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THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR DIRECTORY

Being a Review of a Publication Soon to be Issued by the International Labor Office.

BY J. A. P. HAYDON.
Since the establishment of the International Labor Office a great many letters have been continually pouring in, all requesting information regarding names and addresses of employers and workers organizations in particular industries in various countries. This great influx of letters, no doubt, is due to the fact that the Peace Treaty assigned to the International Labor Office the duty of collecting and distributing information on all subjects connected with the international adjustment of life and labor. Accordingly, to meet the requirements of the great host of letters daily received and because the power to complete the task has been invested in the office by the Treaty of Versailles, it was decided to collect the information required and to publish it as soon as possible, in the form of an International Labor Directory.
Early in January, 1921, the International Labor Office will have completed this directory. It will afford untold advantages to all concerned and will be a source of unceasing information to industrial workers and others in every country represented in the office.
The Directory will be accurate and up-to-date. It has been carefully compiled from official records and, without question, it will be the most perfect one of its kind ever devised. The International Labor Office has taken great pains to collect the information. Over 3,000 letters in six different languages were despatched to England and her colonies, to the United States and her dependencies, to France, Germany, Spain, Italy and Scandinavia. The letters were addressed to the various governments concerned, to the headquarters of workers' organizations, and to the presidents of employers' associations. Accompanying each letter was a list of questions to be answered, and the promptitude and care with which these were in all cases attended to is a splendid testimony to the wide-spread interest being shown in the Directory.
Very varied, indeed, is the extent to which the Directory may be put. One section of it relates to govern-

mental departments and offices dealing with industrial conditions; a second section deals with federations of trade unions, and others with employers' associations and co-operative societies.
With regard to Governments, the directory shows the exact title of every Government Department or Office which deals with labor questions, giving in each case the names of the chief officials. Nor does the information stop here, for with the title of each office is given a description of the duties and powers attached to the office and to its sub-divisions. Then follows a list of the titles of the official publications dealing with Labor issued by these various branches.
Perhaps the most interesting information and what will be most sought after is that concerning workers' organizations. These lists show, for every country, a complete directory of all the labor brotherhoods in that country. In addition to the list of the various unions, the directory shows the address of each organization, the names of its chief officers and the total number of its members whether male or female, at a certain date. It gives particulars as to crafts, trades and classes of workers covered by the organization. The title and occurrence of the journal or report of the union is also shown. Finally there appears the name or names of national or international organizations to which the brotherhood is affiliated.

The information given in the directory regarding Employers' Associations is much the same as that regarding labor organizations, except that instead of the number of members and the names of affiliated bodies as in a labor union, the various industries covered by the association is shown and the different firms affiliated with it.
Information concerning co-operative societies is on the same basis, but with each of these is shown the main objects and activities of the body.
The International Labor Office has arranged to publish the directory annually, and in that way a very useful purpose will be served, as the information contained will always be convenient and up-to-date and available to all governments, employers' associations, trade unions, etc., as well as to the general public.

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