

THE INDICATOR

History :: Economics :: Philosophy :: Current Events

VANCOUVER, B. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1919

FIVE CENTS

CULTURAL ITEMS FROM SOVIET RUSSIA

EXPENSES for Public Education.—In the year of 1917, the expenses of the Ministry of Education amounted to 300 million rubles. In 1918, the expenses for public education were three billions. For the first half of 1919, the People's Commissariat devoted four billion rubles for educational purposes. In the course of the year 1918, the publication division of the Petrograd Soviet published 11 1-2 million books and pamphlets.

Traveling Shops.—In the Government of Podolsk traveling shoe repair shops on trucks have been organized which serve the poorest inhabitants of the villages gratis. Each of these trucks is accompanied by a lecturer, who gives talks on educational and socialistic subjects.

Workers' Welfare for Minors.—The Labor Commissariat has provided for all minors working in any industrial establishment a month's vacation on full pay. The State has made provision for the transportation of these minors to districts well supplied with food and educationally favorable situated. The minors are united into groups, where they form colonies and camps, and quartered on former estates, where they are maintained at the expense of the State.

Child-Welfare in Soviet Russia.

Free Feeding of Children.—The "Economic Commission" has worked out a plan for all Russia for free feeding of children of the workers and officials who are the lowest paid. The State accepts the full expense for providing the children with food. The free boarding of children ordered by a proper decree was introduced up to June 5 in the following sixteen governments: Archangelsk, Vladimir, Vologda, Ivanovo-Vosnesensk, Kaluga, Kostroma, Moscow, Nizhni-Novgorod, Olonez, Petrograd, Pskov, North Dvinsk, Tver, Cherepovez, and Jaroslavl.

The Work Colonies for Workers' Children in Saratov.—In Saratov, a work colony has been opened for workers' children. The main purpose of the colony is to educate the children for work. Special attention will be directed to the organization of garden and vegetable growing. About a million rubles have been devoted to maintain the colony.

Feeding of Children in the Government of Moscow.—The Moscow Government Council has gathered statistics on child-feeding in the Government. The Government manages 224 eating places for 124,260 children, 106 children's houses, and nurseries with 23,895 children. This means that in the various children's institutions of the Moscow Government, 224,166 children receive free nutrition, which covers the actual need of the Government fully.

The Organization of Homes for

Policy of War and Famine

(From "Common Sense," London.)

IN spite of protests based upon religion, humanity, statecraft and business interests, the policy of famine backed by military and naval coercion in all parts of the world, has been in operation since the Armistice. It is now an open and undisguised, because undisguisable, failure. Believers in force still exist, and assure us that Mr. Churchill has failed because he is no strategist or because his best energies are devoted to speeches and journalism, and only his spare time to tactics and administration. If Napoleon had consumed his genius in describing beforehand the victories he was about to win, his career would have been less glorious. But Napoleon fell, and Mr. Churchill's rhetoric keeps him in office. His latest article (in the Sunday Herald) declares that force is needed, and great force, in the present turbulence of human affairs. The new military and police State, into which Mr. Churchill and his Imperialist colleagues have converted, this disunited

not only of conquering and holding down vast new territories in Asia and Africa, but with the duty of controlling Europe. Here are the key words of Mr. Churchill's article in the Illustrated Sunday Herald of November 23:—

We shall have to keep an eye on Europe. We shall have to keep an eye on Germany. We shall have to keep an eye on Russia.

We know by his proceedings in Russia, and by the sort of exports (tanks, poison gas, etc.) which he has dispatched to that unhappy country, what Mr. Churchill means by keeping an eye upon a neighbor. But he is good enough to explain his meaning. He wants us to apply "the same vigilance that we used to apply to Fermanagh and Tyrone." Irish coercion is so successful that we need a garrison of 60,000 men in Ireland to prevent a rising. So let us coerce Germany and Russia in the same way. That is what Mr. Churchill says and means. So long then as he remains at the War Office, we must expect British armed intervention in all parts of the world. The War Office

Mothers and Children.—The Department for Mother and Child Welfare of the Moscow Soviet has opened a number of homes for mothers and children. The chief aim of these houses is propaganda for the proper nutrition and care of children. In every "home" there is a lecture room, a permanent exhibition of objects intended for the care of children up to the second year, a child hospital, a kindergarten, and a nursery, in which working women may leave their children during the working hours. Here also medical advice is given and well distributed.

would be dull and tame if there were no wars. Whatever the Government may say, their policy requires conscription as well as loans, and leads straight to public bankruptcy.

If the first string in the bow of Imperialism is coercion by armies and navies, its second string is coercion by famine. Both have been tried on Russia. Bolshevist Russia has been denied everything—food, fuel, raw material, even medicine, although war has never been declared. The Russian blockade and our expeditions, by using up men, fuel, food and shipping, as well as destroying the natural wealth of Russia, have aggravated fearfully the ravages of plague and famine. By persistent use of the famine screw, Allied diplomacy has exacted a Peace Treaty which the Senate of the United States has rejected, and it has created such economic conditions in Germany and Austria that the indemnities imposed are not regarded seriously by serious persons anywhere. The state of Vienna now it too frightful to contemplate.

the possibility of another catastrophe. Next door to defeated Austria is victorious Italy. Imperialism has brought pauperism, discontent; and if the telegrams which have passed the Italian Government's censorship are correct, discontent is now verging on Revolution. D'Annunzio's exploits against the Jugoslavs aroused much popular enthusiasm. But Imperialism is no proof against unemployment, cold, and hunger. If only we had given coal to Italy instead of poison gas to Russia; if only our Government had been guided by mercy and charity from the time when fighting ceased, all would have been better. Europe needed healing remedies. Instead of these, Mr. Churchill and his friends have poured vinegar into its wounds.

LIBERTY BOND CAMPAIGN; GOOD PROGRESS IN B. C.

Splendid is the only word that fits the response of the workers of this province to the defense of the men on trial in Winnipeg. The sixteen thousand dollar mark is now passed, and still a large number of places to hear from. The committee is desirous of having reports forwarded by local bond sellers as often as possible so that some estimate of the position can be gained. The fact that \$16,000 has already reached the local committee insures the quota being raised. But it is essential that the committee should have fuller information so that the future activities of the committee can be planned. Everybody heard. There is three more weeks to the close of the campaign, and British Columbia should be well over the estimate.

PREMIER HUGHES' MAJORITY MERELY A WORKING ONE

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The Westminster Gazette, Liberal, says that Premier Hughes of Australia has not been able to repeat the election coup of the British coalition in December last. According to the latest returns the Nationalists secured 35 seats, the Farmers' party 11 and the Labor party 29. The Farmers will co-operate with the Nationalists, which gives Hughes a working majority but the gains of the farmers have been made at the expense of a section which Hughes leads. Labor has six more seats than in the last Parliament and there are fourteen less pledged supporters of Hughes.

It is a victory, says the Westminster Gazette, that trembles on the verge of a disaster, the more so as Hughes has, like the Liberals in the British coalition government, joined with a party to which he was opposed and to which his own personal following is in a minority. He will carry on for the time being, no doubt, but the handwriting is on the wall.

MINERS STRIKE WHEN LEADER IS SENT TO JAIL

PIPER'S BURG, Kansas. Seventeen Kansas coal mines, where approximately 3000 miners are employed, were idle this morning.

The miners went on strike in protest against the action of Judge Anderson at Indianapolis, sending Alexander Howatt, president of the Kansas district United Mine Workers of America to jail.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 23.—Alexander Howatt, president of the Kansas district of the United Mine Workers was today released from jail and allowed to return to Kansas, when he agreed to call off the strike of miners in his district.

Called before Judge Anderson, Howatt agreed not only to call off the strike, which has been in effect since last July, but also to order miners back to work who struck in protest against Howatt's arrest.

Workers' Liberty Bonds

For the Defense of the Men Arrested as a Result of the Winnipeg Strike, in Denominations of \$1, \$2 and \$5. Have You Got Yours Yet?

A DAY'S PAY FOR WINNIPEG

Liberty of Speech and Action Is Worth Paying and Fighting For

Make all monies payable to A. S. Walls, Secretary of Defense Committee, 405 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, B. C.