

FRENCH ECONOMY GOOD EXAMPLE FOR CANADIANS

Spirit of Saving in France
Has Been Intensified By
War Experience

(By Max Worth, European Staff
Writer The Federated Press)
Paris, France—The French economy and French industry are exemplified at the present time in the most remarkable manner, on every hand, the war supply, cut by the war, has nevertheless been sufficient to provide most abundant crops. The spirit of saving, so general in France before the war, has been intensified by the war experience. At the present time, France is saving everything. Perhaps this is as well illustrated by the saving of paper as by anything else.

Coming down from Havre to Paris in the train, I bought a small bag of peaches. The peaches were excellent and the bag quite good. After the bag had been emptied I crumpled it up and made a motion as if to throw it on the floor. One of my traveling companions, a French woman, intervened. "What!" she cried, "throw it away?" "It is a good paper bag," she took the bag from me, smoothed it carefully, and then handed it back to me with the suggestion that I could use it the first time that I had anything that needed to be wrapped up.

Last night, on the street near the St. Lazare railroad station, I bought fourteen delicious peaches from a street vendor (a woman) for two and half francs (17 cents at the present rate of exchange). She gave them to me in a peculiar looking paper bag. When I reached my room I discovered that the bag was made of the pages, carefully pasted together, of the budget report of the city of Paris for 1911. On my bag were estimates of expenditure for street-cleaning, philanthropy and other objects of municipal concern, all of which came gratis with the peaches and furnished material for a half hour of interesting study.

This morning I visited the bank to obtain some money and found the clerk making notes on a pad made of war posters and notices.

Similar economy is observable in the size of the paper napkins in the restaurants in the size of the newspapers, etc. It looks as though Paris might provide herself with paper from the waste-baskets of New York.

UPTON SINCLAIR MAKES REQUEST FOR REINSTATEMENT

Pasadena, Cal.—Upton Sinclair, who resigned from the Socialist party three years ago, because of disagreement over the war stand of the party, has written a letter to the Pasadena local asking to be reinstated. His letter reviews the hopes raised by the war and the disillusionment which followed in its wake for him and expresses gratification that he has been "permitted to differ with the socialist party for three years, without making, so far as I know, a single personal enemy."

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BRICKLAYERS AND MASONS LOCKED OUT

Rockford, Ill.—The local mason contractors association is trying to bring about non-union working conditions by assuring the public that the bricklayers and masons union is on strike when in reality the contractors have instituted a lockout. Between 60 and 70 workers are involved. The union sacrificed 75 per cent of its original demands to effect a settlement satisfactory to the joint arbitration board and the contractors then rejected this agreement and requested still further concessions. These being refused the contractors association wrote the union that after July 3, there would be no work. Meanwhile the contractors tell the public that the bricklayers union is on strike. The agreement previously in force expired June 1.

FARMER-LABOR CANDIDATE ASKS RELEASE OF DEBS

Seeks Co-operation of Harding and Cox in Appeal to President Wilson

Denver, Col.—Eugene V. Debs should be released from prison immediately, in the opinion of Perley P. Christensen, candidate of the Farmer-Labor party, for the United States presidency, who has telegraphed to Senator Harding and Governor Cox, suggesting that they join him in a demand upon President Wilson for Debs' release.

The national office of the Socialist party has issued the following statement:

"The national organization of the Socialist party deeply appreciates the sportsmanship and the common decency displayed by Mr. Christensen in asking the two old party candidates for president to unite with him in a demand for the release of Eugene V. Debs from prison where he is confined solely because of his expression of opinion during war time.

"Mr. Debs, nevertheless, has expressed himself as being unwilling to receive any favors from the present administration. In a letter to the national organization of his party dated at Atlanta, Georgia, July 11, Mr. Debs said, 'I object emphatically to any further appeal being made for me to the present occupant of the White House. I have absolutely nothing to ask at the hands of the Wilson-Palmer-Burleson administration.'

"The national organization of the Socialist party will not, however, relax its efforts to secure the immediate release not only of Mr. Debs, but also of all men and women confined in prison, or under conviction solely for the expression of their political opinions, industrial activities or religious beliefs."

Tacoma, Wash.—The Central Labor council has endorsed the statewide campaign being conducted for the establishment of the Producers National bank.

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The Locals' Page

CIVIC SERVICE UNION No. 52
Help! Help! S.O.S.! Mr. Wenzel! Come quick! Bro. W., ever ready in an emergency, ran to the assistance of no less than five "sisters" in the public library. But no daring deed was necessary, the cause of the alarm being a dead mouse. It had been caught in a trap during the night.

The oil share pedlar is busy again, but up to the present, no report has been made of a sale. We would advise that those who wish to invest a small amount of money in a security that "Co-op." shares have a real 100% value all the time and are no speculation.

Bro. Dee was bitten by a vicious dog last week. He is back at work again, but the wound causes him to limp. We hope that he has received no permanent injury.

C. N. MACHINISTS

The regular meeting of Local 817, I. A. of M., was held on Friday evening, July 23rd, and considering the season, a goodly number presented themselves for admission to the meeting. Possibly the want of definite information as regards negotiations of the schedule committee and the railroad association is the bait luring the membership to attendance; but all told, this year has been rather a notable one for labor generally, and outside of our own organizations of railway workers, the same tendency to bettering the conditions and standard of living is shown by the general desire for study and consideration of such questions and problems as have been presented to labor leaders heretofore.

The rank and file are wanting to know more and more the causes of the unprecedented low living standard; their imaginations are fertile, and with fine ideals, instilled gradually by the writers of the age, they now aim at a definite result, but are unable to digest the confusing mass of events.

Perhaps all feel that association with fellows-in-misery will bring about solutions to their problems; a glimmering of a good idea being fanned into flame by fuel from another intellect. At any rate the desire is universal. People gather together now for the sole purpose of enjoyment and excitement, though that must necessarily happen at times as a reaction, or a relief valve to pent up emotions—but to discuss serious problems, seeking solutions.

C. N. Machinists held a special meeting on Wednesday evening to select the delegate to grand lodge convention and to Division 4 convention.

On motion a committee was appointed to give assistance to the delegate in preparation.

Bro. Findlay has tickets for the Dominion Labor Party picnic to be held on Civic holiday. This is worthy of your attention. He did not get them for play things, they are for you to buy. Do so and you will be helping the labor cause. Money must be raised to defray the expenses of the last municipal election. You did not respond to the request for financial aid at the time and your make-up is not such as to demand something for nothing. Here the various committees are working their heads off in order to give you the best for the money. You cannot ask more! Can you? Fifty cents, please!

Get busy with the tug-of-war team and the relay team. We have the material with which to win these two events. Don't ask the same old hands to do all your thinking for you, they might not appreciate it enough. Go do it.

CIVIL SERVANTS OF OTTAWA ARE NOW ORGANIZED

A new unit, comprising between two and three hundred civil servants who have seen civil service for six months or more, have secured a charter from the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress. The charter was handed them by President Tom Moore. The unit will henceforth be known as the "Association of Federal Employees of Ottawa."

The new union is organized along the lines of the National Federation of Civil Servants of the United States, and is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. Its members, however, according to a clause in its charter, will not be involved in any trades union disputes which may arise.

Heads of civil service departments or deputy ministers in whose power lies the hiring or dismissing of employees, are barred from entrance to the union.

The new move is the result of the strong sentiment expressed at the last civil service federation convention held last August, which was favorable to at once joining up the civil service with organized labor. Action was at the time, however, vetoed by the majority of the convention, with the understanding that the question would be again dealt with at this year's convention.

W. J. Frank Jamies, clerk in the enquiry division of the post office, Ottawa, is the provisional president of the new organization.

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THE ECONOMIC STATE A REALITY

Allied Nations Going Road
That Leads To State
Capitalism

(By Scott Nearing, Staff Writer,
The Federated Press)

The capitalist state was transformed by the war. By the very nature of the conflict, the governments of France, Great Britain and the United States were compelled to do things that were wholly repugnant to the principles upon which these governments were supposed to be organized and maintained.

The political state, supervising private capitalist enterprises, became, under war stress, an economic state, functioning as a producer and distributor of the necessities of national life. Germany had set a high standard of state capitalism. The Allies pushed far beyond for beginnings. She cared for the health of her workers; conserved her resources; subsidized important industries. The government was a wise parent, directed by the ruling class, and in their interest. Mad-cap competition was forbidden. The state was an organism with power and vitality.

The latest figures that have been issued and the latest ideas that have been inspired by the directing group in the great capitalist countries give some idea of the lengths to which the allied nations have come along the road that leads to state capitalism.

During the early days of the war, Mr. Wilson made a speech in which he scored the Germans for subsidizing private enterprise, citing their merchant marine as an example. No sooner was the United States in the war than it entered upon a shipping program that for completeness puts the best efforts of the German state to shame. The German government merely subsidized private enterprise. The government of the United States built the ships, equipped them, determined their routes and rates and went into the shipping business. On January 1, 1919 the United States Shipping Board was in possession of 2,305,015 tons of shipping; on May 1, 1920 it had a total gross tonnage of 6,559,801 tons. The new shipping act provides for the continuance of the Shipping Board as a peace time organization; for the subsidy of certain forms of shipping; for the retention of the government built ships under American control; and in general for the building of an American merchant marine under government auspices.

A suggestion of the growth of state capitalism in Great Britain is contained in the revised budget estimate recently published by Austin Chamberlain. In one of his tables, he compares the expenditures of the United Kingdom for 1913-14 with the proposed expenditures for 1920-21. Roughly they are as follows:

National debt (1913-14) . . . £24,500,000
Fighting service (1913-14) . . . 86,000,000
Civil service (1913-14) . . . 55,000,000
Revenue Dept. (1913-14) . . . 29,500,000
National debt (1920-21) . . . £345,000,000
Fighting service (1920-21) . . . 269,200,000
Civil service (1920-21) . . . 555,600,000
Revenue Dept. (1920-21) . . . 61,300,000

The most astonishing thing about these figures is not the increase of the cost of the fighting service to a little over three fold the pre-war figure, but the increase of the cost of civil service by ten fold.

What is the character of this increase in the civil service? The larger sums are to be spent in the prosecution of a state capitalism program. For example the expenditure for old age pensions is doubled; the expenditure for public education is increased from nineteen to fifty-seven millions of pounds; the appropriation for roads is increased five fold; the appropriation for labor and unemployment stands at more than 25 millions of pounds in place of the pre-war figure of one million pounds. Then there are the appropriations for "Railway agreements" (23 millions); for the bread subsidy (45 millions); for the coal mines deficiency (15 millions); for the transport subsidy (2 millions); and for export credits (2 millions). The British Empire is going into the field of capitalist state enterprise, in very much the same way that the German Empire entered the same field a generation ago.

Paul Deschanel, in an introduction to a book on "The Economic War in Our Colonies" gives his opinion regarding the function of the modern state. He has referred to the heavy inroads made by the Germans in the French colonial markets, and to the fact that the war opened these markets again to the possibility of French competition. He writes: "An opening for general commerce to the extent of 150 millions is created. Shall we allow others to take advantage of it? All of the initiative, all official or private should be directed to the same end. We must stimulate the efforts of our colonial bureaus, of our chambers of commerce, of our colonial offices. Public authority must favor the development of our merchant marine, and the colonial tariff policy must be put in harmony with the new circumstances which arise out of the economic conferences of the allies."

In that one paragraph is summarized the theory of the capitalist state

COMMERCE ASSO. ENDORSES THE NON-UNION SHOP

Milwaukee.—The board of directors of the Milwaukee Commerce association, at a recent meeting put itself squarely on record as against labor and endorsing the non-union shop principle and the right of individual and collective bargaining for both employer and employee.

The directors also endorsed the right of all men to "associate themselves for lawful purposes." These propositions were among the twelve submitted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in a national referendum.

ROBERT SMILLIE IS AGAIN LEADER OF BRITISH LABOR

Against Advice of Physician
He Consented to Resume
the Fight

Robert Smillie has returned to the leadership of British labor. That is the explanation of the recent vote by the British Trades Union Congress in favor of direct action to force the withdrawal of troops from Ireland and the cessation of munition-making for military operations against Ireland and Russia, says The Nation.

The vote does not mean a general strike. It means a series of votes by the affiliated unions, deputations to the Prime Minister, another Trades Union Congress, and finally, if necessary, a general election. This is the method of the British social revolution. It will please neither Lenin nor Samuel Gompers. The British will continue to be themselves though Europe crumble and the Empire fall. All sections of labor united in a demand for the return of Mr. Smillie to active command. Against the advice of physicians he consented to resume the fight. His presence in the front line had become necessary.

The British people, including the workers, are tired out by the last six years, says The Nation. They have just enough energy left to be busy with the immediate job. But they have no heart for a strenuous reconstruction or a romantic revolution. In this fatigued and indifferent community, Mr. Lloyd George is securely anchored in power for the present.

In recent months, labor has drifted and become incoherent. By the breakdown in the health of Robert Smillie and Arthur Henderson it lost its national leaders. Its varied demands in hours and wages will in a few years create a fundamental issue, with a sharp alignment of opposing forces. But meantime the lack of unity was becoming increasingly costly. Labor representatives in parliament, with a few exceptions such as William Graham and Ben Spoor, proved themselves wanting in policy and weak in debate.

The trade unions prefer sending to parliament a plodding official, harassed by executive demands, to the selection of skilled parliamentarians like Ramsay MacDonald and Philip Snowden. As a result, labor is hopelessly outpointed on foreign and home policy. By the time the present summer arrived, a sense of gathering weakness had spread over the movement, which had begun the year 1919 with a revolutionary strike. It was in this mood that the emergency call went out to Robert Smillie.

PROTEST THE ELIMINATION OF JITNEYS

Seattle.—The jitney drivers' union has obtained a temporary restraining order withholding the city authorities from eliminating the jitneys from the city streets. The city took this step on the plea that the jitneys were causing the municipal street railway system to lose money. The labor press here has taken the stand that the system is losing cash because of the necessity of paying interest and principal on \$15,000,000 in bonds given for the carline whereas its true value is said to be \$10,000,000 or even less.

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—public power directed in the interest of economic advantage. The French government is following this principle, indirectly, in its present Near East policy. The new British budget accepts it entirely. The shipping policy adopted by the United States is in harmony with its demands. The economic state—managed by the owning class and manipulated in their interest, is becoming a reality of the new world of state capitalism.

Ten millions of men laid down their lives; treasures were spent with a lavish hand; the world suffered the agonies of war for four years in order that the class which ruled economically might have unquestioned political power. Many words have been spoken about the war in mockery or levity or scorn, but that is the grim reality. The economic power of the owning class has outweighed the yearnings and hopes of the hundreds of millions, and so must it ever continue while the hundreds of millions remain shorn of their economic power.

SATURDAY BARGAINS

AT MY STORE

I have just received a shipment of Summer Work Shirts. These are of good strong material, well made and will give you excellent service. They sell regularly up to \$2.50. Saturday I'm going to clear them out at Less Than Cost. If you want Real Bargains come to my store Saturday and I'll save you money on Clothing and Furnishings.

SATURDAY BARGAINS

Men's Work Shirts
All sizes, in blue stripe, tan, grey, and more. They sell regular to \$2.50. Saturday to clear... **\$1.50**

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The best value in Sport Shirts in Edmonton. See these and you will buy. Special for Saturday, 3 doz. **\$3.00** only, to clear...

SILK HOSE

Pure Silk Mercury Hose, value \$1.50; black only; silk face Hole-proof Hose, and silk face Elfin Hose. Here is Hosiery really worth while; the best Hosiery on the Canadian market. Saturday, to clear, your choice, per pair... **\$1.00**

Cashmere Hose

Good quality Cashmere Hose, black only. Made by Mercury Mills. Regular \$1.00. Saturday to clear... **70c**

Watson's Underwear

Watson's Combination Summer Underwear, in light and medium weight. Saturday to clear **\$2.45**

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STORE OPEN ALL DAY SATURDAY

PREPARATIONS UNDER WAY FOR PICNIC

(Continued from Page One)

per avenue just east of 101st street.

The presentation of prizes will take place at the big concert to be held in the Memorial Hall on the same evening beginning at 8 o'clock.

All members of the Dominion Labor Party, Trades & Labor Council, and every member of every local union in the city will find in this big double event an opportunity of making the day and evening of August 9th the occasion of putting forth their best efforts to ensure a triumph for the picnic and the concert that will mark with lasting impressions how big, how noble and progressive is the Labor movement in all its phases and activities. Realize your share of responsibility in the labor cause and contribute your best energies toward the success of Edmonton Labor's big event on Edmonton's Civic holiday. Get your tickets from your local union or at the following places: Labor Hall, Joe Driscoll's, Mike's News Agency and Dominion Cigar Store or at the grounds during the day or at Memorial Hall in the evening. Fifty cents takes you to both events. Just read the last two paragraphs over again and act quick. Bring all your friends with you and let them see how we do

BRITISH GOVT DECIDES TO SEND NOTE TO WARSAW

Advising Polish Government
to Apply to Moscow for
An Armistice

(London Herald Cable to The Federated Press)

London, July 21.—The British government has decided to send a note to Warsaw advising the Polish government to apply to Moscow for an armistice, according to information secured by the lobby correspondent of the London Daily Herald. At the same time a note is to be dispatched to Moscow, asking for an explanation of certain alleged ambiguities said to be contained in Tchitcherine's note to Great Britain.

It is believed that in the event of the Russian armies crossing the Polish frontier, trade negotiations now under way between Great Britain and Soviet Russia will be broken off, and large amounts of German munitions, due to be surrendered shortly to the Allies, will be transferred to the Poles.

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PROGRAM FOR THE REST OF THE WEEK

FRIDAY—"Skeyhill Day"

Afternoon at 3. Ferdinand Fillion, Violinist, and
Assisting Artists

Evening at 8:15. Ferdinand Fillion

Evening at 8:45. Tom Skeyhill, Soldier-Poet

SATURDAY—"Fisk Day"

Afternoon at 3. Fisk Jubilee Singers.

Afternoon at 3:45. W. L. Mellinger, "International Roads"

Evening at 8:15. Grand Closing Concert, Fisk Jubilee Singers

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