

ITALIAN INDUSTRIALIST SAYS NATION WILL RECOVER

Head of Tire Plant Regards Situation as "Serious, But Not Critical"—Thinks Bread Subsidy and Industry Tax Futile—Labor Still Restive, But Ardor for Soviets Has Cooled.

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MILAN, Aug. 26.—Italy will pass safely through the present social and economic crisis. Though it may be much more than a year, the nation will right itself despite foolish government at Rome. Industrially there is already an improvement and, in the face of great internal disorder, it can be said the condition is serious, but not critical.

This analysis was made today in the course of an interview with one of the largest manufacturers in Italy, employing more than 12,000 skilled workers—the head of the great Pirelli automobile tire plant.

"You may think I am a hopeless optimist," Pirelli said, "but Italy is not organized for revolution. There will be many more strikes, many scabbards, riots, lives will be lost, even bombs may be thrown as they have been in the past, but it will settle down to production and with production will come relief. The one big question is grain—which is bread. Our farmers have produced only half of our needs. Consequently, a loaf of bread cost in Italy three lire (normally 60 cents), which is impossible for the Italian worker. Hence the government has subsidized bread, paying the difference. To get the money, which is an enormous sum, the Rome government has enacted most ridiculous laws, which are impossible to enforce, such as the high tax on industries, which are already taxed to the limit.

"It is impossible to extract millions from an industry that already has given all or invested its little surplus in facilities for increased production. And if they attempt to collect taxes which they know beforehand to be impossible the extra assessment must come from an increased market price. Therefore the cost of bread must be borne by the people. When farmers see this clearly they may be convinced of its truth.

"But Italy's greatest trouble is the transportation system and public utilities. It was explained that in industrial plants strikes started right after the war and many have now become gradually stabilized. But the telegraph, telephone and trolley made a late start, and the leaders, still peevish, are ready to strike on the slightest provocation."

There are big strikes called every day. Even now there is organizing a nation-wide strike of 100,000 metal workers. This is the "white strike," that is, the workers want to dislodge their employers with decreased production. They go to the factories where some work and some do not. They fold their arms, talk it over and in 24 hours they are all busy. Even the serious riots in Milan last June only lasted a day though much damage was done and many were killed.

The absorbing topic is bolshevism, termed by the manufacturer as not a serious menace. He said, "There has been a turning away from radical

measures recently by the Italian Federation of Labor. Already it has expressed a feeling against the Socialist party, which is in control of extremists. It praised the Soviet Government for a long time, but the commission of radicals which went to Russia to place the stamp of approval on bolshevism for Italy, have evidently changed front on Soviet rule. The head of the commission is not back yet, but the others are very quiet about what they saw in Russia. Their reports naturally praise the Soviets but they do not contain recommendations for Italy."

My informant deprecated the proposal of American bankers to cut down on the acceptance of Italian negotiable paper, since he said it was only resuming credits that will help all nations overcome the exchange problem. One of the best arguments against the Socialist and Catholic parties is their promises to the farmers to be settled when the autumn leases expire. In order to get votes both parties promised the poor farmers they would own their farms as soon as the leases were up. They have a blind belief it will come true.

As proof of what is possible in industrial organization, Italy's great tire plant is humming with work. It has not had an organized strike in twelve years.

One blow the war dealt Italy, it was explained, was that during the four years preceding Italy's national debt was only a little over 1,000,000,000 lire, but in the three years of war she shouldered a debt of more than 18,000,000,000 lire.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

The following property transfers were recorded during the week:
S. H. Ewing, et al. to W. J. Baxter property at Courtenay Bay Heights
John Jackson, Sr., per heirs, to John Jackson, property in Simonds.
John Jackson to P. McIntyre, et al., property in Simonds.
C. F. Wells to J. A. Black, property in St. Martins.

Kings County
D. J. Alton, et al. to Catherine Alton, property in Upland.
D. W. Brown to St. John & Quebec Railway Company, \$100, property in Westfield.

I. D. Jones to B. T. Hamilton, \$1,300 property in Greenwich.
L. S. Kominsky to J. E. Kane, property in Rotheray.
Lena M. Ricker, et vir, to J. M. Young, property in Westfield.

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EAST MEETING WEST IN LONDON TOWN

East Indians and Irishmen Fraternizing in a Way That Causes Special Police Anxiety.

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London, Aug. 26.—Contrary to the dictum of Kipling, East is meeting West—in London. Indians and Irishmen are now fraternizing in a way that is causing considerable anxiety to the special police department, which has to deal with political offenders.

It has been noticed lately that quite a number of young Indians have been attending out-door meetings of the Self-Determination League, and, from outward appearance, sympathizing with and applauding the utterances of the speakers which are usually hostile to England.

These young Indians are over here studying either law or medicine, and have a meeting place, ostensibly a restaurant, away in an obscure street off Holborn where they have dishes served up in Indian style. The restaurant business is but a minor factor in the establishment; the political condition in India are the things that matter and what are mostly discussed. A few doors away there is a luxuriously appointed gin place run by a popular Irish firm and naturally frequented by a number of Irishmen, young and old.

Here the Indians who have during their residence in England acquired a

taste for whiskey or Dublin stout meet their Irish friends and discuss plans and possibilities in regard to the freedom of Ireland and India from British rule. It is understood that the combination, especially the Indian element in it, is seriously disappointed that the Prince of Wales after his Australian and New Zealand tour is not going to India to meet the hostile demonstration which had been planned out for him here in London. Many of these Indians have made application to become members of the new

British Communist Party which is in process of formation, and is already absorbing quite a number of some of what is considered the best intellect in Great Britain.

TO TENDER RECEPTION.

The ladies of Sussex are planning to give their friend, Mr. J. D. O'Connell, a rousing reception on his return from St. John next week. Mr. O'Connell, through his generosity and kindness of heart, has greatly endeared himself to the children of not

Sussex alone, but in a very large number of towns and cities throughout the United States and Canada.

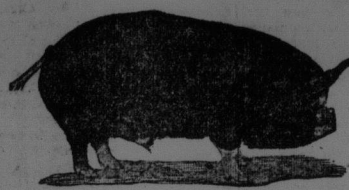
Just what day Mr. O'Connell will arrive in Sussex from St. John is not known, but when he does, the children will be on hand to extend their greetings and show appreciation to the one who has been such a true friend to them. The reception will be held either on the camp grounds or on the grounds adjoining the residence of Mrs. W. W. Stockton. Every child will carry a flag, which

will be supplied by the committee and will also wear a bouquet of wild flowers.

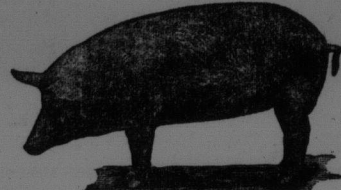
The children propose turning out in force and will give their "fairy prince," as Mr. O'Connell is called, a rousing reception.

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The "Reds" Are On The Run

The gallant struggle of the Poles to save their capital from capture has at last been crowned with success, and the Bolshevik reverse bids fair to become a rout, according to an arresting article in this week's number of THE LITERARY DIGEST, dated August 28th, on this spectacular turning of the tide of war. The Minneapolis Journal is quoted as saying that "the Bolshevik menace to Western civilization, if any, is now political," while an Eastern paper is sure that "Bolshevism has shot its bolt." The Newark Evening News asserts that the "lowering of Bolshevism's prestige will naturally be followed by reactions within Russia," and the New York World declares that "it was not merely a battle that Poland won in front of Warsaw, but the right to assume a position of equality at the peace table."

Other articles of more than usual interest in this number of THE DIGEST are:

British Labor's War on War

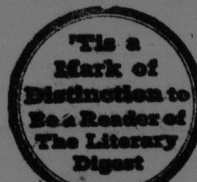
A Survey of American and British Newspaper Comment on the First Attempt to Employ Direct Action to Prevent a Government from Undertaking a War.

Canada's Labor Church
Bursting of the Ponzi Bubble
How Will the Turkish Treaty Work?
France's Terrible Black Troops
Sizing up the American Musical Invasion of London
The American Woman Voter Arrives
Bolshevism, "Aristocratic" and "Militant"
The Work of the Junior Red Cross
Villa, Subdued Bandit, Devotes Himself to Ranching
William Marion Reedy's Last Story
Trees as Home-Makers and Memorials
Topics of the Day

Canada's Care for Her Veterans
Who Will Build Five Million Homes?
Paying More for Expressage
France's New Ally
Fishing in the Salton Sea
Health on Tiptoe
The Commercial Value of Sunshine
Putting Argon to Work
Recalling the Romantic Drama
Medical Literary Criticism
Wübur Wright in France
The Church's Duty to the Leper
A Convict's Defense of Prison Cruelty
Best of the Current Poetry

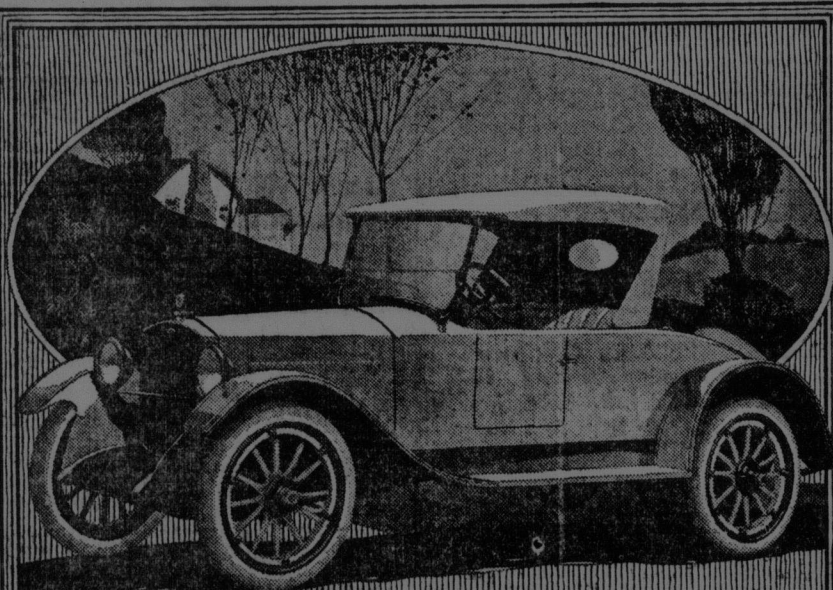
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The
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FUNK & WAGNALLS COMPANY (Publishers of the Famous NEW Standard Dictionary), NEW YORK



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