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COLBY'S NOTE TO ITALIAN MINISTER

Referred Mostly To Domestic American Politics

(By Paul Hanna, Staff Correspondent of The Federated Press)

Washington (Wa. Bureau).—Domestic American politics figured more than any other consideration in the note on Poland sent by Secretary of State Colby to the Italian minister here.

Unless the league of nations and other "foreign" topics can be kept alive as the principal talking point of the presidential campaign, then both the old parties will be forced to talk about railroads, cost of living, labor's share in industry and similar things of real interest to the people.

Every step taken by the powers of Western Europe toward another general peace conference which would include Russia is a step in the funeral march of the treaty and covenant which the Republican and Democratic parties would have the voters believe are still alive and of paramount importance.

If such a second peace conference should convene at London or elsewhere between now and November it would figuratively tramp down the dirt over the coffin of our "outstanding political issue" here in America.

While such a conference might prove the wisdom of Republicans in having refused to enter a league which has perished so soon, it would be the final act in repudiating all that Wilson has stood for, and leave the Cox campaign naked before the winds of ridicule.

The Colby note was addressed to the Italian ambassador because Italy has taken the lead toward recognition of the Soviet Government and makes public declaration that she favors a revision of the Versailles Treaty.

Forty-eight hours before the Colby note was issued the foreign minister at Rome announced that an exchange of representatives between Italy and Russia was about to occur, and that Italy would give a cordial welcome to the Soviet envoy.

More alarming still, from the Washington viewpoint, the Italian statesman declared that communism should be allowed to develop without interference in Russia, to prove its worth or to fall from its own weakness.

Our state department is fully informed that Great Britain approved the Italian position, and while Italy is to a considerable extent dependent upon American raw materials for her industries, it is not believed the Colby note will break the British-Italian bloc which is working toward peace with Russia.

Less than three months remain in which President Wilson and his secretary of state can even pretend to speak for the United States, unless Cox should be elected in November. British, French and Italian statesmen know this, and while they have not absolute assurance that the Democrats will be beaten they cannot conceive of an overturn in the United States senate sufficient to effect a ratification of the treaty and league covenant as they now stand.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES FORM UNION AT OTTAWA

Ottawa, Can.—A large number of the civil servants in Ottawa have formed themselves into a body called the Associated Federal Employees of Ottawa and they held their first general meeting on August 9th. They are addressed by Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. The meeting also elected a delegate to the annual meeting of the Trades Congress at Windsor, Ont., in September and two delegates to the Ottawa Trades and Labor Council. They pledged themselves to take over the Civilian as their official organ and to use a certain amount of allotted space in the Canadian Labor Press for publicity purposes.

HOTEL MEN ASK MINIMUM WAGE BE SET ASIDE

Seattle.—The Washington Hotel Men's association has asked the state supreme court for a permanent injunction setting aside the \$18 minimum wage allowed by the industrial welfare commission for women in house-keeping trades.

FINNISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATS ASK EXTRA SESSION

Of Diet To Overthrow Present Gov't and Form New One

(By The Federated Press)

Superior, Wis., Aug. 12.—An extra session of the Finnish Diet in order to overthrow the present government and form a new one to get better peace terms from Soviet Russia, has been demanded by the Finnish Social Democratic party, according to a special cable to the Finnish Daily "Tyomies."

The Finnish White Guards have been ordered mobilized and are concentrating at Keuh, Finland, for the purpose of beginning an offensive against Soviet Russia. Peace negotiations between Soviet Russia and Finland have been again opened at Dorpat, Estonia, according to the cable. The Soviet government asks the liberation of Red Finns as an answer to the Finnish demand for the liberation of Finns imprisoned in Russia.

(About a month ago the Soviet government declared autonomy for Karelia. A Soviet government was formed, headed by a well-known Finnish "red rebel," Edward Gylling, who was a member of the overthrown Red government of Finland. A Soviet Karelia constitutes a menace to White Finland and it also means crushing of the plans of Finnish imperialism which aims to annex Karelia from Russia and create a Great White Finland with Murmansk as its northern port.)

London, Eng. (By mail).—Speeches

ONE ABSORBING TOPIC IS THE MATTER OF WAGES

When Is the Sky Limit on Prices Going To Be Reached?

H. J. Halford is the author of the following article in the Journeyman Barber:

The one absorbing topic of the day and the one which is drawing the attention of every individual not only on the continent of America, but the entire world is the matter of wages, and coupled with that, when is the everlasting rising of the price of the commodities and necessities of life going to cease, its tendency to reach the sky?

When is the limit going to be reached, and will there ever be a stable condition any more, will this ever going round and round in a ring stop, or will the worker have to keep up the pace that the profiteers and money sharks set? Are we never again going to have a few minutes to think of something other than will today's wages pay for tomorrow's bread? We have been hoping and hoping against hope for a long time now, but a vanished hope is all that matters. And it seems the only answer to the question is, workers, you must grind, and grind your daily grind whether you like it or not.

That is the issue we have got to face. When we look back and compare the prices of 1914 with those of today we can scarcely realize that it would have been possible that such terrific increases in the cost of everything we have to purchase could have been made. Prices have doubled, tripled and even more than that in some instances. What a dollar would purchase six years ago it takes four or five to do the trick now, and that being so the size of the pay envelope is no criterion to go by, but what can be purchased with what is in the envelope.

The pay envelope does not fool the housewife, not a young life. She knows how to figure, and she has to figure pretty close to make ends meet. She cannot afford to make a mistake because if she does the small end of the horn will be her portion. And so it will be with all who have to toil for an existence. We may just as well acknowledge the fact, and tackle the problem that is placed before us, we have got the machinery and we must not let it rest. Labor organizations were formed for the purpose of education and co-operation of the workers for the protection and bettering of their conditions financially and otherwise; some of us have been using that agency for some time past and we all must feel the people who have to toil for a living are at last beginning to wake up to the fact that organization is their only salvation; the chart of the American Federation shows that very plainly. Let the good work go on. We hope it will. Through organization, then, we can battle for and increase our wages so that they will be in keeping with what will supply our needs and we fight on until we get what we feel we are rightly entitled to, but we are only human and sometimes selfish at that, most of the time only thinking of ourselves (and I admit it takes very near all our time to devise ways to overcome and solve the problem of high cost of living), scarcely giving a thought to those who through their never-tiring efforts make it possible for us to obtain what is required to keep the pot boiling, and that is where sometimes a mistake is made. It is my opinion that we ought to give more thought to the ones toiling and scheming day and night year in and year out for our good as a whole; and it is up to us if we want good men to look after our general welfare to see that they get all they deserve and are entitled to.

DETROIT WILL HAVE NO LABOR DAY PARADE

Detroit.—There will be no Labor Day parade in Detroit. The majority of local unions expressed themselves against parading on the first Monday in September, some expressing preference for May 1st as a real labor holiday.

The Federation of Labor went on record for celebrating Labor Day with the idea of boosting the building of a Labor temple. Affiliated unions, however, and especially the Building Trades Council voted against it, thus forming a majority of the opposition.

ORGANIZED LABOR IN FRANCE AND ITS STRUGGLE

French General Federation of Labor Is On Trial For Its Life

(By Max Worth, European Staff Writer for The Federated Press)

Paris.—The General Federation of Labor is on trial for its life. Since the May strike the government has been proceeding toward the dissolution of the Federation on the ground that it is in opposition to the general welfare. The proceedings against the Federation are apparently a part of a general plan to cripple the French Labor movement. The effort to abolish the eight-hour day, and the attempt to prevent the organization of the state employees are a part of the same scheme.

MINE WORKERS PROTEST CARVELL'S COAL EMBARGO

Nova Scotia Miners Insist On Wide Market For Their Produce

(By The Federated Press)

Ottawa.—In deference to the demands of Canadian manufacturers and others who claimed to be suffering from a shortage of coal supplies, F. B. Carvell, chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners recently used his statutory authority to place an embargo upon the export of Canadian coal. The Executive Board of District No. 26 United Mine Workers of America who represent the Nova Scotia coal fields have sent the following protest by wire to Mr. Carvell:

"The Executive Board of District 26 United Mine Workers of America, protest against the government's embargo on the export of coal, especially the unreasonable shutting off of coal already loaded at Port Hastings. This board still remembers the utter indifference of your government, when only a few months ago many miners in Nova Scotia were working less than half time and your government importing cheap coal from the United States. Members of your government, when appealed to have the government railways buy Nova Scotia coal replied to the idle miners: 'Go and starve.' Members of the Railway commission also replied 'crush the wretches.' This is to inform you that this board shall use the powers of our organization to prevent you from destroying the markets now available and shall insist that as wide a market shall be open for our produce as for any other article produced in Canada."

Milwaukee.—Organization of Jack London clubs in the public schools is being advocated by Supt. Milton Potter. Members are pledged to leave any theatre when an animal act is put on, as a rebuke to the cruel methods used by trainers of brute actors.

Some people are like antique eggs; the better you get acquainted, the more you don't like them. critical for the workers. If the proceedings are successful, the whole labor movement will be thrown into a state of disorganization. The conservatives are making all possible capital out of the theories on which the Federation is founded, and out of the resolutions that it has adopted. The people are being persuaded that this organization is a part of the bolshevik movement, which is no more popular here than it is with the propertied elements in the United States.

VETERANS ASSO. ENDORSE FARMER-LABOR PARTY

Washington, D.C.—The Rank and File Veterans' association has issued a statement endorsing the Farmer-Labor party and the candidacy of Christensen and Hayes. This organization is opposed to universal military training and peace time conscription.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERS HOLD A CONFERENCE

Discuss Proposals for Easing Industrial Unrest In That Country

(By W. Francis Ahern, Australian Correspondent of The Federated Press)

Sydney, N.S.W.—At a conference of the Premiers of Australia, held at Melbourne, Australia, recently, the Prime Minister of the Australian Commonwealth Parliament (Mr. W. M. Hughes) put before the premiers of the various Australian States the Federal Government's proposals for easing industrial unrest in that country. Briefly put, the suggestions were that the various State Governments should pass legislation whereby they would hand to the Commonwealth (Federal) Parliament power for the following purposes:

- (1) To establish a Commonwealth Industrial Court, with a roster of Commonwealth and State Judges.
(2) To give the court jurisdiction over so much of the Federal field as will enable it to prevent and settle disputes.
(3) To create industrial boards whose functions shall extend over the same part of the industrial field.
(4) To create industrial councils of representatives of employers and employees to bring about an agreement as to industrial conditions, including a general industrial council for the whole of the Commonwealth.
(5) To provide for collective bargaining by industrial agreements which bind both parties.
(6) To prevent strikes at least until after a procedure which ensures that the strike is the deliberate will of the majority after every fort at settlement has been exhausted.
(7) To give effect to the basic wage.
(8) To create a common rule to be established in industry.

It is argued that if the various State Parliaments grant these powers to the Central or Federal Government they will go a long way toward solving the present industrial unrest in the Australian Commonwealth.

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