

## ITALIAN LABOR CONDEMNS REGIME OF BOLSHIEVISM

Special Mission Spent Many  
Weeks on Inquiry in  
Russia

Strong Indictment — Problems  
Arising From Destruction  
of Capitalist System  
Remain Unsolved.

(By Austin West, special cable to the N. Y. Times and Montreal Gazette.)  
Milan, Oct. 8.—As a damning indictment of the Bolshevik regime from trustworthy sources quite above suspicion, the report just published from the special mission of the Italian general confederation of labor will undoubtedly take first rank. This mission spent many weeks in Russia, where the Soviets facilitated in every way its task of observation and inquiry.

The economic section of the report states that practical results of the communist experiment in no wise respond to the grandiose theoretical ideas, nor can this be wondered at, in view of the serious lack of preparation, gross incompetence and utter ignorance of the natural law of gradual evolution. Hence the formidable problems that were bound to arise through thoughtless destruction

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control of factories, as applied under the Soviets, has, with rare exceptions, proved disastrous in its effects. The mass of workers are idle and industries are stagnant.

Benefits Incidental.

The Italian labor mission surveys the beneficial aspects of the Russian revolution, but in the presence of its broad panoramic failure cannot judge them as other than incidental. Bolshevism, for instance, has triumphed where the most highly-civilized Christian states have failed ignominiously, namely in the almost universal eradication of prostitution. Religion and chastity and the marriage state are held in far higher honor than formerly, though according to the Italian mission this is due in all probability to underfeeding.

This interesting report also seeks to correct several widespread misconceptions and illusions. First, the ludicrous accounts and stories retailed over Europe about the attempted nationalization of women by the Soviets it says is sheer legend; second, those politicians who put their trust in a speedy revival of the Russian export trade are leaning on a broken reed. Transport traffic is thoroughly disorganized and home requirements may make international commerce agreements mere scraps of paper. Quite recently over 8,000 tons of wheat, destined for Italy, has been requisitioned at Kherson, for victualling the Red Army fighting against General Wrangel.

Thirdly, the imminent downfall of the actual revolutionary regime is altogether improbable. It is true that the Communists as a party number about 600,000 in a population of 60,000,000, yet they are matters of every political and economic body.

Terrible Distress.

Despite terrible distress prevailing in towns, various achievements of the revolution have entered into the marrow of the popular conscience. Bolshevik statistics grant the city workers one parliamentary representative for every twenty-five workmen as against one such representative for every 125 peasants, hence in the present day in Russia, one city workman is politically worth five country folk.

The opposition party of Mensheviks and Social Revolutionaries are distinguished from Communists count only twenty-eight deputies in a Soviet parliament of 1,200 and are forbidden to use the printing press. The peasantry, whom they chiefly represent and who are benefited beyond any other class by the Soviet innovations, will certainly and most stubbornly resist any reactionary movement likely to deprive them of their new landed rights of small proprietorship which are transmissible from father to son.

most elementary needs of civilized people.

The Moscow government, says the report, has shown itself incapable of supplying the population with the prime necessities of life, or of stopping wholesale speculation in every market, or of enforcing fixed price regulations. A bureaucracy dominates everywhere, worse than in Imperial days. As many as 40,000 civil servants are employed in Petrograd, simply in distributing bread, salt, sugar and in keeping two flour mills, ten bakeries and a hundred or so cheap kitchens going for the wants of the total population of 600,000 souls. Practically all the vast palaces and former dwellings of the wealthier class in the old capital have been requisitioned by the state for government offices. Private property is abolished only in theory, for as a matter of fact industries engaging not more than thirty hand craftsmen or ten with machinery, are left untouched and beyond that it is easy to evade the laws, in commerce as well as in industry, that a real brand-new bourgeoisie is in rapid progress of formation. The much-vaunted social equality is a myth except in the sense of having insured the whole community to a much lower standard of living and a quasi-universal state of misery.

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London, Eng., Oct. 15.—An apple weighing one pound five and a half ounces was picked at Westcliffe-on-Sea. This is an ounce and a half heavier than the "biggest apple" recently reported.

CHURCH AS GARAGE  
Hochcliffe, Eng., Oct. 15.—The Primitive Methodist Church here, which has fallen on bad times, has been acquired by outside interests and will be turned into a garage.

RE-WED AFTER 30 YEARS  
Miami, Okla., Oct. 15.—Scott and Emma Jones McCollum were divorced thirty years ago, because they could not agree. They have just been remarried, "I got lonesome for Emma Jane," said Scott.

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