POOR DOCUMENT

Being careful not to hurt Russia's feelings.

SOCIALIZATION METHODS

Enormous Changes by State Undertaking Work Formerly Left to Individuals-Silent Revolution and Its Para-

(Special Correspondence of the Toronto Globe.)

(By Lacey Amy.)

London, Mar. 5—War has effected many changes in England, but none more revolutionary than the socializing of the institutions related to war operations. And yet few of the influences of war have met with less opposition.

Although Socialism is the power that has consistently fought conscription from the beginning, conscription is a form of Socialism. It is the enforced direction of individual effort and ability to the benefit of the state—the very text of Socialism. Its repugnance to the Socialists was in its very completeness; for the Socialist, while loud on theory, is unwilling to recognize the widest application of his principles, seeing therein the limitation of his energies by moulding them to the services of the state.

But even before conscription, came the control of munition factories. Today there are something like 5,000 factories in Great Britain under the direct authority of the state. In these factories the former management are merely the representatives of the people's government.

Wealth is conserinted, may overlap, but it covers everything.

The munition factory is run to all appearances only with two aims: to smooth the path of the worker and to obtain output.

When the armies in France called for more men, the state appealed to the labor unions, under the influence of Socialistic leaders, instead of proceeding to take advantage of the privilege by would or not. And the Socialistic element has uniformly voted against the government proposals, thus violating their own principles by placing the wishes of the individual above those of the state.

Imports have been under state control for varying periods. Petrol, leather, wool, cotton—all these are absolutely in the hands of the state in importation and manufacture, and to some extent in sale to the public.

Wealth Conscripted.

ority of the state. In these factories the former management are merely the representatives of the people's government. They are paid salaries as any other worker. The proprietors or shareholders receive dividends based on their pre-war record, in addition to a percentage on output intended to stimulate production. In their authority over their own factories they are empowered to enforce only such rules as the state dictates. They pay the wages set by the state and work established hours. They cannot even employ or dismiss except on state rules. Against every act of theirs in their relations with their employes, the latter have the right of a proposed.

that some of the Socialists are the most strenuous opponents of the income tax—except as it effects others.

State control has introduced a new set of officers. The former factory inspectors make their rounds as usual, but to them has been added a long list of others whose duties are more personal. The conditions under which the workers work and live are much more intimately controlled, down to the smallest detail.

(Special Correspondence of the Toronto Globe.)

(By Lacey Amy.)

Welfare inspectors, munition department inspectors, factory inspectors— their work may overlap, but it covers every-

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able only from the state in the first instance. Later flour was made a foodstuff constituted solely on state formula, with a certain percentage of adulterant—rather a greater proportion of the native qualities. Then, when a price was set on bread to the consumer, the baker became party to the state institution, forced to make only a certain kind of

coming from abroad and the remainder reared in the British Isles. Up to 1917 the foreign trusts, in whose hands was almost all importation, established prices as they pleased, restricted supplies, engineered distribution—all to their own profit only. Having control of so large a proportion of the available market, they were independent of the home supplies.

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1918

piles.

First of all the government took over importation, but unfortunately then handed the stocks over to the trusts to distribute as they pleased and under what conditions they pleased. It was an itial experiment in state control that was bound to fail. Then the prices of home supplies were fixed to the retailer, and later of all meat. And now we have meat as entirely under state control as sugar, except that the bulk of it is home produced and available for the market before it comes under the regulations.

ster to bread to the consumer, the baker became party to the state institution, forced to make only a certain kind of orbitrographic. It is pointed out that the real especial point of the state in the transaction was recognized by a subsibly from the state. Now the state has ordered the use of potatoes in all bread, and to overcome opposition will pay a larger subsidy—a curious mingling of Socialism and recognition of insidividual claims.

Sugar and cheese are two other common foodstuffs brought in solely by the state and released to the trade according to a definite plan of equitable distribution. The former is almost completely a state commodity, since it is also sold at a fixed price and is rationed to each person. Cheese has a yet gone no further than the controlled price.

Meat presented a different problem.

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and its fixed prices. Price lists shortage and its fixed prices. Price lists must be hung in every shop. Merchants are registered, and the cost of breaking the law may be the withdrawal of his supplies. The grocer and butcher must sell the rationed commodities to the customers registered with them. whether they wish to or not. And no conditions whatever may be attached.

The latest form of socialization, and the one that will subtly crowd out the

The latest form of socialization, and the one that will subtly crowd out the retailer in time, is the communal kitchen. A distinct branch of the food department is studying their establishment. Today there is a communal kitchen in London, within the reach of almost everyone; and even the wealth and titled are patronizing them. As yet they deal with the merchant for their supplies, but their wholesale methods and government supervision prevent waste, cheapen handling and cooking, and save labor. In development there is no doubt that their source of supply will reach back to the state itself, thus saving at least two

The advantages of the communal kitchen are wider than these. They can sell cheaper. They can utilize all remnants in a manner not possible in an equivalent number of private kitchens, But they also save an immense quantity
of fuel, compared with the thousands of
kitchen stoves they replace. They substitute a dozen cooks and waiters for
many thousands in the homes. They
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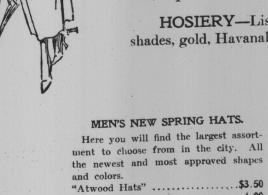
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