

CUT PROFITS AND USE MORE BRAINS BEFORE TRYING TO CUT WAGES.

We hear a great deal of talk today about "getting back to normal," but seldom does anyone try to tell us what "normal" is.

Now, what concerns the majority of people today is not the great question of reaching normal in the whole social system, but how to reach normal on the bread-and-butter side of life.

On the other hand, there is something just as sacred about capital which is used to provide the means by which work should be managed.

But it was a question here to begin. Some one had to begin. Very many were willing to have the "glimmer" made with the money in the shop.

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HIGH IDEALS CAN BLOCK TRAITORS

Workers Don't Take Their Historic Mission Seriously. Labor is partly responsible for traitors within its ranks, says the Australian Worker, which declares that when the workers awake to their mission, the possibilities of their cause are unrelenting and unforgiving to traitors.

It is not always for sordid gain that the Jews act. Sometimes his object is the favor of the great, or the gratification of ambition. Sometimes he is even able to persuade himself that he is obeying the dictates of a super-natural or following some newly-discovered light.

But whatever the motives animating him, whether he betrays in the old crude fashion, or deceives himself into the bargain, he is Judas nevertheless, and so long as there is room for him in our ranks, and ready will be a continuous performance.

Foreman to Factory Operative: "What do you mean by getting your hair cut in firm's time?" Factory Operative: "Well, sir, I got it done in firm's time, didn't I?"

The Soviet Gospel: We make no wars of conquest; we make wars of propaganda. —Le Rire. "Christianity has not been tried for a long time, and not tried." —G. K. C.

"Make money and the whole nation will come to call you a gentleman." —G. B. S.

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CO-OPERATORS' AND PROFITS TAX

British Co-operators Not of One Mind on Subject. Discussing the arrangements for the Special Co-operative Congress at Preston, Lancashire, for the purpose of dealing with matters arising out of the application of the corporation profits tax to co-operative societies, the central board of the Co-operative Union discovered that it was not of one mind on the subject.

The discussion was created by a resolution embodied in a circular setting forth the recommendations and suggestions of the union's special committee of inquiry on taxation, which were to be submitted to the Preston conference.

The resolution reads as follows: "That the special income tax committee be empowered to accept the Chancellor's invitation to submit alternative proposals to the Board of Inland Revenue regarding the application of the corporation profits tax to co-operative societies, providing that such proposals preserve intact the principle of exemption from all taxation of the surplus arising from mutual trading."

Motion For Decision. A motion for a decision came before the board on the grounds that any attempt to enter into an agreement with the Chancellor would not accord with the wishes of the movement. It was felt also that to ask the special conference to endorse the resolution would expose the central board to a charge of political short-sightedness, as well as a lack of virility; and it was hoped by the mover that if submission of the resolution to the conference was unavoidable, the central board would oppose it.

The chairman suggested that amendments to the recommendations were coming in from societies, the central board should meet the evening before the Preston conference, and to decide, after considering the recommendations and arguments together, what attitude they should take at the conference itself.

This was not looked upon as a satisfactory arrangement by some of the board members, as it seemed from a reading of the resolution that the income tax committee had a notion that alternatives should be submitted to the Chancellor. If so, then the movement should know the nature of those alternatives, for it seemed impossible to make proposals which would both be acceptable to the Chancellor and protect the movement from taxation which was not borne by the whole of the community. It was felt that as the movement was awaiting some kind of pronouncement from the central board, an eleventh hour decision should certainly be avoided.

Alternatives Opposed. As to the movement generally it was believed that the majority of the members were not in favor of alternatives, which was another reason why the board ought to make up its mind about the resolution at the meeting.

It was pointed out, too, that as the finance bill was now law, it was on that account too late to suggest alternatives to the corporation profits tax.

On the other hand the view was expressed that the resolution was clearly and properly drawn up, and that it should be supported by the board.

The chairman said that the position with regard to the resolution had been a very difficult one, as the committee had been instructed to get something better than the movement had today, but on no account were they to give an instruction which had made it impossible for them to accept anything in the nature of a compromise, or any alternative terms which might have been suggested to them by the Chancellor, because they had no mandate to act on behalf of the co-operative movement, and with regard to the future, he thought that either the present position ought to be accepted, or that ways should be sought for a resolution whereby the rule of no profits on mutual trading could be conserved.

In the War Opposed. In the end it was decided that the central board should inform the societies in the union that it did not agree with the income tax committee resolution, and that the board also decided to bring before the Preston conference a resolution on the Russian situation recently adopted by the Co-operative Party which was in effect: "That we protest against war with Russia, on the pretext of giving help to Poland, whether by the dispatch of men or munitions, or the tightening of the blockade, or any other act of a war-like nature, and demand that our government should work for the immediate establishment of peace and trading relations with Russia, and do all in their power to prevent strife between nations, which is a menace to civilization and a detriment to all social and industrial progress."

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By John J. Manning, Secretary Label Trades Department. One of the agencies which has been a tremendous factor in making the printing trade such a power in the industrial field and which many times does not receive the consideration nor attention which it merits is the union label.

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