given silver match boxes as souvenirs and the presentation of these was made by Fred Paul, of Toronto.

STEAMERS FROM SOUTHAMPTON

Cunard Liners to Sail from That Port Instead of Liverpool.

London, Feb. 23—(By A. P.)—The Cunard Company have announced their intention to run their finest steamers from Southampton instead of from Liverpool, and will commence with the Mauretania and Aquitania. The chairman of the Company says the intention is to take the place of the pre-war German services as between Liverpool and Southampton. The former wants cargo capacity: the latter passenger accomodation.

The Liverpool Post is regretful over the news as a blow to the pride of Liverpool, but sees the transfer inevitable as part of a great policy of expansion.

EISNER'S ASSASSIN LYNCHED BY CROWD

Previous Reports Said He Had Died of Wounds Received When Shot by a Guard.

Munich, Friday, Feb. 21, (By The Associated Press.)—Count Arco Valley, the young student who shot and killed Premier Eisner, was lynched by an angry crowd.

Previous reports of the assassination of Premier Eisner have been that Count Arco Valley was shot and wounded by a naval guard who accompanied the premier. A report received in London, through Berlin, said that the young Count had died of his wound.

ADELINE PATTI SERIOUSLY ILL

London, Feb. 22.—Adelina Patti, the famous opera singer, is dangerously ill at her home in Wales, according to the Liverpool Post.

A fatal issue of her illness is feared.

FRENCH AND THE AMERICANS CAN'T GET TOGETHER

French Press Believe the Trouble to Have Resulted from the Insincere Policy Which They Thought it Wise to Follow.

TOO MANY LOUD AMENS WHEN WILSON SPOKE

Gave the Impression That Leading Public Men Approved of Everything Wilson Said.

(Special to The St. John Standard and New York Tribune. Copyright, 1919, New York Tribune, Inc.)

Paris, Feb. 23.—"The "Echo de Paris" again takes up the American press question, saying:

Some of our associates of the New World follow the work at the Quai D'Orsay with feelings that do not at all reflect the tragedy through which we have lived—that is a matter for surprise. But that they should be astonished to find the atmosphere of Paris still troubled by the war—that passes understanding. Far from interfering with a quick conclusion of peace, we believe the fact that we have been unable to forget for an instant that the struggle has barely ended is an assurance of a quick peace, and what is better a solid peace. There is nothing better for the making of something durable than a continuing memory of our experience.

"This was the reason we rejoiced when President Wilson accepted Paris as the seat of the conference, seeing therein a safeguard against a tendency toward political speculation. Our friends expected the contrary—in a word 'moral neutrality,' and notwithstanding the restraint of the French press, have shown that they are disappointed."

The "Echo de Paris" believes the present little quarrel to be the result of the insincere policy which it has been thought wise to follow "till this moment in the Peace Conference, when every time Mr. Wilson lifted his voice, a chorus of praise answered from this country.

"Did that mean that our leaders of public opinion approved all that fell from his lips?" the "Echo" continued. "Not at all. It was believed that the Amen delivered in a stentorian voice made detailed explanations unnecessary. Thus the relations of the two peoples, little by little, were placed upon a false basis. America was brought to think that France joyfully accepted ideas which had not its unanimous adherence.

"On the other hand any detailed attempt to explain the policy of the Washington government, or the movement of American public opinion was placed on index by our censorship to which had been added two American experts, and France was thus led to think that the policy of Mr. Wilson was that of all America."

The paper further declares that a cardboard image representing America had been made for French use, and a cardboard image of France for America. "These images," it adds, "are becoming unstuck, whence comes a certain confusion. The "Echo" concludes with a plea to both Americans and Frenchmen to be themselves.

ALLIED TROOPS IN OFFENSIVE

In an Advance Southward Along Murmansk Railroad They Inflict Heavy Losses Upon the Bolshevik.

Archangel, Friday, Feb. 21, (By The A. P.)—Canadian, Italian, Serbian, Russian and Karlian troops in an offensive movement southward along the Murmansk railway on February 19 pushed forward 35 miles, capturing considerable railway material and fifty prisoners and inflicting heavy losses on the Bolshevik.

While other troops moved through the woods on skis outflanking the enemy at a bridge near the village of Cegishi, the Serbians attacked frontally along the railroad and drove the enemy beyond the bridge after considerable fighting. The Allies now occupy the village of Cegishi, which is approximately sixty miles south of Sorotza.

On all other sectors of the Archangel front, so far as reports to headquarters indicate, are quiet. Not a shot has been fired in the last ten days. The weather has been intensely cold. Peasants coming into the Allied lines from Bolsheviki territory declare that several Bolshevik commands have mutinied and refuse to stay at the front.

STATE OF SIEGE AT AUGSBURG

Copenhagen, Feb. 22.—A state of siege has been proclaimed at Augsburg, Bavaria, says a despatch from Berlin. There was a great demonstration accompanied by disturbances at Augsburg last evening, and light cavalry and sailors repeatedly cleared the streets, firing volleys into the crowds.

Further Disorders and Civil War Feared in Munich

Geneva, Feb. 22.—(By the Associated Press)—Further disorders, and even civil war are feared, as the Munich population is greatly excited and indignant over the assassination of Kurt Eisner, who was generally loved and respected, and considered the founder of the German revolution. Red flags on all public buildings have been lowered in respect of his memory. Revolutionary groups, according to advices from Munich, have occupied all the newspaper offices, and the post and telegraph offices, and a counter-revolution may be set afoot, not only in Bavaria, but throughout Germany, which is encouraged by Spartacans and Bolshevists.

The Vienna Fremdenblatt, displaying much anxiety, says that owing to the menacing situation in Germany, the Allies must hasten to arrange peace on moderate terms, to preserve calm and order in Central Europe.

Other Austro-German papers, asked whether the Allied armies will be forced to intervene.

SAW AND PLANING MILL BURNED

Property of Haley & Son at Calais, Me.—Fire Believed to Have Been of Incendiary Origin.

St. Stephen, Feb. 23—The saw and planing mill of Haley and Son in Calais was completely destroyed by fire at 7.30 this morning. The mill had been shut down since noon on Saturday, and there was no fire of any kind about the building. The watchman left the premises at 7.00 o'clock and everything was all right. The engineer was coming on duty, at 7.30 when he was surprised to see smoke issuing from the building, but one of the employes living near by had already discovered the fire and rang in an alarm.

The building destroyed was on one side of the brick power house, and the box mill on the other. By strenuous work the firemen confined the fire to the saw mill, the other buildings being saved, but a lot of machinery and supplies were destroyed. The loss is estimated at $6,000 on which there was insurance of $4,000.

The fire is believed to be of incendiary origin.

FAULHAKER IS UNDER ARREST

The Archbishop Was Especially Obnoxious to the Radicals and Was Arrested by the Munich Rioters.

Berlin, Feb. 22—(By The Associated Press.)—Archbishop Faulhaber, of the diocese of Wurzberg, who has been especially obnoxious to radicals, has been arrested by Munich rioters, according to a telephone message from Munich to the Zeitung Am Mittag. All Munich newspapers have suspended publication temporarily.

Herr Auer, minister of the interior, and Count Arco Valley, the young student who shot and killed Premier Eisner, were said to be alive at noon yesterday, but both in a critical condition.

Archbishop Faulhaber headed the Archbishops who last December protested formally against separation of the church and state and abolition of religious oversight of the schools.

Previous reports concerning the fate of Count Arco Valley have varied. One stated that he had been lynched by an angry crowd, while another said that he had been shot and wounded by a naval guard who accompanied the Premier at the time of the assassination.

LYNCH LEADER OF COMMUNISTS

Action Was the Result of Indignation at Attempts to Undermine Existing Order.

London, Feb. 23.—The communist leader Bela Kun, of Budapest, has been lynched, according to a despatch from the Berlin correspondent of Reuter's, Limited, quoting a message from the Hungarian capital.

The action was said to be the result of popular indignation at the attempts of the communists to undermine the existing order. The entire Hungarian press, including extreme socialist organs, is unanimously condemning the communist agitation, the despatch stated.

YOUTH DECORATED

Charlottetown, P.E.I., Feb. 23.—Vincent McQuaid, fifteen years old, son of Peter McQuaid, master mechanic of the C. N. R., was decorated by Mayor Wright yesterday, with the Canadian Humane Society's medal for saving a lad from drowning last October. The lad had fallen from the wharf and McQuaid dived over and rescue him. This is the third boy he has saved from drowning.

OPINION DIVIDED ON INDUSTRIAL CONGRESS PLAN

No Details as Yet Announced, British Government's Idea Being First to Ascertain How the Plan Might be Received by People.

TRADE UNIONS ARE NONCOMMITAL

General Public, Most Concerned, is Giving the Strongest Encouragement to the Scheme.

(By F. A. Wray.)

Special to the New York Tribune and St. John Standard.

(Copyright 1919, N. Y. Tribune Inc.)

London, Feb. 23.—At a time when labor and employers are on the brink of a life and death struggle, the government's proposal to hold an Industrial congress, wherein both sides will be given an opportunity to apply principles similar to those recently used in the Peace Conference, has met a hearty opular welcome. So far apparently, few of the details have yet been settled, the government's idea being to ascertain what the reception of the plan might be before proceeding further.

At the present moment it can be said definitely only, that the scope of the invitations to participate will be wide, the intention being to have every important trade union and association of employers represented.

The ministry of labor will act as sponsor for the assembly, which will meet before the end of February, but it is uncertain yet whether the administration will actively participate in the proceedings or allow employers and employed to find their own settlement. At any rate it is intended to have the discussions cover the widest area in an endeavor to discover the root and causes of labor unrest.

Optimists believe the result will be a real Magna Charta of labor. Among trade union officials the tendency seems to be to remain non-commital, pending publication of the details, but the leaders of labor are far more favorably disposed. James Sexton, a member of parliament who represents the transport workers, said today:

"We welcome this conference because of the moral effect upon labor. Generally everything we can do to concentrate attention upon the grave matters confronting industry in this country deserves the most sympathetic consideration, and I am sure that a really representative conference of workers and employers will be of great assistance."

W. R. Appleton, secretary of the General Federation of Trade Unions, however, was more critical.

"We welcome the idea of a conference," he said, "but I think the functions of that body will have to be very clearly defined. Otherwise it will tend to diminish the effectiveness and influence of parliament, and may lead to conflicts of opinion."

Neil Maclean, one of the New Glasgow members of parliament, said that if the conference were to be successful it must not only include employers and officials of trade unions, but the rank and file from the workshops.

"I say that," he added, "as having come straight from Glasgow."

But if labor seems ready to respond there is to be found among the big employers less inclination to become enthusiastic. The attitude of the most important interests, like shipbuilding and engineering, resembles that of a man whose patience is about exhausted, yet who is resigned to any fate. One and all say they are tired of conferences which, to their minds, are largely synonymous with broken agreements and ambiguous phraseology leading afterward to trouble.

Some say frankly they believe the conference scheme to be only a red herring dragged by the government across the path. Others declare that the men, having found employers more inclined to make concession, are now going beyond all limits of reasonableness. They scoff at the argument of the miners that shorter hours and higher wages are not inconsistent with increased production if modern labor saving devices are installed. They report that the miners have always fought the introduction of up-to-date machinery, and when such machinery was installed tried to prevent the employers reaping any advantage therefrom.

There are still other employers who say outright that present demands cannot be conceded to and that measures should be taken to kill the idea that the section of labor, though its ability to put the community to the extremes of inconvenience, may thereby derive any benefit or gain whatever they choose. In their opinion it is better to fight it out now and have the matter settled than to arrange for further temporary compromises.

"The community can put up with inconvenience as long as the strikers can," express the general feeling of this party of employers. Although it will enter a conference, at the desire of the government it holds that the limit of concessions has been reached and that further toll on capital will tend only to strangle industry.

But the third party—the general public, which is confronted by a calamitous, paralyzing struggle—is giving the strongest encouragement to the conference scheme, believing especially that open discussion will place the public in possession of the real issues involved. This public support is what makes the proposed industrial conference practically an accomplished fact.

Budapest Riots Result in Many Being Killed

Paris, Feb. 23.—An attack was made on one of the newspaper offices in Budapest on Thursday by communists and unemployed, with the result that many persons were killed, according to advices reaching here.

A storm of bullets issued from the houses opposite, whereupon national guards and police opened fire with machine guns, rifles and pistols. It is officially stated that thirty-one persons were killed.

Eye-witnesses declare that they counted from fifty to sixty dead in the streets. Fifteen communists were taken to the hospitals in a dying condition.

MANY KILLED IN TRAIN WRECK

Baltimore and Ohio Passenger Train Crashes Into a Double Header — Seventy-five Injured, Many Fatally.

Pittsburgh, Feb. 23.—Nine persons are known to have been killed and seventy-five others injured, many fatally, when a Baltimore and Ohio railroad passenger train crashed into a double-header locomotive here last night.

The accident occurred near Swinburn street, on Second Avenue, at which point the tracks are elevated above the surface of the street. The nine bodies which have been brought to the morgue are crushed and show mute evidence of the terrific impact between the passenger train and the big locomotive. Hospitals, to which the scores of injured were rushed, report that many of the patients are fatally hurt, and it is expected the death list will be increased.

All the victims of the accident live in and about Pittsburgh, many of them coming from the city of McKeesport, near here.

SIX SHIPWRECKED SEAMEN ARRIVE

Were Members of Crew of Teresa Maud Which Foundered January 22.

New York, Feb. 23—Six shipwrecked seamen from the Newfoundland schooner Teresa Maud, rescued from their vessel January 22, and taken to Gibralter, arrived here today on the British steamer Gleneden, from that port. The Teresa Maud, a craft of only 92 tons, sprang a leak and became water-logged while on the voyage from Oporto to Grand Bank, Newfoundland, with salt. The distress signals of Captain Lee and his five men were seen by the British steamer Crewe Hall, bound east, which took them off.

UNDESIRABLES ARE NOT WANTED

Australia Taking Measures to Prevent the Landing of Bolsheviks.

Melbourne, Aus. Feb. 23—(Canadian Press from Reuters Limited)—The Federal Government is taking measures to prevent the landing of Bolsheviks and other undesirables. The Federal Government has dismissed five hundred shipbuilding employees on Cockatoo Island owing to the men's "go slow."

TROTSKY WARNS FINNS

Stockholm, Feb. 23—Leon Trotsky, Bolshevik minister of war, has issued a proclamation at Petrograd declaring a desire to maintain peace with Finland, but warning that country that the Soviet government will take counter measures if the concentration of Finnish troops on the Russian front continues.

FIRST REAL MOVE TOWARD LIFTING THE BLOCKADE

British Board of Trade Has Issued a General License Permitting Britons to Resume Trade With Turkey, Asia Minor, Armenia, etc.

ESTABLISHING SERVICE WITH BLACK SEA

Lists Have Been Prepared of Goods Needed and Exports Available in Enemy Countries as Well as in Southern Russia.

London, Feb. 23.—Great Britain has made the first real move toward lifting the blockade on the neutral power and Russia. The British Board of Trade has issued a general license permitting Britons to resume trade with Turkey, Asia Minor, Armenia, Syria, Bulgaria, Black Sea ports and Russia.

Exporters may now obtain licenses from the trade department.

British shipping companies, notably the Cunard line, the Ellerman Wilson line, and the Maclay and McIntyre line, the latter being partly owned by Sir Joseph Maclay, shipping controller, have already made arrangements to establish services with the Russian Black Sea ports.

Under government direction lists have been prepared of goods needed and exports available in the enemy countries as well as in southern Russia. This means that Great Britain intends to embark immediately upon a big export campaign. Before the war Germany's exports to Russia amounted to 643,000,000 roubles and Great Britain's 174,000,000.

On Thursday the British Manufacturers' Corporation, composed of some three hundred firms, is expected to approve the terms of fusion with the Federation of British Industries, representing more than eight hundred manufacturing firms and 170 trade associations. The object of both organizations is the same, viz., the development of British export trade.

Despite all labor unrest, Great Britain is making rapid strides in industrial reorganization, and anyone who believes that the British manufacturer and exporter are weak competitors are certain to be surprised in the next year.

The lifting of the blockade on two enemy countries is almost certain to be followed directly by a disappearance of all trade economic barriers. European big business is desperately anxious to resume trading, believing that much of the industrial unrest will disappear as soon as the channels of trade are opened.

The French manufacturers are least prepared to enter the fight for foreign markets. French factories are at a low ebb of efficiency, the supply of raw material is short, the mercantile marine is weak, demobilization is moving slowly, and the financial situation is far from satisfactory. But even in France the exporters are becoming exceedingly active.

The British government is working hand in hand with the British producer as never before.

THE PROLETARIAT ORGANIZE STRIKE

It is in Protest Against the Energtic Measures Taken to Suppress the Communists.

London, Feb. 23—The proletariat has organized a strike, as a protest against the energetic measures taken to suppress the communists which include the arrest of forty-two radicals, according to Budapest advices received by way of Basel.

The minister of war denounced the communists in an address, delivered in Parliament Square, to many thousands of workmen, who adopted a resolution calling upon the government to use all the means at its disposal to end the communist riots.

BELIEVED THERE IS ORGANIZED MOVEMENT TO DESTROY REPUBLIC

The Slayer of Premier Eisner Was Not Alone and it Becomes Evident That Wittelsback Dynasty and Its Adherents Were With Him—Action of Munich Socialists Not Pleasing to Ebert.

Paris, Feb. 23—Count Arco Valley, the slayer of Premier Eisner of Bavaria, was not acting independently, according to the Petiti Parisien, and it is becoming more and more evident that the Wittelsbach dynasty and its adherents are behind an organized movement to destroy the Bavarian republic. The despatch adds that it was in anticipation of an armed attack against the National Assembly and existing constitutions that the majority socialists, independent socialists and Spartacans of Munich signed a pact to stand together.

The action of the Munich socialists and Spartacans, the correspondent adds, probably will not be pleasing to President Ebert and Scheidemann, whose policy, it is said, take another direction. The correspondent recalls that some time ago he interviewed Baron Stengel, a high official of the former Bavarian court, and asked him if he thought the Monarchy had definitely fallen. The Baron with a smile answered:

"Who knows? Many things can happen, but we are not dead. The present situation obliges us to act prudently, but we hope that we shall be able to do something effective."

Communication between Munich and Switzerland has been severed, the despatch adds, and news reaching Switzerland by way of Berlin is vague.

MAIN DETAILS OF MILITARY TREATY SOON READY FOR GERMANS

It is Highly Important as it Settles the Disarming and Demobilizing of the German Forces Down to a Small Police Basis of Between Five and Ten Divisions.

Paris, Feb. 22—The Supreme War Council has completed the main details of the military treaty which Marshal Foch will soon present to the Germans. It will be further perfected in detail at a meeting of the council on Monday and then finally passed upon by the council of the great powers on Tuesday. This document is a highly important one, being, in its terms, a permanent armistice, but, in effect, a military treaty, disarming and demobilizing the German forces down to a small police basis understood to be between five and ten divisions of 1,000 men each, with a similar complete naval and aerial disarmament and the dismantlement of the frontier fortifications, as well as Heligoland and the Kiel Canal.

The economic and boundary questions with Germany are left for later determination, but, from the military and naval standpoint, this treaty will be completely effective in terminating the war, making impossible any resumption of it. The treaty will also have the effect of releasing all the Allied troops, except in the established areas to be occupied until the definite peace treaty is signed.

This military treaty will be so effective in ending the possibility of hostilities that it is construed, in some quarters, as definitely ending the war, although there may still be the technical question whether the final ending of the war does not await the signing of the final treaty of peace.