

HOW FOSTER AND HIS COMMUNISTIC OUTFIT LAID PLANS TO "ABSORB" THE MINERS UNION

Another of a series of articles prepared by the United Mine Workers of America disclosing the attempt that is being made by the red forces, under the direct supervision of Moscow, to seize control of the organized labor movement of America and use it as the base from which to carry on the Communist effort for the overthrow of the American Government. These articles are the result of an independent searching investigation on the part of the United Mine Workers of America which led directly to original sources.

In a reflection of the money from the American people for the by the of the revolutionary movement in this country has been up organized industry in the last two years.

From which is being annually derived in this manner runs made from of dollars, with only an approximate idea as to its and ended. In addition, millions of dollars are being sent over This row and other Bolshevik centres in European capitals. Fondly the United Mine Workers learns from an authentic source that the money from abroad is coming in through the usual international banking channels, originating in Moscow, Berlin, or Stockholm, and that it is distributed to the accounts of various individuals in different banks after it reaches this country.

Part of the money with which the Communists have attempted to get control of the United Mine Workers has been collected from the miners themselves in the belief that it was to be used in the upbuilding and strengthening of their organization, and from entirely legitimate sources.

One such collecting agency as this is known as the Miners' Relief Conference, a Communist enterprise that has been operating in the Pittsburgh region since last August. The Conference has been one of the most important channels through which money has filtered into the Communist organization for destructive work within the miners' organization.

Efforts of the Communists to get control of the United Mine Workers have continued without interruption since the strike of last year came to an end with the agreement at Cleveland. In the first two months of this year these efforts centred on the proposition of bringing about an "outlaw" strike on April 1; later, to drive a wedge into the United Mine Workers through advocacy of the expedient of government ownership of mines.

The strongest efforts of the Communists to get control of the miners' union have been exerted in the last eight months. William Z. Foster, industrial organizer for the Communist International, has been at the head of the enterprise. The principal scene of action has been in southwestern Pennsylvania. The vehicle of the movement has been the Miners' Relief Conference, and the magnet for attracting the miners has been that of government ownership of the mines.

The United Mine Workers have not approved or adopted any plan of nationalization of the mines. At the international convention two years ago, a committee was appointed to make a study of the subject, and submit a report, with recommendations, at the next convention, to be held next January.

Notwithstanding the fact that the miners' union is seeking to reach a conclusion on this proposition in an orderly way, the Communist organization has concentrated all of its resources to the end of forcing the union to acknowledge it as the chief objective of the mine workers of the country.

The "drive" this year for the absorption of the miners by the Communists was launched by Foster and his assistants at Pittsburgh on February 10. A conference was held there at that time which was attended by Foster, with Fred Merrick, Communist organizer at Pittsburgh; Thomas R. Sullivan, Communist organizer at St. Louis; Norman Tallentire, Communist organizer at Chicago; Freeman Thompson, of Springfield, Ill., and delegates from mining fields in Ohio and Pennsylvania. The purpose of the conference was to extend the Communist movement into all of the districts and locals of the union, and engulf it in a wave of ultra-radicalism.

Two delegates from the anthracite region were present, and they gave assurance that the hard coal mines would be shut down on April 1 in connection with the proposed strike. But this proposed "outlaw" strike did not occur.

Three things were decided at this conference:

1. Establishment of headquarters for organizing activities at Pittsburgh, and the carrying on of an aggressive campaign to reorganize the miners' union in accordance with Communist doctrine.
2. An effort to bring about a general strike on April 1.
3. The holding of a convention of miners' delegates of the United States and Canada in Pittsburgh during the first week in June, and launching a new international organization within the union which would gradually absorb it and eliminate its international and district officials.

Foster said at this conference that "wonderful progress" had been made among the miners in the Pittsburgh region, and that with the international convention in June he expected to arouse sufficient support in the union to enable him to control the policies of the next biennial convention in January, and establish himself as the dominant factor in the union.

Although a working agreement for the coming year had been made by the union and the operators two weeks before in a wage conference at New York City, plans for an "outlaw" strike on April 1 were frankly discussed by Foster and his associates at the conference.

"We must have no settlement of this strike until an agreement can be negotiated, under the charter of a new union having one of our own men as its leader," said Merrick.

The scheme by which it was proposed to set this strike going was to induce President Lewis to reestablish the strike of 1922 in the coke producing region of Pennsylvania. Under the agitation of the Communists it would be spread to the other coal fields by April 1. Behind this plan was a scheme of Foster's to spread the strike to other industries and bring about a general tie-up of industry during the summer.

Simultaneously with the conference at Pittsburgh the Communist publications started a campaign to discredit President Lewis among the miners of the union, and to force him to reestablish the strike in the coke region as a means of protecting his influence with the miners there. J. Lewis Engdahl, member

of the Central Executive Committee of the "legal" Communist Party, and editor of the "legal" Communist organ, The Worker, said:

"Every militant trade unionist must stand aghast at the tyrannous measures used by the big officialdom of the United Mine Workers of America in driving the Fayette County strikers back under the slave whips of the Standard Oil Company and of the U. S. Steel Corporation."

Nationalization of the mines was decided upon at the conference as the principal issue of the Communists in driving their wedge into the miners' union. In the official platform which was adopted there, nationalization was made the chief issue. On this question the platform says:

"To meet this situation of demoralization a radical change must be made in the coal industry. There is only one solution at this moment that is possible, and that is NATIONALIZATION OF COAL MINES."

"Against this plan will be marshalled all the forces and resources of plutocratic America. The capitalistic press and its journalistic hirelings, together with an army of retainers composed of the intellectual and political prostitutes of Wall Street, are flooding the country with an avalanche of lies, slander and misrepresentation against NATIONALIZATION. Corrupt and reactionary labor leaders are also opposing this plan, and every honest trade unionist who espouses the cause is marked for persecution."

"In advocating NATIONALIZATION OF COAL MINES the Progressive Coal Miners mean the operation of the coal mines under the direction of competent union miners and not under a commission composed of the usual lawyers, bankers, and politicians. A political bureaucracy sitting at Washington as directors of the coal industry would be a monstrosity worse even than the abortion known as the "Railroad Labor Board," and would never be tolerated by the rank and file of the United Mine Workers of America."

"NATIONALIZATION OF COAL MINES, as a political program, will be a failure unless it includes democratic management of the mines. Since the efficient operation of the coal mines is only possible by those who have had experience in digging coal, we demand that the program of NATIONALIZATION OF COAL MINES shall provide for the operation of the mines entirely under the direction of union miners, who alone are possessed of the technical, mechanical and manual skill necessary for the successful operation of the mines."

Foster and Merrick started their campaign in southwestern Pennsylvania with a bang. Alexander Howat, deposed president of the Kansas miners, was brought into the region as the chief speaker and missionary. Meetings were held in Fayette, Westmoreland and other counties in the interests of the movement. Speakers appeared before local unions, and under the pretense of reorganizing them along "militant" lines, a Communist nuclei was established in many of them.

Efforts were also made to extend the movement to Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana, Illinois, central and eastern Pennsylvania, and to Nova Scotia and Alberta. Contacts were established with local union officials and state board members in Illinois; with H. E. Keas, a Communist agent in Ohio; E. R. Fay and R. P. Alcock in Alberta; and with J. B. McLachlan, Alexander McKay and Angus McLennan in Nova Scotia.

Arrangements were made through McLachlan and McLennan for Howat to invade Nova Scotia in April and May to promote a Communist organization there in conflict with the authority of the international officials of the United Mine Workers. McLachlan sent \$200 to Merrick to defray Howat's travelling expenses, but Howat insisted on Thomas Myerscough, an aid of Merrick, accompanying him, and McLachlan was asked to contribute \$600 more.

Howat failed in his efforts to gain entry into Canada because Canadian immigration authorities kept him out, and he returned to Pittsburgh. There he continued his campaign to overthrow the leadership of the miners, and to carry out the program of the conference of February 10.

In the files in Merrick's office which were seized at Pittsburgh was a letter written by E. R. Fay, of Newcastle, Alberta, Canada, who wrote to Myerscough, asking for a program of the insurgents, "and all necessary information to start the ball rolling to get rid of John Liar Lewis and his gang of skunks." Fay said, "he acted on the recommendation of Tim Buck, the national industrial organizer of the Workers Party of Canada."

Merrick's first move for the seizure of the miners' union at Pittsburgh was to initiate a demand for a recount of the votes in the district election on December 12. He described his faction as the "Progressives" and announced that "it has been decided to circulate petitions at once to recall all of the present officials of District Five for improper conduct, especially in connection with Fayette strike."

When the strike was settled at Cleveland last fall the Communists bent their efforts on persuading the miners in southwestern Pennsylvania to refuse to return to work. The Miners Relief Conference was organized early in the fall on pretext that it would provide a means of subsistence for the men and their families who refused to go back to work. J. A. Hamilton, a former school teacher was selected as secretary. Hamilton had direct business connections with Foster, and was known, as his representative in the Pittsburgh region.

Scores of miners in southwestern Pennsylvania followed the prompting of Merrick and his side not to return to work. Limited sums of money were supplied to them by the Miners Relief Conference, although an examination of such records as were kept show that in virtually every case the relief donations were confined to miners who were either Communists in principle, or were agents in their neighbourhoods for the Communist organization.

Inspection of the records of the Conference fails also to show even the simplest forms of bookkeeping in accounting for the moneys and supplies that were received. While considerable sums of money were contributed by sympathetic men and women who heeded the appeals that were broadcasted over the country, the records of the contributions are either on scraps of paper or found in the original letters of the donors.

The kindly heart of Mrs. Sarah Hyams, 252 West 76th Street, New York City, responded to the "touching" appeal of Hamilton for money, and on October 9 she sent her check for \$500, saying:

"I had some money which had made up my mind to use where it would do the most good. When your letter came I felt that this is where it should go. It does not seem possible that the conditions stated by you, and by so many others could exist in a country as rich as ours, or that people could be so heartless. I only hope that you will get all of the help you need, so that some of this awful poverty may be relieved."

Hamilton sent Mrs. Hyams a statement on November 3, which purported to cover the expenditure of \$125 of the \$500. He explained that \$50 had been given to George Letz, an idle miner at Republic, Pa. Lutz was one of the most active agents of Merrick and Hamilton in that region, and recognized as aiding them in their movement.

Miss Maude Tollefson is a teacher in a private school at Peekskill, N.Y. She was the recipient also of one of the "touching" letters of Merrick and Hamilton, and on November 17, sent in a donation. Hamilton in his reply so impressed Miss Tollefson with the worthiness of this enterprise that she appealed to her friends to join with her in making contributions. In writing to Hamilton on November 16, she said:

"By the middle of next week I will have some clothes collected from the teachers here, and possibly from friends in New York City. Will you let me know whether to send them to you, or to J. M. Geisel, whose picture you sent me with the address on the back. Also, I have sent word to my mother in South Dakota to send what she can find. I am sure she will do so."

Hamilton was the recipient also of considerable sums of money from Louis Gruss, alias "Willard," formerly of the Friends of Soviet Russia, and secretary of a so-called Miners Relief Committee in New York. Gruss sent to Hamilton, according to the records of the latter, a total of \$1,450, but later begged Hamilton for a loan of \$100 to defray the expenses and hall rent of a meeting in New York City where Howat would speak.

Appeals were sent by these Communists to local unions of the United Mine Workers in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and West Virginia, asking that arbitrary assessments for "relief" purposes in the coke region be laid on the memberships, and the money remitted to Merrick and Hamilton. Some of the local unions were induced to do this, with usually an assessment of 25 cents a member. Local unions in Franklin and Williamson counties, in Illinois, and in the vicinity of Bellaire, Ohio, sent sums of as much as \$300 each.

The relationship between Merrick and Hamilton and the Communist organization, is shown in their connections with the Labor Defence Council at Chicago. A few days after the raid upon the Communist convention at Bridgman, Mich., last August, the National Defense Committee, a Communist agency, was reorganized into the Labor Defence Council.

The council launched on the task of raising \$200,000 for bail purposes at Bridgman, and to employ lawyers and provide funds for the trials of the individuals who had been caught in the sheriff's drag net. Explicit instructions were sent to every Communist agency in the country to "get busy" at the task of raising money for this purpose. Organizers and district officials were told by the Communist central organization to give unqualified support to the demands of the Labor Defence Council. As far as possible donations were to be sought from labor unions on the claim that the raid on the revolutionary gathering at Bridgman imperilled the cause of organized labor in this country.

Moritz J. Loeb, secretary of the Labor Defence Council, wrote to Merrick and Hamilton, on December 6, as follows:

"Comrade Ruthenburg has assured us that the Workers Party organizers will be held responsible for activity toward the organization of Labor Defence Councils in their districts. We have seen a copy of the letter at the national office of the Workers Party sent out in this respect. It is our understanding that you are the district organizer of the Pittsburgh district and we would very much like to have you take responsibility toward organizing the Labor Defence Council in your district, seriously."

A week later Loeb wired to Merrick as follows:

"Five men remaining in Berrien jail can all be released for \$15,000. Exert every effort. Raise everything possible, cash or Liberty bonds. Send us what you have immediately. We must get men out by Christmas. Put on small drive. Do your part and we succeed."

Early in January the Labor Defence Council sent Tom Tippet, business manager of the Federated Press, into the Pittsburgh district as its special agent to assist in the money raising. Merrick and Hamilton were told to give their support to making the Tippet meeting a success. On this point, Loeb said:

"Please do not be too economical in your advertising of the Tom Tippet meeting. We are particularly anxious that you should get out a good crowd, even though the financial returns on the investment are not of the best."

Advertising matter were sent to Merrick by Loeb which stated that "the reporter for the labor press on the Herrin trial will come to Pittsburgh to tell of the nation-wide attack on labor, the open shop drive of which Herrin, West Virginia, and the Bridgman raids are only the outstanding examples. No better representative of the working class can tell this story, as Tippet has been an actual observer of the major campaigns which have been calculated to destroy the labor movement."

The extent to which money was diverted from the Miners Relief Conference at Pittsburgh into the coffers of the Labor Defence Councils for use at the Bridgman trials, or into other Communist channels, cannot be definitely ascertained from the records in the office of Merrick and Hamilton. However, Hamilton in a letter on January 7, said:

"This relief work has succeeded much beyond expectations, as we have sent into Washington, Allegheny, Westmoreland, Fayette, and Greene counties, nearly \$9,000 worth of various kinds of relief. Besides we have thrown some hot shot into the contemptible official circles, and in this way helped considerably

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OUR OVERSEAS COLUMN

THAT 50 MILLION NOT TO BE SPENT

Mr. Henderson Charges Premier with Making Untrue Statement

SCANDAL OF WORK PLANS

A charge of serious misstatement on the Government's employment plans was laid against the Prime Minister by Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., Chief Whip of the Labor Party. Mr. Baldwin had said at Plymouth that by far the greater proportion of the 50 million pounds (the estimated cost of the schemes announced by the government) would be spent this winter.

Mr. Henderson's reply to this was that it was quite clear from the announcements made by the principal parties concerned in the schemes that "not half, probably not more than a third of the money could possibly be spent so as to provide employment between November and April.

Referring to the appeal made by General Smuts, Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., said that it was for them to do all they could to make it a success. He pointed out that a similar appeal had been made by Labor in the Commons, and said that had the plea been listened to the chaos that existed might have been avoided.

Mr. Henderson said the statement quoted above, was a grave one, to make, and he would be glad indeed if he could be authoritatively informed that his apprehensions were not well founded.

Mr. Henderson was presiding at a great meeting at the Holborn Empire London, one of the series of demonstrations organized under the auspices of Labor's National Joint Council on the subject of unemployment.

In view of the inadequacy of the Government's proposals, they were bound, said Mr. Henderson, to insist upon bolder, more comprehensive and bigger schemes to provide work and wages this winter.

Tariffs No Cure

It had been told by the Prime Minister that he had come to the conclusion that the real cure for unemployment was "protection and emigration."

But it was known that unemployment existed in high tariff countries.

It was also known that Imperial Preference had not given us an enlarged market in the Dominions for our exports, which had, on the contrary, maintained the same proportion to our total overseas trade that we had before the Dominions gave us a preference in their tariffs.

Further it was known that the trade of the Dominions in our market had been increasing despite the fact that they had got no preference, or only recently a small preference, of one-sixth of the customs duties we impose upon some classes of imports for revenue purposes.

And it was known, too, that unemployment existed in the Dominions. Which would be intensified enormously by the adoption of a policy of large scale emigration, which transferred population to the countries overseas faster than those countries could absorb them into productive industry and agriculture.

We should continue to have an enormous amount of unemployment until the harm done by the peace treaties was undone and Europe was restored to political stability and economic sanity.

Mr. Henderson said he recognized that even if we had the most perfect peace and the complete freedom of international trade we should still have with us the problem of the unemployed so long as the capitalist system of industry remained.

Mr. Neville Chamberlain said that at last we were going to adopt his father's policy, and incidentally regretted that it had not been adopted before.

Sir William Joynson-Hicks apparently forgot that Mr. Joseph Chamberlain made it perfectly clear that protection was useless unless you have a tax on food.

To summarize the situation, Mr. Baldwin said: "The winter is here, unemployment is here, our immediate remedy will not cure unemployment, but, thank God, we can give you a General Election next year."

"That, of course," said Mr. Thomas, "will be a great consolation, in the coming months, to the unemployed! We accept the challenge. But if the problem is so urgent as Mr. Baldwin says—and we agree—the prospects of a threatened election help trade or stimulate in-

dustry? Why not apply the real remedy at once! Why delay?"

"Played With." Mr. Rhys Davis, M.P., said that to the people of Lancashire Imperial Preference and Tariff Reform as proposals to solve the unemployment problem were like using purgatives for cancer.

The Labor Ministry was playing with the subject when it included, for the second or third time during the last two years, the Manchester Liverpool road as a scheme to alleviate unemployment.

There was no indication anywhere that the proposal would mature for at least another 12 months.

Mr. Herbert Morrison declared that while unemployment was agreed to be essentially a national problem, the main responsibility had been foisted on local authorities by successive Governments.

The problem could never be dealt with on a local basis, and yet the Cabinet refused to face the matter. The proposals for work in Greater London, which the London Labor Party had submitted to the Prime Minister had been played with and avoided.

A resolution that the proposals of the Government were totally inadequate to meet the existing situation was carried with acclamation.

200,000 HOUSES A YEAR

HOW A LABOR GOVERNMENT WOULD SET TO WORK

The Independent Labor Party is conducting a housing campaign this week.

As a prelude, it tells the Government openly what a Socialist Government would do.

It gives three facts. The houses required, numbered 750,000. The Minister of Health in April promised 120,000 in two years. In six months 8,000 have been built.

Although so many houses are required 85,000 unemployed builders are prevented from starting on them. Yet unemployment does to the amount of £5,000,000 a year are being paid to unemployed builders which might be spent in erecting the sorely needed dwellings.

On health grounds alone the need of adequate houses is pressing. Overcrowding has appalling results in tuberculosis and loss of child life. Yet the taxpayer has to find £14,000,000 a year for the treatment of tuberculosis.

National Factories

Under a Socialist Government national factories would be established, and private factories would be commandeered for the purpose of producing housing materials.

The power of the profit-making ring which controls the supply of raw materials would be destroyed by substituting control for the common good. Grants would be made to local authorities, and they would be encouraged instead of being hampered, in the development of adequate housing schemes.

The minimum standard of houses would be raised and the relegation of the workers to hatches without showers and bathrooms would be impatiently brushed aside.

Twelve to Acre

In any new town planning scheme, not more than twelve houses would be built to the acre, and each would have a garden. Women's Advisory Committees would be set up to ensure a maximum of labor-saving and comfort.

The whole-hearted co-operation of the workers in the building trade would be secured by giving them representation upon the bodies responsible for carrying out all housing schemes pending the development of Building Guilds.

On these lines a Socialist Government would seek to build at least 200,000 houses a year.

A Socialist Government would prohibit all luxury building, until the housing needs of the people were met. It is intolerable that wealth should be spent and labor employed in erecting places of pleasure and employment help trade or stimulate in-

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KEEPING CANADIAN WORKMEN EMPLOYED

There is an industrial conflict in process in the City of Toronto at the present time with regard to the allotting of a city contract for iron water mains. The National Iron Works of Toronto are bidding against an English concern for the contract and to date decision has been reserved. The tender from the Toronto Works was some \$14,000.00 higher than the English company which has caused the hold up in the awarding of the contract.

There are apparently some members of the Toronto Council who look at the nickles and lose sight of the dollars, and also forget the fact that we are continually campaigning that Canadian money should be kept in Canada as far as possible for Canadian Trade and Progress. The National Iron Works are not only paying twenty thousand dollars per year taxes into the coffers of the City Treasurer, which is six thousand dollars in excess of the difference in the tenders, but the future for the coming winter of some four hundred Canadian workmen is involved. The National Iron Works depends on contracts of this nature to keep their plant running, and the loss of this contract would mean that these four hundred would be thrown out of work and it would be up to the city to provide for them, which in the last analysis would amount to a good deal more than the fourteen thousand dollars. The whole question is one which contributes to or detracts from the steady growth of Canadian industry. It also should be borne in mind that the Canadian workman receives a much higher rate of pay than the English workman and his entire social life is built in a higher scale.

ONTARIO'S PROHIBITION FARCE

One of the momentous questions of the day is prohibition in all its phases and it is particularly in the limelight at the present time with the majority of the provinces under Government control, and the comparison of Quebec's position with that of Ontario. It is estimated that within fifteen years Quebec will have paid off her debts and the same time conditions are not so bad there as they are in Ontario with regard to the moral aspect. Immorality and vice exists to a more or less degree in any community, be it wet or dry, and we are of the sincere belief that Ontario would be ahead in every way if we handled the liquor question in a similar manner to that prevailing in British Columbia. We may be wrong, but we believe that the only individuals benefitting under the Ontario Temperance Act are the doctors and bootleggers. Instead of the general public through the government getting the benefit, it is going into the hands of a few. We venture to say that 95 per cent of the liquor prescriptions issued by doctors are unnecessary from a medicinal standpoint and the present system, instead of prohibiting, only raises the cost to the consumer, and confines the use to those people having the means to purchase the beverages. We lose sight of the fact that a large majority of our working men would also like to share in the consumption of the beer at least. The only ones who are restrained from drinking at the present time are those not having the price, and it is kept from them on the pretext that the beverages are not good for them, why is it not kept from those individuals who have the price? This whole question again demonstrates the inequalities that exist between the rich and the poor. Ontario's Temperance Act should be changed so that the business is run for the benefit of the masses. If there was absolute Government control with every citizen licensed, it would do away with exorbitant high prices and give every man an opportunity to feel that he was free to exercise his own judgment within due bounds and within reason. If a man abuses his privilege, his license could be taken away until such time as he knew enough to behave himself. The result would be that instead of the Government expending huge sums to enforce the O. T. A., they would receive all the revenue from licenses and profits and they could control the profits to the manufacturer as well, and the moral and business standard of the province would be on a much higher plane as a consequence.

Patronize White Laundries Who Employ White Labor

A SET-BACK TO COMMUNISM.

The Communist workers in Canada received a severe jolt when Jim MacLachlan, former Secretary of District 26, United Mine Workers of America, and one of the outstanding radical leaders in Canada, was sentenced to two years imprisonment for sedition in connection with the recent strikes at the mines of the British Empire Steel Corporation in Nova Scotia.

In connection with this sentence, The Worker, official organ of the Workers' Party of Canada, with whom MacLachlan was associated, makes a bitter attack on the British Empire Steel Corporation, and blames them for all the supposed wrongs of the miners. On the other hand, the manager of the B. E. S. Co., claims that the shareholders are shouting because they are not getting dividends on their investment. No doubt both sides are to blame, and it is the old story of the struggle between Capital and Labor. The miners got restless under the strain of hard work with nothing to look forward to, and feel that they really have nothing to look forward to and feel that they really have nothing to lose no matter what they do, so they go the limit, with the result that bitter struggles ensue. The employers on the other hand, contend that the business is not paying, and are very much insulted when the miners demand better working conditions and more money. The employers take the attitude that the shareholders come first, while the men naturally believe that they should come first. While we are well aware that industry is a cold blooded affair, at the same time it behooves all employers to treat their men on a fair and equitable basis if only for their own selfish motives. A good many employers think that when they have the bulge on labor they should grind the men down, but the reverse should be the case, for if you treat your employees right they will return you good dividends in service. We know that many thousands of dollars are lost to industry through dissatisfied help, and the small increase in wages or the bettering of conditions would be repaid many times through increased efficiency of the worker.

POSSIBILITIES OF ESTABLISHMENT OF COKING INDUSTRY

INVESTIGATION BY THE DOMINION FUEL BOARD

Progress Made in Effort to Solve Domestic Fuel Problem—Testing Maritime Province Coals.

The central part of Canada is feeling the need at the present time of ample supply of domestic fuel of a high quality at a reasonable price. The great strike of last year in the anthracite field was the cause of the acute shortage last winter but the attention thus drawn to the subject has shown that the deposits of anthracite coal are limited and that the supply is being used up with comparative rapidity.

To assist in the obtaining and distribution of fuel of some kind to tide over the strike period, fuel committees, federal, provincial, and municipal were created. These committees functioned through the winter of 1922-23 and are still in operation, but they do not touch on the larger problem, that of obtaining a suitable domestic fuel to take the place of anthracite. It was to deal with this problem that the Dominion Fuel Board was established by the Hon. Charles Stewart, Minister of Mines. The function of this Board is not to find fuel for a few months during an emergency but to carry on investigations which may indicate to citizens a permanent source of supply. Their task, therefore, is a large one which will take time for completion.

Various lines of investigation are being followed, among others that of the commercial feasibility of producing coke in by-product recovery ovens in our larger cities. The field work in this investigation is practically finished and the information collected is now being prepared for publication. While the details are not yet available, it may be stated that conditions are found to indicate that the erection of plants at several points would be a warranted com-

mercial venture for individual firms or corporations. Investigations are also being carried out by the board in conjunction with the Mines Branch to determine the coking qualities of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick coals, and it is hoped these may be available for this purpose and thus reduce the supplies drawn from abroad.

EXCESSIVE LABOR SUPPLY.

Unskilled labor in Cuba is receiving from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per day, the low rate being due probably to the fact that the labor supply exceeds the demand. West Indians and Southern Europeans, who are temporarily domiciled in Cuba, are also adding to the surplus labor.

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Minority Move

"TO PREPARE FOR FEDERATION BY PROPAGANDA."

As a result of continued attacks upon wages and the status of Welsh miners and further drastic cuts promised in November, a new Welsh movement has been initiated in the Rhondda Valleys.

It is known as the Miners' Minority Movement, and is intended to be run on the same lines as the unofficial movement that was born on the Cambrian strike. It will bring its

influence to bear upon matters of vital importance to miners.

It urges the federation to give 14 days' notice to terminate the present contract and agreement, and to demand a wage equal to the cost of living, taking 1914 as the standard. Mr. Arthur J. Cook, Rhondda miners' agent, said to me (wire of Daily Herald representative, "We feel that the ordinary constitutional channels of federation are too slow and hedged in by so many domestic issues as to be incapable of drafting policies to meet the ever-changing economic conditions in the coalfield."

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OUR HOME PAGE

HOME COOKING

APPLE CUSTARD.

Steam two large tart apples that have been peeled and cored. Rub them through a sieve, and add one cupful of milk, two teaspoonfuls of butter, one quarter of a cupful of sugar and yolks of four eggs. Turn the mixture into baking cups, stand them in hot water and bake about 20 minutes. When they come from the oven pile the beaten white of egg on top of each cup, sprinkle with powdered sugar, and place in the oven to brown slightly. Serve cold.

JELLIED APPLES.

Pare and slice thin a dozen or more tart apples. Place in a pudding dish alternate layers of apples and sugar, add a dust of cinnamon. When the dish has been filled in this way, pour over it half a cup of water, a buttered plate over the top and cook slowly for three hours. Set in a cool place, and when ready turn out into a glass dish. Served with whipped cream or boiled custard.

DUTCH APPLE CAKE.

Dutch apple cake is better for children than pie. Baking-powder biscuit, rolled out in a sheet, buttered and spread with apple-sauce or sliced apples, sugar and butter and cinnamon on top, and baked until the biscuit is done, is fine for luncheon, cold or hot.

DATE AND APPLE PIE.

Line a pie plate with crust, and fill it with a mixture of chopped dates and tart apples. Sprinkle over in a tin, three fourths of a cupful by the scant, teaspoonful of cinnamon, and a half teaspoonful of butter. Dot with bits of butter. Bake in an upper crust. Bake made from oven thirty minutes, and ended by cream.

FRIED APPLES.

Cut and slice rather thin, seven medium-sized apples. Peel off, as preferred, depending on whether or not you like the flavor of the peel. In an iron frying pan, cook five or six slices of bacon until it is crisp. Remove the bacon from the pan and turn the apples into the smoking hot fat. Add one teaspoonful of hot water, if the apples are not very juicy. Sprinkle over them one-third to one-half cup of granulated sugar. Cover and cook over a slow fire until the apples are soft, stirring often; turn the gas higher and brown nicely, being careful not to scorch. Twenty to twenty-five minutes will be needed for cooking. The recipe serves five people. Fried apples make a good addition to a breakfast of bacon and eggs or fried corn meal mush.

JELLIED APPLES.

Years ago, when the great old-fashioned oven was heated and used for the regular weekly baking, housewives often baked their apple sauce along with the beans, bread, pies, and pound cake. The apples were first pared, cored and quartered, or sliced, if they happened to be unusually large ones. To every quart of the sliced fruit there was allowed one-third of a cup of sugar and one cup of hot water. The apples were placed in a low stone crock, in layers, alternating with the sugar, and the hot water poured over them. Then the cover of the crock fitted on, and the apples baked slowly for three hours. When the right variety of fruit was used a delectable dish was the result.

STEAMED APPLE PUDDING

Two cups of flour; four teaspoonfuls baking powder; one half teaspoon of salt, two tablespoonfuls butter, three-quarters of a cup of milk, four apples cut in eights. Mix and sift dry ingredients; work butter with tips of fingers, add milk gradually, mixing with knife; toss on floured board, roll out, place apples on middle of dough and sprinkle with sugar, bring dough around apples and carefully lift into buttered mould, cover closely and steam one hour and twenty minutes.

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APPLES IN CRANBERRY JUICE.

Pour 1 1/2 cups of water over a pint of cranberries and let cook soft. Drain through a colander. To the liquid add 1 cup sugar and 6 or 7 apples peeled, cored and quartered. Cover and cook. To the berries add 1/4 cup water, reheat, then squeeze through the colander. To the pulp add 1 cup of sugar. Thus two fruit dishes have been prepared and may be served on different days.

APPLE CAKE.

Take one-third cup butter, 1 cup sugar, grated rind of 1 lemon, 2 eggs beaten light, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1/2 cup milk, 1 1/4 cups flour, 3 teaspoonfuls (level) of baking powder. Beat the butter to a cream, and gradually beat in the sugar and grated rind of the lemon, and alternately, the flour sifted with the baking powder and salt. Bake in two layers and put together with apple filling. Sift sugar over the top.

APPLE FILLING.

Take 1 large apple, grated; juice of 1 lemon, 1 cup sugar, 1 egg beaten light, 1 tablespoon butter. Heat the apple, lemon juice and three-fourths of the sugar in a double boiler. Add the rest of the sugar to the egg and stir into the hot mixture. Cook and stir until the froth disappears and the mixture thickens. Remove from the fire and beat in the butter. Use when both cake and filling have cooled.

FRENCH PIE.

Butter a deep pie tin and fill with sliced apples. Sprinkle well with sugar and nutmeg, and pour over all a batter made of following: yolks of 2 eggs, 1/2 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon butter, 1 cup flour, 1 teaspoon baking powder, 1/4 cup sweet milk. Bake until apples are soft, then turn upon a plate with the apples on top. Cover with a frosting made with the whites of the 2 eggs beaten, and sweetened with confectioner's sugar. Return to the oven to brown, and serve hot.

APPLE CHARLOTTE.

Soak one quarter of a box of granulated gelatine in two tablespoonfuls of cold water, add to one pint of hot apple sauce, flavor and press through a sieve. As soon as the mixture begins to harden stir in one pint of whipped cream. Line a mold with lady fingers, pour in the mixture and set away to cool.

APPLE FRITTERS.

One cup of sweet milk, one egg, one-teaspoonful of baking powder, one-fourth teaspoonful of salt, one-half cup of chopped apples. Flour to make a batter stiff enough to drop heavily from the spoon. Fry in deep fat.

A BAKED APPLE CHARLOTTE.

Cover the bottom of a well-buttered pie dish with rather thin slices of peeled apples, sprinkle thickly with sugar, add a little grated or finely chopped orange rind and some of the juice, and on top place thin slices of bread and butter. Repeat the layers, letting the thickly buttered side of rather thicker slices of bread form the surface of the final one. Bake in a moderate oven for about forty minutes, or until the apples are soft when pierced with a skewer, and the bread brown and crisp on top, then serve inverted on a hot dish. Lemon juice and rind may replace the orange, or it may be altogether omitted when not approved.

QUINCE HONEY.

Pare and core quinces. Grate or put through the fine knife of the food chopper. To three cups of grated quince add one cup of water and cook until tender. Add four cups of granulated sugar and cook fifteen minutes. Pour into jars and seal while hot.

APPLE GINGER.

Bruise 4 ounces root ginger, tie loosely in a muslin, put into a pan and cover with a quart of water; bring to the boil and simmer two or three hours. Remove the ginger, add the juice and grated rind of two lemons, and 2 lbs. of sugar. Boil all together for 10 or 15 minutes, then add 5 lbs. of apples, peeled and cut into fairly thick slices. (Some tastes may prefer a sweeter preserve, and more sugar must be used accordingly.) Boil until the apple slices are transparent.

RAISINE.

To make this famous French marmalade allow an equal weight of grapes and pears. Cook the grapes in a little water until soft, then press through a colander to remove the seeds. Add the pears, cored and sliced, and simmer until thick, stirring almost constantly. When thick, sweeten to taste, let cool, strain through a colander, heat again and can.

PLUM MARMALADE.

Remove the stems, skin and stones from the plums. Use three-quarters of a pound of sugar and a teaspoon of water to a pound of the fruit. Boil one hour, skim and stir often to prevent burning.

BROWN BETTY.

Alternate layers of sliced apples and dry bread crumbs; put enough crumbs to cover the apples, add wee bits of butter, sugar and ground cinnamon, or cloves; repeat this until the pudding dish is full, having crumbs on the top; pour half cup molasses or milk and half cup water over. Set the dish in a pan of boiling water and bake in a moderate oven for an hour or more. Serve with cream.

BOSTON CREAM.

This is the children's favorite drink. Take one, and a half pounds of loaf sugar, quarter of an ounce of lemon essence, beaten white of one egg, four pints boiling water, and two ounces tartaric acid. Pour the water on to the sugar, and let it stand till cold. Add the lemon essence and the tartaric acid, and take care that no lumps remain in the acid. Stir in the well-beaten white of egg, then put the liquid into bottles and cork. When a delicious drink is wanted, put two tablespoonfuls into a glass and fill up with water. Add a pinch of bicarbonate of soda, stir well, and drink while fizzing.

MAYONNAISE VARIATIONS

Try mixing in your plain mayonnaise salad dressing some of these rather odd ingredients: Chili sauce with chopped onion, capers with chopped hard-boiled egg, spiced currants with chopped ginger (this for use on a lettuce, apple, and orange salad, for instance) chopped olives, chopped pickles. If you are a vegetarian, and the salad with its egg mayonnaise forms the bulk of your meal, you will appreciate the variations of taste that these oddments give.

NEW PRUNE PUDDING.

A rich and delicious prune pudding is made by stewing raisins with prunes until both are tender, then cover with a good biscuit crust. Bake and serve with cream. A little orange or lemon peel added would give a nice flavor.

FIRE!

If a child gets burned do not be startled and lose your head. Act at once. The great thing with a burn or scald is to keep the air out. Apply cotton oil, if you have it, or a little vinegar, and cover with a pad of cotton wool until the doctor arrives.

When gas lights are within the reach of children, or even if they are placed where a draught can blow light curtains against them, always cover them with wire protectors. Never throw away matches you have used for lighting gas; keep a stone dish or tin to put them into. See that smokers put the ends of cigarettes into these dishes, for many fires are caused by the careless throwing away of cigarette ends.

IF CHILDREN DON'T LIKE MILK.

Milk is the most important factor for the children's health. If they do not like it, you will have to use it in cookery instead of giving it them to drink. Milk matters most, so make milk bread, milk bread, milk custards and puddings, milk soups. Very often it is pure suggestion. Someone says, "Fancy your children turns their stomachs," and then your drinking milk. Mine can't. If children decide they can't. Don't force them. Put it into puddings and other dishes instead. Or give them straws with which to suck it up, which makes milk-drinking a joke.

HOME HINTS.

Fine ashes mixed with turpentine are splendid for cleaning brass and steel.

Honey and cream cheese make a tempting spread for toasted English muffins.

A little gasoline in the water when scrubbing floors will quickly eradicate grease spots.

Tears and holes should be mended before laundering to prevent the rubbing making them larger.

Soak a new broom in salty boiling water before using. It toughens the bristles and makes the broom last longer.

Glue or flypaper stickiness can be removed by rubbing with the white of an egg. It will roll up at once and wash off.

To Dry Those Tears.—Skinning onions, which usually ends in tears, can be made a pleasure by pouring boiling water over them and covering a few minutes before peeling.

Use for Corset Eyelets.—Cut eyelets from discarded corsets with enough material to turn under and stitch. Put these on children's underwear using two for garter pins. Thus the waist is not torn.

Why spend money for a mop? Take six old stockings, cut the feet off, split open and cut in strips an inch wide within two inches of hem, and put into a mop handle. This makes the finest kind of a dustless mop.

When making cookies and you are in a hurry, roll them all out at one time and cut in squares instead of round. This saves time as the dough does not have to be reknaded into shape so often.

Cleaning umbrellas.—An umbrella that has been dropped in the mud and can not be cleaned by ordinary brushing is best treated in this way: After greasing the inside wires to prevent rusting, the cover of the umbrella should be scrubbed with warm, soapy water. It should be rinsed in clear cold water and hung, still open, in the sun to dry.

MUSLIN WINDOW SHADES.

Very attractive and serviceable window shades can be made from the heaviest unbleached muslin. Cut it seven feet long and the width of your window, then cut three scallops across the bottom, the center one a little shorter, more pointed and much narrower than the other two. Bind the scallops with blue bias seam binding, and about two inches above the scallops stitch a piece of the muslin, wide enough to carry the stock, keep the top and tack to the old roller. When the stick is inserted at the bottom, one has a very satisfactory window shade, for when they become soiled they can be taken down and removed from the roller, washed, starched and ironed, and always be clean.

WALL PAPER PASTE.

A good wall paper paste can be made by using rye flour and water. Take some flour and stir in warm water, then boil and cool, stirring constantly. No exact recipe can be given for the quantity of flour to use as different flours vary in different paste-making qualities. A few drops of carbolic acid will help preserve the paste.

AMONG WOMEN

It is not rare among Eskimo women to have their first child at the age of twelve.

Miss Leatha Jackson, Denver, Col., has averaged \$5,000 a year for five years working as a book agent.

Maryse Barrows, a fifteen-year-old New York girl, is the youngest artist whose work has been exhibited in the Paris salon.

Egyptian women are working for a modification of the Moslem law permitting a husband to divorce his wife without a cause.

Egyptian women, inspired by the women's movement in Turkey, are taking a prominent part in the Egyptian nationalist movement.

A new committee, representing all classes of women, has been established in Holland to mobilize public opinion in favor of universal peace.

In Caribou, Maine, women now fill nearly all of the public offices, including those of tax collector, town clerk, town treasurer and constable.

The only woman in the world whose business is tombstone making is Mrs. Bessie T. Rodman, of Seattle, Wash., and she is known for her unusual talent in cutting stone.

Among the most prized possessions of "Grandma" Watson, who died recently, the 92-year-old mother of the United States senator from Indiana, was an autographed photograph which was sent to her by the late President Harding.

A most enthusiastic crowd of women took part in a recent parade on Fifth Avenue, New York, recently. The principle of the parade was to impress the people that the mothers, sweethearts, wives and daughters are opposed to war in the future.

An English woman, Mrs. Ernest Hart, is the inventor of waterproofing almost every kind of fabric, which has been used on an extensive scale by many departments of the British government, as well as by leading industrial companies.

Dustmen's Strike Extends.

FELLOW EMPLOYEES DECIDE TO STOP WORK.

The dustmen's strike at Fulham reached a critical stage last night, when other sections of the municipal workers resolved on sympathetic action and decided to join the dustmen by ceasing work.

This decision was taken at a mass meeting of the municipal employees held at the Lillie road Schools, Fulham, at which the following resolution was unanimously carried:

"That all the employees of Fulham Borough Council stop work to-night and do not return until the Council has reinstated those employees now in dispute on their old conditions at day rates."

This resolution, a Press representative was informed by one of the men's leaders, means that all the men belonging to the 10 trade unions represented on the Municipal Employees' Defence Committee will be out this morning, and that members of the craft unions will follow as soon as the sanction of their respective executives is obtained.

It is estimated that between 400 and 500 municipal employees will "down tools" in the Borough, including street scavengers, roadmen, slop-cart men and laborers.

The Defence Committee will meet today to consider the situation, and a big demonstration of the employees affected will take place at Fulham Cross this afternoon.

DECLINE OF GERMAN LABOR ACTIVITIES.

Conditions on the Saxon Labor market are deteriorating noticeably, as is shown by the partial or complete shutting down of many industrial plants, and the resultant

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HOW FOSTER AND HIS COMMUNISTS

(Continued from Page 1.)

in getting the union to give what scanty support it is giving to the Fayette county men.

"This sort of activity is what makes me satisfied with my affiliation with the Workers Party as I have never been either as a member of the Socialist Party or as unaffiliated. The W. P. is endeavouring to day by day take part in the struggles of the working class in such a manner as to assist most in the final overthrow of capitalism."

The data at hand show that Merrick's and Hamilton's work for the Miners Relief Conference was so intimately associated with their work for the Labor Defense Council that it is difficult at times to distinguish between them. Hamilton gave as much time and effort, according to his own reports, to the promotion of the Labor Defense Council, purely a Communist enterprise, as he did to the Miners Relief Conference.

The correspondence shows that while Merrick and Hamilton were appealing to the people of the country for money for the relief of "starving miners," they were also holding mass meetings in the same region to collect money from these "starving miners" to remit to the Labor Defense Council at Chicago.

When Merrick declined to approve the suggestion that another agent of the Labor Defense Council be sent into the Pittsburgh region, he gave as his reason that they were then collecting all the money from these "starving miners" which he believed it was possible to do.

Merrick in carrying on his work maintained close contact with Ruthenburg, William W. Weinstone, James P. Cannon, J. Louis Engdahl, William Z. Foster, and William F. Kruse, of the Communist organizations, and with Roger Baldwin, of the American Civil Liberties Union. Merrick was in frequent correspondence with Ruthenburg during last winter and spring concerning the details of the Communist campaign in the miners' union. Ruthenburg was irritated at the resistance offered by the United Mine Workers to the distribution of radical literature by Merrick, and on February 10 he wrote to Merrick, as follows:

"Certainly we cannot agree with your viewpoint in regard to the defense nor with the action of the district executive committee in ordering the discontinuance of the distribution of the program in the Pittsburgh district. There has been distributed by the Communist movement in the United States literature that was considered even more radical than the program could be and ways and means have been found in which to make the distribution. Certainly we should not, because of the attacks of the authorities and the arrest of three of our members permit that to interfere with the continuance of our work. That is not the Communist attitude. The Communist viewpoint is to continue the work of the movement irrespective of what the authorities say or do in persecuting our party. This does not mean that you need to make the distribution in such a manner as to expose the members to arrest, but certainly you should not allow such a little thing comparatively as has happened in your district, to interfere with the continuance of the work."

The American Civil Liberties Union was called upon by Merrick to give assistance in freeing the radical agents and emissaries who were arrested in the Pittsburgh region. A small loan was made to Merrick in one of these cases from the Garland Foundation Fund. In writing to Baldwin for a renewal of the note covering this loan on January 13, Merrick said:

Due to the terrific fight that developed in the election campaign in District Five of the U. M. W. of A., we are compelled to go to the miners for every cent we can get to carry on the fight of the Progressive miners. As a result of it, have won the election. While the machine, one of the most corrupt in the U. M. W. of A., claims victory by a small margin, we have proof that they were defeated and will carry it to the International Executive Board."

Baldwin replied that the Board had agreed "with pleasure to extend your note for sixty days."

In writing to C. E. Ruthenberg on August 10, Merrick said, with reference to Roger Baldwin, managing director of the American Civil Liberties Union and the Garland Foundation:

"In answer to my letter to Baldwin concerning the \$2,000 to the Garland Fund I got the information that the money has already been voted to be used exclusively in District No. 2 in Central Pennsylvania. I cannot blame Baldwin, for Brophy, the

President of the organization is a fine fellow and has co-operated with the Civil Liberties Union all along while the district officials here have refused to help at all.

Baldwin was also called upon by Merrick for a loan to finance the election contest in the Pittsburgh district against the officials of the United Mine Workers. The board of the Garland Foundation Fund refused to make this loan, however, and Baldwin advised Merrick to this effect.

Merrick's relations with James P. Cannon, known as "the paymaster" of the Communists, during the eight months "drive" have been equally intimate and business like. Cannon was the individual directly responsible for sending William F. Dunne into the Pittsburgh region at the start of the miners' strike in 1922. In writing to Merrick at that time concerning Dunne's prospective visit, Cannon said:

"We fully appreciate the importance of the Pittsburgh district in the present coal situation and want to help you in every way possible to make the most of the possibilities offered."

In the next article dealing with the Communist revolutionary movement in this country, the United Mine Workers will present the facts concerning the "boring from within" campaign as it relates to all trade unions and labor organizations in the United States, and the interlocking directorates and the mechanism by which these organizations are bound together and conduct their work virtually as one departmental unit.

THAT FIFTY MILLIONS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

sums for the use of the wealthy while the children are being destroyed and the health of the people undermined by bad housing conditions.

FOR PRINTERS' ORPHANS

Great hopes are centred on the trade flag day organized by the printing and newspaper industry on behalf of the War Orphan Fund of the Printers' Pension Corporation, on which there is a deficit of \$14,000. Flags are to be sold in every printing and newspaper establishment in the United Kingdom next

pay day. There are 900 war orphans being assisted by the fund. The flags are not priced, and the workers will give what they please for them.

INSPECTION OF LABOR

DISCUSSION BY GENEVA CONFERENCE.

The International Labor Conference at Geneva (wires Reuter) has adopted the report and recommenda-

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HEAD OFFICE AND EXPORT OFFICE MONTREAL

tions of the Fourth Committee regarding the organization of the inspection of labor, and the draft resolution of the Fifth Commission inviting the International Labor Office to present an annual report summarizing the results of the inspections of labor carried out by each State.

With regard to the nature of the functions of the Labor Inspectors the draft resolution was opposed by several delegates, including Mr. Poulton, representing the British workers, on the ground that certain of the enactments relative to the power of the inspectors could not be carried out by the Governments as they were not in harmony with their national legislation.

"WHITE" ACTIVITY

FINNISH PROPAGANDA AGAINST RUSSIA.

The newspaper "Arbeidet" (says a Reuter message from Christiania) publishes a report from Helsingfors according to which the Finnish "Whites" are showing increasing activity. Many meetings are being held and members are urged to hold themselves in readiness for possible fighting.

The "Arbeidet" also reports that M. Pikkala, a prominent White leader, made a speech at a meeting of Karelian Associations, choosing as his text, "All talk of Russian is between clenched teeth." He bade the Whites to be ready for action.

WITH THE WORKERS.

Battersea No. 2 branch, N.U.R. is asking its E. C. to open negotiations for a wage increase to meet the higher cost of living.

Wood Green Branch, N. U. R., has pledged itself to resist the railway companies' demands for reductions in the event of an adverse report being signed by the National Wages Board.

Five retiring members of the London Postal Superintending Officers' Association, whose total service is 207 years, received presents from colleagues on Saturday.

National Co-operative Managers' Association, London district, has arranged with Mr. W. Graham, M.P. (Central Edinburgh), to speak on "Foreign Exchanges and Retail Prices," on November 6, at 99 Le-man street.

WORKERS' WAGES CUT.

An industrial court award decides on a reduction of 2s. a week in the wages of women employed in envelope making and stationery manu-

facture. About 3,000 women employed in London are concerned. This was opposed by the National Union of Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Workers.

BOILERMAKERS BAKERS.

The 48th annual meeting and dinner of the Journeymen Bread and Biscuit Pension Society was held at the Horse Shoe Hotel, Tottenham Court Road, on Saturday, when it was announced that the income for the year amounted to £22,081. Payments to pensioners, numbering 76 men and women, amounted to £1,500.

New Move To End Lock-Out.

BOILERMAKERS DRAFT PROPOSALS

DELEGATES' DECISION.

The resumed delegate conference of the Boilermakers' Society at York yesterday drew up for submission to the Trades Union Congress Mediation Committee proposals for a settlement of the shipyard lockout. The nature of the proposals are not disclosed.

At the conclusion of the conference, which lasted until late in the evening, John Hill made the following official statement:

"During the past two days we have given particular consideration to the efforts of the Special Mediation Committee of the Trade Union Congress.

It was noted by the conference that the General Council of the Congress had already considered the question of the boilermakers' lockout, and had decided that this was a dispute which ought to have been referred to arbitration long ago.

"Thereafter the conference of boilermakers' delegates prepared a statement regarding the lock-out, and drafted proposals for a settlement which will be duly submitted to the committee of the Trade Union Congress.

"The conference also considered the letters from the Lord Mayors and Mayors of the North-East Coast cities and Boroughs.

"In this connection it was reported to the conference that similar letters had been sent to the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation, and that the employers had refused to accept the Mayors' request to meet them.

"The conference expressed its appreciation of the painstaking efforts of the Mayors to bring both sides together with a view to negotiating and ending the dispute, and it is deeply regretted that the action of the employers had rendered those efforts abortive.

"Mr. Hill declined to state the nature of the proposals for a settlement which the delegate conference has decided to put forward, as he

feared that the disclosure of the proposals would be prejudicial to the success of the conference.

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