

CANADIAN LABOR PRESS

A National, Sane Labor Paper

True Confidence and Understanding Between Employer and Employee Absolutely Necessary to Industrial Peace.

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Violence Only Begets Violence--Aimable Industrial Relationship Should Prevail

(James M. Lynch, former President of the International Typographical Union and former Industrial Commissioner for the State of New York.)

In one of these articles there was set forth an instance of extreme violence on the part of a union. Now it is proposed to record some of the violence directed against organized labor and its representatives by employers.

Many Quarrels

There have been many bitter and relentless quarrels between capital and labor, disagreements that have left scars that took years to eradicate. Some of these scars will remain for years to come. Notable among these instances of violence by employers was that at Bisbee. Strikers were placed on cars and ordered out of town, others told to hike, all emphasized by the use of firearms. Women and children were not spared. That story engaged public attention for many months. The Bisbee mob defenders tried to justify the evictions. The old-time favorite excuse was made to do duty--the strikers and their sympathizers were guilty of violation of the law.

A labor dispute that was once nationally known came to an end recently. Its zone was in the northern Arkansas or Ozark mountain region. The strike began in February, 1921, when union men walked out in protest against a twenty per cent. reduction in wages, which the employer, the Missouri and North Arkansas railroad, then in the hands of a receiver, declared it was necessary if operations were to continue. About 450 employees and 365 miles of track were affected.

Riots Not Uncommon

The strikers were charged with riot and depredations. A mob of 10,000 persons compelled officers of the four brotherhoods to leave Harrison, Ark. The railroad did not make much progress against the strikers, and so charging sabotage announced operations would have to be discontinued on account of the strike. The citizens several times sought to force the road to resume train service, and several strikers were arrested and prosecuted, but conditions did not grow any better.

The following spring another attempt was made to resume operations, after the strikers had refused to accept terms offered by the receiver. Interference with train service developed, however, culminating in January, 1923, in the burning of half a dozen bridges within less than a week. This was, of course, charged to the men on strike.

Law Displaced

The citizens, thereupon, formed a "law and order league" and displaced the legal authorities. Open warfare was declared upon the strikers, and many of them and their sympathizers were publicly whipped. The town marshal of Harrison and his deputies were compelled to resign, and the marshal was ordered out of town. A citizens' committee of 1,000 took charge and began sending out for strikers for questioning.

Strike sympathizers asserted later that many of the members of this committee were brought to Harrison from nearby towns on a special train placed at their disposal by the officials of the railroad.

Cases of Lynching

Some resistance was met in Harrison and a few shots were fired on the citizens' organizations when they invaded homes. C. C. Gregor, a striker suspected of burning bridges, was taken before the committee's "court." He declined to give information, or answer questions concerning other suspected men. The next day his body was found hanging from a railroad bridge.

The citizens' court declared it had nothing to do with the lynching of Gregor, asserting that an armed and masked band had taken him from the hall in which he was being held. Testimony later before a legislative investigating committee showed that Gregor was innocent of the specific bridge-burning charges against him.

The night that Gregor disappeared, a hotel owner and small-town capitalist, who had furnished bail for many strikers, charged with sabotage, was taken from his home and whipped. The night marshal, accused by the committee of being a strike sympathizer, was flogged and ordered to leave town.

Forced to Leave Homes

Armed business men patrolled the town, while the citizens' court became an all powerful body, sitting as judge, jury and executioner of its own decrees. Nearly 200 persons were forced to leave the community; many strikers, their wives and children, left on foot, carrying what they could, in their hurry to cross the mountains and flee the section. It was return to work or get out for the most active of the strikers.

Similar committees were formed in other towns along the line of the railroad, and strikers in disfavor in these places also left, some after being beaten.

One of the earliest cases of violence was associated with a representative of the cigarmakers' union, commissioned to organize the workers in Florida cigar centres. He was most brutally treated and driven out of the state, dying shortly thereafter because of his injuries.

No Place to Meet

In the recent steel strike the men affected could not hire halls in which to meet, and the police dispersed gatherings in the streets. The violence of the authorities in the steel towns directed at the strikers was notorious. The local courts sustained the police.

There are many hundreds of other cases of employer and official violence against the representatives of the unions engaged in organizing work. The non-union coal fields of West Virginia furnish a mass of evidence.

No attempt is here made to defend strikers guilty of violence or other crimes, but it is asserted that if crimes are alleged, then the procedure should be through the channels provided by the law. The employers or the mob have no right to supersede the legal tribunals.

Bad Example Infections

A good example is contagious. A bad example is infectious. Let those who rail at the unions and charge them with violence ponder on the acts of employers resorted to in an effort to defeat a strike, and where women and children are not spared. The guillotine was not invented by the revolutionists. It was ready to their hand.

Violence begets violence. It takes many forms. Men on strike too often yield readily to provocation. Frequently they are taught in the employers' school.

There is a better way to promote amicable industrial relations and satisfactory conditions. It will not be reached through the denial of the right to organize.

French Injustice in Occupied Territory

The I.F.T.U. Press Service publishes a letter from one of the many German comrades who have been condemned to long sentences of imprisonment for their conduct in connection with the Ruhr conflict. These comrades are still languishing in the French prisons for political offenders in Germany. The writer of the letter first gives personal information which we will not repeat, lest the defenceless victim should be identified, and should suffer for its publication. He then goes on to say: "I had been working little more than a month in Occupied Territory, when I was betrayed into the hands of the French. I was arrested while attending a meeting of the executive. I was accused of inciting the workers to strike, of paying out money. (I had only paid the families of our arrested officials their salaries, and that, of course, from union funds), and of an infraction of the passport regulations. I was condemned to four years' imprisonment. The sentences passed on the colleagues whose places I had taken, have, in some cases, been as long as 10 years. Seventeen of us received sentences which aggregated 96 1/2 years. The trials were conducted

broken. Later, we hope to be once more fighting shoulder to shoulder with our comrades against reaction and against anemic democracy.

"Dear friend and comrade! You will know best how to read and use these few lines; there is no need for me to use fine words and express fine sentiments.

"Remember me to the old way to all comrades."

New Assault Upon Italian Trade Unions

In no country have the trade unions had so much to suffer in recent times as in Italy. The reactionary policy of the Government, and, still worse, the lawless violence of the Fascists and the Fascist trade unions, supported as they are by the Government and the employers, have already brought things to a terrible pass; but thanks to the canvassing for the recent elections, the situation has now gone from bad to worse.

The most violent and intemperate elements are now bringing all their forces into play against the unions. The Government itself has set the pace. This it has done by publishing in the official gazette the Ministerial Decree against the workers' organizations, which was discussed and approved as far back as September last. Such publication is equivalent to putting into practice, or until publication takes place, such decrees remain in a state of suspended animation. As so long a time has passed since it was approved, it would cer-

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ed in private; no German counsel was allowed, a single French lawyer having been appointed for the defence by the French court-martial.

"I have now been nearly a year in prison. I need not tell you, who are old campaigners, what that means: at 48 a man's powers of resistance are not what they are when he is younger. Besides the physical sufferings, there is the mental torture--the separation from wife, children and friends, and the necessity of looking on helplessly at the desperate struggles of the German working classes.

"After my father's death, my mother now 86 years of age, was left to face the world alone, with my crippled sister, who is 41 years of age, and absolutely helpless. I asked for a few days' leave to go to my father's funeral, and to help my mother and sister, but permission was refused by the French authorities; although one of my three grown-up sons offered to stay in prison as hostage for me during the days of my absence.

"There is no chance of a general amnesty for the Rhine and Ruhr prisoners. The French Government has recently made a statement to that effect, and we prisoners have been told so, also. France wants to keep her hold of us, her living mortgages, which she has seized. The number of political prisoners now in our prison is 86; they are officials of various ranks, and workers; six of them are labor leaders. The total number of the Rhine and Ruhr political prisoners is said to be about 2,000.

"The German Government recommends us to appeal individually to the French Government for pardon. Several of the prisoners in our prison have done so, but they have received a curt and harsh refusal.

"Who and what can help us? The International Labor organizations, and the home and foreign press; possibly also questions in parliaments. Who will be the link between us and them? Who will appeal to justice and democracy against despotism and militarism?

"The Ruhr struggle ended six months ago. We surrendered unconditionally, but the victims of the struggle are still languishing behind prison bars; they are still being crushed both in body and mind.

"Why do I write this? To stimulate my dulled nerves, to give news of our sufferings to old friends. We do not complain; our hearts are hot with anger, our courage is still un-

tainly seem as if the putting of the decree into operation had been postponed until the moment when it could be used with the greatest effect, in the hope that the last remaining spark of freedom of opinion might thereby be extinguished. Hence it has been kept back until the moment of the elections. The Government is well aware that the Italian trade unions always confine their activities to their own sphere, and do not meddle with politics. In spite of this, its fear of their influencing the elections is the real reason for its renewing with increased intensity its policy of violence.

The new decree provides that all associations and corporations, of whatsoever nature, which derive their revenues from workers' contributions, and which furnish moral and material support to workers, shall be under the supervision of the political authorities of the province. This supervision may take practical shape on the most varied and vague pretexts, as, for instance, when the corporation is "under suspicion" of "abusing public confidence" when it "spends money to the prejudice of the members" for other purposes than the moral and material support of its members. If there is ground for any such suspicions, the provincial authorities may undertake a domiciliary visit; and they may even take over full control temporarily, entrusting the whole management of the offending association to the state commissary. This full control cannot be brought to an end until the Commissary in charge shall have sent in to the provincial authorities a detailed report on the situation. The authorities can then judge whether or not it is safe to allow the old officials to resume work.

Forcibly the authorities of Rome ordered an enquiry into the work and financial position of the National Landworkers' Union. The Commissary appointed by the Government then presented himself at the office of the organization Comrade Altobelli, the energetic woman secretary of the union (a member of the Executive of the International Landworkers' Federation), and Modigliani, the legal adviser of the union, duly protested against this illegal proceeding, and closed the office. The Commissary, however, obtained possession of the keys, and set to work to make an inventory of the papers of the union. This act has excited indignation among Democrat and Catholic as well as the unionists.

Labor and War

By I. d'Aragona

(General Secretary of the Italian Federation of Trade Unions.)

Although great efforts have been made to give prominence to idealism and patriotic feeling in connection with the last war, no serious thinker can have any doubt that it was the result of antagonisms between the capitalist classes.

This view of the war is a clear indication to Labor of the path which it must pursue.

The antagonism between the interests of the various nations affects only the capitalist classes, and does not touch Labor; it sows discord between these classes, not between the workers. The capitalist classes incline towards nationalism, and use war as a weapon of offence and defence; it is for Labor to adopt internationalism as its slogan, and to seek to safeguard its interests through solidarity. This constitutes a very powerful reason why Labor should abhor the war; and it is reinforced, not merely by the purely humane sentiment which revolts from the horrors of war, but also by other very weighty arguments.

Temporarily at least, war between individual nations accelerates the intermingling of the various social classes within the borders of the countries engaged in it. When all classes take part in war, the result is co-operation in a destructive, and not a constructive sense. War modifies the struggle which under normal conditions Labor would wage in its own defence, and in the pursuit of its own aims against the capitalist classes. For this reason also war is opposed to the interest of Labor.

But there are other considerations. In time of war the other classes need not fear unduly the losses which the war must infallibly bring with it. They can console themselves with the hope that victory will bring them some desired position of vantage, will free them from foreign domination, or will make such domination impossible in the future. But whatever may be the issue of the war to the national of which it forms a part Labor will never reap from the advantages equivalent to the losses which it will suffer. For industry, victory may possibly win new markets or open up new colonial territories, so that there will be a greater demand for labor, and unemployment will diminish, and the wage level will be raised. But however high the estimate we may place upon these advantages, they are counterbalanced by the enhanced power of capitalism, against which Labor will once more have to take up its fight the moment the war is over. Other evils of war are the growth of militarism (an inevitable result of all war) and the financial and eco-

nomic burdens, which press much more heavily on the workers than on other classes, and invariably lead to a fall in their standard of living. All these are the inevitable accompaniments of war, and they all weaken the hands of Labor in its struggle for its own emancipation.

The recent war with its evil results (affecting the workers of all countries, victors as well as vanquished) affords very clear evidence of the truth of what has just been said.

We are not enemies of war in the sense of certain groups of pacifists, for whom the maintenance of peace is an end in itself, to which everything else must be subordinated. We are for ordered international relations, because such relations will help to promote other aims, and will foster the development of those forces which raise the social level of the workers and give rise to higher forms of civilization. The ebounds of international working-class solidarity are strengthened and the workers are rendered more acutely conscious of the class antagonisms which war, as already stated, tends to dull and destroy.

If we have not yet succeeded in preventing the terrifying growth of militarism in all the countries of Europe, if it is not yet possible to limit the bonds of international solidarity so closely as to counteract the evil effects of the competition between the capitalist classes, let us at least draw one lesson from the horrors of the recent war, the results of which we shall feel for many a long year yet. That lesson is the following: "Let us help to eliminate all future causes of war." If we cannot succeed in doing this, our anti-militarist and international efforts will for any years to come be hampered by insuperable obstacles and we shall be exposed to fresh and very terrible for many years to come be hampered

In order to make our work successful, there must be zealous co-operation among all countries. In every land Labor must work for the same end; for only thus will it be possible to make the action taken in the individual countries sufficiently strong. We, to Labor if in one country it fails to recognize its duty. The result would be that all the efforts of the workers of other lands would be futile. The International Federation of Trade Unions must be able to rely upon the uniform and simultaneous action of the workers of all lands. Each National Federation must show its sister organizations its solidarity with them. The Labor movements of the various countries must endeavor, both directly and indirectly, to influence the foreign poli-

cy of their own country in the direction of agreement with other countries in order thus to avoid all causes of conflict which might lead to war. If the conflict has already broken out, and a war is in progress, it is not easy for Labor to inaugurate a movement towards peace. Confusion results, and the workers themselves. The workers must be vigilant and far-seeing, and must seek to kill the germs of war. But this is only possible when real practical influence can be exerted upon foreign politics.

THE WORKERS AND THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

As there is no Labor Party of any importance in the States, and the elections are completely dominated by the Democratic and Republican Parties, the workers lend their support at elections to individual candidates belonging to one or other of these two parties, who have shown their interest in Labor matters.

This year the American International Brotherhood of Bookbinders is inaugurating a great campaign in favor of George L. Berry, a Democrat candidate for the vice-presidency. George L. Berry is a typical example of an American self-made man. He began to earn his own living when he was only 8 years old. He worked successively as a gold-digger, railwayman, farmer, etc. He was sixteen before he could afford the luxury of learning to read and write. Soon after that he began to make rapid progress, and to-day he is the president of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union of North America, which, under his leadership, has made notable progress. He has founded journals, established convalescent homes, managed large farms, and represented the American Federation of Labor and the American Government on many important missions. The chief plank in his political programme is the settlement of conflicts between employers and workers by means of arbitration.

THE LATVIAN TRADE UNION CONGRESS

The Third Congress of the Latvian Trade Unions took place at Riga recently. The I.F.T.U. was represented by Secretary Sassenbach. 46 delegates took part in the congress; a proposal to admit representatives of the Left-Wing Trade Unions and to allow them a consultative vote having received only 14 votes. After unanimously approving the executive's report on activities, the Congress discussed the questions of taxation, the employers' attacks on the workers, and the best way of combating them, collective agreements, methods of organization, and changes in the rules. Nearly all the resolutions were carried unanimously, and the election of the new executive was also unanimous.

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Following in brief is an outline of our Policy:

1. The Canadian Labor Press supports the International Trade Union Movement, of which there are approximately three hundred thousand members in Canada.
2. The Canadian Labor Press supports the policy of the present Dominion Trades and Labor Congress of Congress.
3. In the interests of the Canadian Worker, The Canadian Labor Press believes that Canadian industry needs adequate tariff protection.
4. The Canadian Labor Press advocates fair play to employer and employee.
5. The Canadian Labor Press stands for the betterment of Trade Union conditions in Canada and the welfare of our country at large.
6. The Canadian Labor Press is independent in politics and free from any political influences.

Farmers and the Home Market

Ontario farmers soon found out the politicians who imposed on them in the Provincial general election of 1919, who posed as farmers' devoted representatives in the Legislative Assembly, and who administered the Province in the name of the farmers. When the opportunity came, as it did in the general election of last June, for the people of Ontario to pass judgement upon these abusers of their trust, the farmers polled heavily for dismissal. And why should not the farmers of Ontario be unsparing in their condemnation? Not only do they form a very large proportion of the wealth producers of this Province, not only are they entitled to the benefits of really progressive legislation, but also they had heavier grievances against the Drury Government than had any other part of the population. They had especially the grievance of people who have been betrayed. From a Government that was returned to carry out a programme in behalf of the agricultural interests they received no more than the husks of reform and farmers to-day who supported that Government blush at the shameful record of it that is now being exhibited.

Have not the farmers of Ontario and of Canada at large good reason to cut loose from exploiters who have no other political capital than the rant and cant of affected zeal for the welfare of the farmers? In Dominion politics they are as useless and as injurious to the genuine interests of the farmers as were the politicians who figured in office in this Province for the three and a half years before the Ferguson Government came into power. Let the farmers of Canada note how barefaced is the falseness of some of these so-called Progressive politicians to the farming industry. These men keep on saying that Canadian farmers do not want protection, that protection is of no use to them. Look across the line and see how much more faithful to the interests of the farming class there are the politicians who speak particularly for that class. These representatives are backed by the whole body of the United States farming industry in their highly successful campaign for top-notch protection. American farmers have now a duty of 42 cents a bushel on wheat, and it seems a certainty that the McNary-Haugen Bill, which provides for a practical embargo on the importation of farm products is likely to become law. Canadian farmers have more need of protection than have American farmers, because the competition from next door is much more formidable as against Canada than it ever was against the United States. Any politician who, sailing under the farmers' colors, says that the farmers do not want any tariff advantage in the home market says what is the opposite of the truth and what is inimical to the farmers' interests.

One of the best addresses on the subject of the farmers' interest in protection was delivered in Simcoe recently, at a meeting of the Liberal-Conservative organization there, which was largely attended by farmers from the surrounding district. The speaker was Mr. John R. MacNicol, president of the Ontario Conservative Association. He showed the value of the home market, instancing the advantage of the farmers of Waterloo County have in the fine local markets maintained by the workers in such industrial centres as Kitchener, Galt and other towns. Every industry that employs a large number of men affords a consumptive demand for four or five times as many people, dependents of the wage earners. To feed these people should largely be the franchise of the farmers in the district, and the only way to secure them in that franchise is to give them the benefit of tariff protection that will really protect. The impounding of American agricultural products into this country ought to be stopped in the same way as the movement of Ontario farm products to the United States has been stopped, that is, by a stiff tariff. Every worker who is forced out of employment in Canadian factories and driven to the United States to earn a living is so much taken from the home market of the Canadian farmer. Farmers of Canada want a Government that will swell the demand of the home market, not a Government that is slowly starving the home market to death.

Secretariat Notices

(From the I.F.T.U. Press Service)

AMSTERDAM AND MOSCOW

The following letter was received by the International Federation of Trade Unions, from the Russian Federation of Trade Unions at Moscow, and was discussed by the former at its bureau meeting of the 28th February. This letter is the Russian reply to the resolution passed by the I.F.T.U. management committee of the 11th November, 1923, on the Russian Federation on December 11th 1923. The resolution authorized the Bureau of the I.F.T.U. "to participate in negotiations with the National Russian Trade Union Executive to the exclusion of the Red Trade Union International, on the sole basis of the rules and general policy of the I.F.T.U. in order to attempt to establish international working class unity." The letter reads as follows: Moscow, February 7th, 1924.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of December 11th, we beg to inform you that on account of the absence of several members of our Council, we were unable to discuss this matter before our meeting of the 5th February, 1924.

With regard to the principles of this question, we are surprised that the Bureau of the I.F.T.U. of Amsterdam, instead of sending a direct reply to the proposal of the Russian Federation of Trade Unions for the calling of a conference for the purpose of considering methods of combating the growing strength of reaction and Fascism, refers to the resolutions of its congresses, in which we have taken no part, and which, for that reason do not interest us at all. You have your congresses and we have ours, and they should not be the subjects of our correspondence.

Russian trade unions expressing their desire to join the International Trade Secretariats, while still continuing to form part of the Red Trade Union International. The Russian Federation of Trade Unions authorizes the organizations, belonging to it to enter into negotiations with the Trade Secretariats, and to join them, while still forming a part of the Russian Federation of Trade Unions and the Red Trade Union International. We see no contradiction in this, and consider any discussion this question useless.

What does interest us is the common action of the trade-unions of all

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orientations against our class enemies. We are prepared to meet your representatives when and where you choose, for the purpose of serious discussion of the common struggle to be fought against the capitalist offensive.

We await your reply by wire, indicating the place and date of this conference.

The President of the Russian Federation of Trade Unions:
 —M. TOMSKY.

The Secretary:
 A. DOGADO.

The Bureau of the International Federation of Trade Unions has decided not to answer this letter. The Russians do not themselves seem to think the matter very important or urgent, seeing that the Executive of the Russian Federation of Trade Unions did not answer our letter of the 11th December, 1923, until the 7th of February, 1924.

Moreover, we can scarcely expect any practical results when the spokesmen of the Russian organizations and manifestoes of the I.F.T.U. do not interest them at all. This explains why the Russians always write about us in such a disparaging way. They write about us and fight us, without even being aware that each of our congresses has expressed its sympathy with the Russian Labor Movement and the Russian workers.

With us the contrary is the case. We follow with attention all that takes place in the Russian Labor Movement, as we are keenly interested in it, and anxious not to miss the moment when it will be possible to bring about unity between the Russian trade union movement and that of other countries. Tomsky is kind enough to recognize our right to an independent existence, and for this we are sincerely grateful to him. If he would go just a little further, and allow us to observe the resolutions of our own congresses, we should be entirely satisfied.

We recognize the right to existence of the Russian Federation of Trade Unions, but not that of the Red Trade Union International, which, according to its rules, was established for the purpose of destroying the Amsterdam International. Our recognition of their Federation was expressed in the resolution of our management committee meeting of the 9th November, 1923.

If the Russians are of the opinion that our congress resolutions cannot form the subject of correspondence between us, then they have a mistaken view of the duty of the executive committee, such as ours, which is bound by its congress resolutions, as becomes an organization in which the workers make their own resolutions through the medium of the leaders and delegates elected by themselves.

For this reason we consider it necessary that these resolutions should form the subject of our correspondence. It is the custom among thinking workers, that whenever two parties desire to pave the way for opening negotiations, it is not one party only which decides what is to be allowed and what disallowed. In any case, we do not recognize the right of the Russians to do this with regard to us.

With regard to the admission of the national Trade Secretariats which cooperate with us, we understand only too well that they consider any discussion of the subject useless. We think they wish to avoid such discussion, because their position is not a strong one.

If the Russians see no contradiction in these attempts of their organizations, which are affiliated with the Red Trade Union International, and have, therefore, according to the rules of that International, pledged themselves to the duty of destroying the Amsterdam International, then we must really ask if in Moscow they ever see any contradiction in anything. For, by affiliating with our International Trade Secretariats, their

organizations, which have to work for our destruction, are not merely recognizing our right to exist, but are even accepting our programme.

We see in this not merely a contradiction, but a sheer impossibility, for workers who desire to take an honest stand towards their comrades in other lands.

Tomsky writes further: "What does interest us is the common action of the trade unions of all orientations against our class enemies."

Therefore (and this may perhaps be a reason for coming closer to each other), we should be very glad to hear from the Russians who these "class enemies" are.

For, according to the introduction to the rules of the Red Trade Union International, our International belongs to these class enemies.

According to Article II. (object), Clause 4, the object of the Red Trade Union International is declared to be: "to bring together the revolutionary class-conscious elements of the Trade Union Movement throughout the world; to carry on a decisive struggle against the International Labor Office, which is a branch of the League of Nations, and against the International Federation of Trade Unions at Amsterdam, which is by its policy and tactics the staunchest ally of the bourgeoisie."

According to Article III, Clause 6 (conditions of admission), the organizations affiliated with the Red Trade Union International pledge themselves "to sever all relations

with the yellow Amsterdam International."

We venture therefore to ask the Russian Trade Union Federation: "Do we also belong to your class enemies?"

As we have already written to the Russian Federation, on December 11, we consider the question of the unity of the different trade union movements is so important that we are ourselves prepared to overlook important differences. In the fight against our "class enemies," there can only be co-operation between those who do not themselves belong to that category.

What is Moscow's opinion about it?

LABOR CONFLICTS IN BELGIUM IN 1923

The number of strikes and lock-outs occurring in Belgium in 1923 was much the same as in 1922. In 1922 there were 169 strikes and 4 lock-outs; the strikes affected 85,002, and the lock-outs 25,013 workers. In 1923 on the other hand, there were 164 strikes and 4 lock-outs, affecting respectively 111,220 and 21,298 workers. From the point of view of the number of strikes, the textile workers come first with 30 strikes; then follow the metal workers with 29, the wood and furniture workers with 16, the leather workers with 13, the clothing workers with 12, and lastly, the chemical workers with 10. From the point of view of the number of workers affected, the miners, transport workers, and textile workers' strikes take the first places.

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OUR HOME PAGE

HOUSEHOLD NOTES

Shoes Match Gloves

It is possible to-day to get shoes and gloves which exactly match. In a mode shade, the gloves have frilled gauntlets, with an open-work pattern faced with white kid. The shoes, in mode suede, have a rosette of this open-work combined with the white kid, beneath a small buckle.

Ornamented Stockings

Bridal stockings now are ornamented on the front from toe to knee, with a vine and flower pattern, embroidered heavily so that it stands out. Other bridal stockings are plain white silk, not very thick, but of beautiful quality.

For Athletic Woman

A corset designed for the athletic woman who is athletic chiefly because she wants to reduce is of pure rubber. It has bones usually in front and in back, and is notable for its lack of silk elastic and of anything except severe tailor-made ornamentation.

Frisled Net Edgings

Crepe de chine lingerie, especially step-ins and vest chemises, now are decorated with frilled net edgings. These bits of ornamentation often are supplemented with insertion and medallions of real Irish lace.

Canned Apples

Where there is a surplus of early apples or a quantity of wild falls, it pays to can them. Apples so canned will be available later on, when the sugar may be added or pies may be sweated with syrups and other sugar substitutes.

In canning apples for pie-filling, slice them immediately after paring into slightly salted cold water. Pack the product carefully in hot glass jars or tin cans until full. Use a tablespoon, wooden ladle or table knife for packing purposes. Pour boiling hot water over the product in the hot jar. Place rubbers and caps in position, not tight. If using tin cans, seal completely. Place in the sterilizer, vat, or canner, and sterilize for a length of time given below, according to the particular type of outfit used:

Hot water bath, homemade or commercial, 30 minutes; water seal, 214 degrees, twenty minutes; five pounds steam pressure, twelve minutes; ten pounds of steam pressure, ten minutes. After sterilizing remove the filled containers. Seal jars; invert to cool and test the joints. Wrap in paper to prevent bleaching and store in a dry, cool place. If tin cans are used it will be found advantageous to plunge them into cold water immediately after sterilization to cool them quickly.

Apple Jelly

Select tart well flavored apples, cut up but do not peel them, cover with water in the preserving kettle, and cook slowly until soft and red. Drip through jelly bag. To each pint of juice add one pound of sugar, and the juice of half a lemon. Boil quickly for ten minutes. Test for jelly, or if using the thermometer remove when it reaches 222 degrees. To give variety to plain apple jelly the rose geranium will add a dainty flavor. Allow a clean, large leaf of two quarts, added to the boiling juice a little before the sugar is put in. Remove in three or four minutes. Two whole cloves to the same quantity of juice or a piece of stick cinnamon, a finger long, will give apple jelly a pleasant taste which will be liked. Sprigs of mint used in the same way will surprise the family pleasantly when they are served mint jelly with roast lamb or mutton.

Hominy With Sweet Corn

The ripe golden bantam corn will make delicious hominy and you can, if you choose, hull it with soda instead of lye.

Soak carefully over three pints of either sweet or field corn. Set an iron pot over the fire and fill half full of hot water. Pour in corn and add three tablespoons of baking soda. Boil steadily for two hours or until the hull is loosened from the corn. Pour off what water is left and empty corn into a large pan, half full of cold water. Wash the corn thoroughly, rubbing it between the hands to remove the hull and the little black points. After a thorough wash return the clean corn to the pot and boil for ten minutes. Change the water again and boil until the corn is done and each kernel soft and tender. Pack in an earthenware crock heating it as needed with butter or milk and salt.

Plain Tulle Scarf

While the brightly colored scarf is no less in vogue to-day, many women are wearing a swath of plain colored tulle around the throat, allowing the ends to trail. Black gowns with bright jade or American beauty tulle are effective, the tulle often forming the train.

New Sports Material

Sports clothes to-day are being made of a material which resembles suede rather than flannel, but is not warm nor heavy. It comes in exquisitely delicate colorings.

Le Dernier Cri

The march toward barbaric beauty is now ended. We have reached the feather carrying. It is made of one bright, small feather set in gold or silver.

If you take a fold of cloth, bind it around your eyebrows, tie it back across your head and let the ends flap, you have an improvised dust cap. But if you take a wide piece of moire ribbon and do the same thing, you have one of the new hats.

LIGHT FIXTURES

The brilliant, shadeless chandelier is appropriate for the brilliant ball room where men and women are perfectly groomed and shine out at their best. For the cozy home room, a softly shaded light is the best. Candle light is ideal, but too mellow for ordinary use. However, where it can be used it enhances the charm of the dear ones gathered around the family circle.

The inverted bowl lights are appropriate for more or less public rooms, for a shop room or for the home dining room, but to induce a restful, contenting feeling, a more shaded light is preferable. In living rooms, the light should be low, for reading or sewing. It should then be a wall, a table or a stand light. In the dressing room one needs a light each side of the mirror, which will throw its glare on the person who wishes to inspect himself with care. In the bathroom the brightest of lights is desirable.

Fanciful shading is to be avoided—good only for novelty, not use. Color tones simulating sunlight are the best. It is hard to improve on Nature. Yellow silken shades give a mellow glow.

MOTHERS' PENSIONS

England is working on a law to establish Mothers' Pensions. Many of the states in the United States have Mothers' Pension laws. These laws permit the payment of a certain sum to needy mothers to enable them to keep their children in the home instead of having them sent to some state institution for support. The pension paid to the mother is never sufficient to support the child, but it usually makes it possible for the mother to keep her child with her.

STILL MAKING

With a bakery in every neighborhood, we had supposed that the "bread like mother used to make" was a thing of the past. It is quite a surprise to learn that of all the bulletins on household subjects requested of the Department of Agriculture last year, the one most in demand was "Baking in the Home." Women must still be "doing it." Other popular bulletins concerned the removal of stains, school lunches, house cleaning and laundering, and floors and floor coverings. These bulletins are prepared by scientists and may be had by asking for them of the Department of Agriculture. There are dozens of others, too, equally helpful.

RAW STARCH DIGESTIBLE

Don't be afraid to give Johnny a slice of raw potato when you are peeling them—that is, if he is a healthy, sturdy child. Scientists have found by experiment that raw starch is digestible by the normal person. A delicate person had better have his potato baked, in which case the starch cells are swelled and popped as in popcorn, and thus the digestive juices have better opportunity to react on them.

Girl—"Have you hair oots?"
Clerk—"Yes, ma'am."
Girl—"Invisible?"
Clerk—"Yes, ma'am."
Girl—"Let me see 'em."

Housing Problem Is Acute in Rome

Marriage Delay for Thousands of Young Couples Held Threatened

Rome—The lodging crisis and how to meet the growing requirements of even faster growing population is again at the forefront, and with no sign worth mentioning pointing to a satisfactory solution of the question in the near future.

The building experts of the capital and other large cities of the kingdom all agree that unless the government does something to spur private initiative into some kind of action, thousands of young couples must delay marrying. God knows for how long, on account of the lack of apartments in which to build their homes and grow their children.

As to Rome, the present demand as resulting from applications with building and large real estate companies, points to a need of at least 120,000 rooms, of which only some 55,000 are in course of construction and will be ready by the end of the year.

At about that time the demand will have increased to 150,000 on account of the new marriages, and will keep on increasing year after year at about the same rate.

Up to date the government has given to co-operative building associations over two billions towards the building of new homes, repayable in 25 or 50 years, but the huge sum has been merely the proverbial drop in the bucket when the fact is taken into consideration that the population of Turin and Naples, where the so-called Italy is increasing at the rate of 400,000 a year.

Much is hoped from the abolition of all measures restricting the increase of rents, but so far capital has not been very anxious to enter the building field, chiefly on account of the high price of building material and the even higher salaries demanded by the building trades.

Egyptian Feminists Seek Full Privileges

Paris—The Egyptian woman is no longer a slave, but is reaching out for higher education and the privileges of her western sisters, according to Mme. Charawy Pasha, president of the feminist movement in Egypt. "It is all a mistake to think the women of Egypt are not shaking off the

shackles of the centuries," she said. "To-day there is rarely a veil to be found, and, while women cannot yet vote, the feminist influence alone is likely to save the country from the political anarchy of the last fifty years."

Mme. Charawy told her interviewers that numerous women's schools were operating in Cairo, "preparing the erstwhile oppressed sex for important family duties and against the day when the ballot would increase the

family privileges, which though already accorded by the Koran, seldom are actually permitted in Egyptian homes, such as equal divorce rights and the care of minor children."



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Labor News From Coast to Coast

"OUR OVERSEAS COLUMN"

GREAT BRITAIN

Unemployment in Glasgow—Due to greater activity at the shipyards and engineering works, unemployment in the Glasgow area is improving.

Increased Paper and Pottery Output—Due, principally, to an expansion of the export trade in paper and pottery products, caused by an active American demand, which has almost reached the pre-war level, a marked increase is being noted in the products of potters and paper-makers. Last year's output was 80 per cent. of that for 1912.

Emigration—Official figures setting forth the movement of emigrants of British nationality show that during the year 1923, a total of 255,284, as compared with 174,056, during the year 1922, departed from Great Britain and Ireland for various destinations.

GREECE

Number of Refugees—It is estimated that there is a general total of 1,136,000 refugees in Greece. Of this number, only 200,000 are self-supporting. Agriculturists comprise 60 per cent. of the total, and the remainder is comprised of tradesmen, merchants etc. Of the total some 50,000 are orphans, 10,000 of whom are being cared for by the Near East Relief.

POLAND

Unemployment—Actual unemployment, which has approximately reached a 100,000 total, has increased rapidly during the first quarter of the year 1923.

NETHERLANDS

Unemployment—The amount paid out by the various organizations and the Government for doles, during the year 1923, is estimated at florins 7,500,000 as compared with florins 12,000,000 during 1922. The decrease was due to the reduction of the allowances, as the number and the total percentage of unemployed persons were higher in 1923 than they were in 1922.

Labor and Industry—Reports for the early months of this year regarding labor and industry in the Netherlands shows a decrease in unemployment and fewer labor disputes and strikes. The shipyards report an increased business and the net production of coal is steadily rising.

AUSTRIA

Higher Bread and Milk Prices—The price of bread recently advanced 100 crowns per loaf, and there was an increase of 400 crowns per liter in the milk price. Bread now costs 7,100 crowns per loaf and milk 5,360 crowns per liter.

Living Costs vs. Wages—Living costs, which have risen rapidly during the early months of 1924, are said to be the primary cause for demands for wage increases in numerous industries.

Unemployment—Since June, 1923, at which time there were 92,789 unemployed persons in the Australian industrial districts, the number has steadily risen, and, at the beginning of February, 1924, was reported as 119,309.

BELGIUM

Summary of Strike Results—During the year 1923, 132,518 workmen were implicated in 164 strikes and 4 lockouts in Belgium. Of this total, 104,950 workmen went on strike voluntarily; 6,240 were idle because of strike measures over which they had no control; and 21,298 were affected by the lockouts. The 164 strikes affected 1,026 enterprises, while the 4 lockouts had a direct bearing upon 255 enterprises.

BRAZIL

Colonization Society—It is reported that a large industrial and agricultural colonization society, owning 500,000 hectares of land in the State of Mato Grosso, may try to dispose of the same to Italian and Japanese immigrants.

CEYLON

Labor Commission—A resolution was recently passed by the Ceylon Congress, under which the Government was requested to appoint a commission to inquire into the conditions of labor in Ceylon and recommend measures for their improvement.

CUBA

Shortage of Sugar Workers—There has been a shortage of labor in the sugar producing districts, particularly in the eastern portion of the Island, and laborers have been imported from Haiti to relieve the shortage. In all other classes of work on the Island, it is said that the supply of labor is greater than the demand.

GERMANY

Unemployment in Saxony—According to the reports of 103 public employment offices in Saxony, the number of unemployed persons is steadily decreasing. In fact, there is a shortage of gardeners, woodworkers and miners.

NORWAY

Unemployment—Due to strikes and lockouts, involving more than 60,000 workmen in approximately ten major industries, the whole labor situation and unemployment in particular, were said to be worse at the beginning of March, 1924, than they had been in many months. In all, about 80,000 workmen were out of work on the first of the month.

PALESTINE

Immigration and Emigration—According to the official statistics for 1923, which has recently been made available, immigration to Palestine continues to show a decrease, while emigration increased 65 per cent over that of 1922; and despite the fact that Jews comprise only 11 per cent. of the population of Palestine, 70 per cent. of the emigrants were Jews.

RUSSIA

Iron and Steel Industries—The output of the iron and steel industries showed a marked increase for the year 1923.

Miners Seek Farm Employment—It is said that many coal miners in the larger districts are leaving the mines and accepting employment on the farms, thus curtailing the coal production.

SWITZERLAND

No subsidy for Emigration—According to the "Tagblatt der Stadt Zurich" the Swiss Federal Government expended one million francs in 1923 for the purpose of facilitating the emigration of Swiss citizens and securing employment for them in foreign countries. The Swiss Federal Council is said to be of the opinion that emigration should not be subsidized this year.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

Unemployment—During January, 1924, 57,900 unemployed persons and their 50,000 dependants, were supported by subsidies from the National Government. To this number should be added 34,000 unemployed, who receive support through private concerns.

GERMANY

Supplementary Unemployment Regulations—Regulations for unemployment relief have been further amended in Germany by provisions that doles shall be granted only when the unemployed person has been without work for one week or more, and only to persons who have been insured against sickness for at least three of the last preceding twelve months.

Modification of Unemployment Regulations—In view of the large number of unemployed persons in Germany, the regulation which requires the unemployed to render work in return for the doles received, has been modified so as to restrict such employment to work required in the interest of common welfare, and to the assignment of the unemployed to only such work as their physical condition will permit them to perform.

Emigration from Hamburg—During the year ended December 31st, 1923, 1,621 vessels carried 136,118 emigrants and other travelers overseas from the port of Hamburg, as compared with 1,256 vessels carrying 89,858 persons during the year 1922. Of the number first stated, 97,218 were Germans; while in 1922, the number of Germans who departed from Hamburg for foreign countries was 29,584. Approximately 60 per cent. of each year's total came to the United States.

Reduction of Municipal Employees—Steps have been taken by the municipal authorities of the City of Frankfurt to reduce its 4,700 officials and employees by fifteen per cent. Those who are over sixty-five years of age will be pensioned.

Strikes in the Shipyards—Strikes of dockworkers, longshoremen and stowaways have recently been given in the shipyards at Bremerhaven, Grödenmünde, Lubeck, Hamburg, Bremen, Kiel, Lubeck, Emden, and other important shipbuilding centres, because of the workmen's refusal to accept the decision of the Government's arbitrator decreasing a nine-hour day instead of an eight-hour day, as heretofore.

CHINA

Silk Filature Close—A number of Chinese-owned silk filatures in Shanghai have been closed recently, owing to the slackness of the silk market. At least 5,000 women have thus been thrown out of employment.

Will Amalgamate Carpenters Here

Brotherhood General President Offers Chance to Transfer Free

Hamilton, Ont.—Following along the lines of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners in Great Britain, which has combined all woodworking crafts into one organization, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners is endeavoring to consolidate the carpentering craft throughout the American continent.

The general president of the United Brotherhood has offered the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters membership an opportunity to transfer, without charge, into the brotherhood, with full membership privileges. To date the offer has met with ready response in the United States, and many of the large centres in Canada.

Business Agent Fred Hawes, Carpenters' District Council, states that recently quite a number of Local No. 2612, members transferred to Local No. 18. While there is some friction in Montreal between the brotherhood and amalgamated members, Mr. Hawes says that the best of relations exist here.

Wage Boost for Guelph Masons

Settlement Reached After Strike of Two Weeks

Guelph, Ont.—After having been on strike for two weeks union stone masons and bricklayers in Guelph, who were demanding a boost in their wage scale, returned to work on Saturday, a satisfactory adjustment having been arranged between the contractors and union officials. When the men walked out on April 1st they asked for \$1.25 an hour, an increase of 25 cents, but according to the settlement made they will receive \$1.10 an hour, the new rate to go into effect on May 1st. The contractors' hardest hit by the strike were those in charge of work at St. Joseph's Hospital, where a \$140,000 addition is being built to the institution.

Ald. J. Schubert Is New Vice-President

Elected to Office in Trades and Labor Council

Montreal, Que.—Alderman J. Schubert was elected vice-president of the Trades and Labor Council here in succession to Delegate G. Duguay of the Policemen's Union, who loses his seat in the council following resignation from the Policemen's Union, made necessary by participation in

an electoral contest. Mr. Duguay also resigned his seat as a member of the executive, and Z. J. ... Barbers' Union, was elected in his stead.

The executive voted \$100 for initial expenses in connection with the banquet to be given to the executive of the A. F. of L. on May 12th in the Mount Royal Hotel. The money was voted and J. Pelletier, H. A. Spence and A. Mathieu, with president J. T. Foster ex-officio, were appointed a sub-committee in charge of the arrangements.

Following the report of the electoral committee on the municipal elections, the Council extended its congratulations to Alderman Schubert, A. Bastien, A. F. of L. organizer, asked that the name of Alderman Hogan be included.

President Foster disagreed, saying that though the Council had congratulated Alderman Hogan, Delegate Schubert was one of their own delegates and the Council was in order in passing a resolution congratulating their own delegate.

The Executive Committee reported that the secretary had been instructed to write the Prime Minister for full information on the Carillon power scheme.

More Militant Union Is Desired

C.P.R. Employees Devise Ways and Means of Increasing Organization Revenue

Montreal, Que.—To enable their union to become "more militant," railroad shomen of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company recently devised ways and means of increasing the revenue for their organization by 100 per cent.

The decision was made by forty delegates who attended a convention of the system's federation of railway employees, Canadian Pacific Railway, held here. The exact scheme worked out was not divulged, but the action is regarded as significant in view of the railroader's approval of a draft wage scale which would raise earnings of shomen fifteen per cent. and reinstate the 1920 wage scale.

Shop management details were discussed, special attention being given to the wages paid triple cleaners. The men hold that the cleaners are losing 16 cents an hour by being paid helpers' instead of mechanics' rates.

Officers were elected as follows: Frank McKenna, Montreal, president for the past fourteen years, was re-elected; J. E. McGovern, Montreal was named vice-president for the Eastern lines. The vice-president for

the Western lines will be named later. William Foster, Montreal, was elected secretary-treasurer.

Labor Conference

During next Labor Day week-end the ninth annual conference of the Montreal and District Brotherhood Federation will be held at Lachine, and it is anticipated that it will be the largest in the history of the Federation. This is the second time that the Conference has been held at Lachine, and it marks a departure from the usual custom of holding it at Knowlton, on the shores of Browe Lake.

The dates of the meeting are Saturday and Sunday, August 30th and 31st and Labor Day, Monday, September 1st. The proceedings will begin with an open-air concert given by the combined orchestras of the Brotherhoods, which will be followed by a banquet tendered by the Lachine Brotherhood, at which the opening addresses of the Conference will be made.

Sunday will be devoted to Brotherhood Day in the churches, and the services at St. Andrew's will be addressed by prominent preachers. In the afternoon a mass meeting will be held in the large hall of the High School. Monday will be taken up by a discussion of the business of the Brotherhoods when questions concerning the welfare of the assembled parties will be the order of the day.

Say Union Seeking For Compromise

Motion to Be Considered Denies Affiliation

The Montreal Police Union, badly shaken during the past year when the executive committee of the city stripped them of their right to join the Federation Union of the Trades and Labor Council, is ready to bury the hatchet, according to rumor.

At a meeting of the union a motion already placed before a meeting of the police will be presented for adoption which has for its object the withdrawal of any connection with a federated union and the Trades and Labor Council.

While the motion is a general surrender of all the rights asked for in the past, it contains a compromise between the ultimatum laid down by the executive and their own former "no surrender stand." The hope of the union, is an acceptance by the executive of a desire by the members to form a body independent of any other chartered society connected with unionism.



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According to Judge Gary, the Steel Trust is about to spend fifteen million dollars on plant improvements. Part of this will be expended on labor-saving devices, as a consequence of the elimination of the 12-hour day. At the time when the 8-hour day was being demanded in vain, the excuse offered by Judge Gary was that the shorter day would cause a rise in the price of steel. Now it seems that the Steel Trust, in spite of the change, can still afford to spend some money on the improvement of its plant. The improvement in working hours has thus led to a modernization in working methods.

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