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Petrowsky, Kalenin, Bucharin, Kameneff, Zinoviev, Stalin
Melnichanski, Zchakaia

Parade greeting Young Workers (Pioneers) at Opening of XIII Congress of Russian Communist Party on Red Square in Moscow.

Soviet Shipping Facilities

THE progress of Soviet foreign and internal trade, the development of trade connections abroad, and the general economic revival, is directly reflected in the enormous improvement of Soviet navigation facilities. It is a long time since the period when accounts were given of grass growing in the desolate harbor of Leningrad. We have from time to time given statistics showing the rapidly expanding trade that passes through this and other Soviet ports. In general the condition of port facilities in the U. S. S. R. can be described as entirely satisfactory. Great work has been done

in increasing the capacity of the ports, in deepening operations, and in the provision of elevators, cranes, etc. The subject that is now most anxiously engaging the attention of the Soviet Government is that of the Soviet mercantile marine. The trading fleet, both maritime and that of the inland waterways, is inadequate for the volume of Soviet trade. The result is that the Soviet Government is largely dependent for commercial sea transport on the use of foreign vessels. The task of building up a mercantile marine is one that involves considerable expenditure of resources and can only be accomplished during a period of years.



E. Preobrazhensky, C. Rakovsky, M. Tomsy, I. I. Kutuzoff, I. I. Khidyr-Aliev, N. M. Shvernick, A. F. Radchenko
OFFICIAL DELEGATION OF THE U. S. S. R. TO THE LONDON CONFERENCE TO SETTLE ANGLO-RUSSIAN RELATIONS.
 The composition of the Delegation is characteristic of the first Workers and Peasants Government on earth. M. Tomsy is Chairman and one of the founders of the All-Russian Trade Union Federation. N. M. Shvernick is a member of the Executive Committee of the Metal Workers Union. Khidys Aliev is President of the Central Committee of the Turkestan Republic. Radchenko is President of the Provincial Trades Union Council of the Donetz Basin. Kutuzoff is President of the Textile Workers Union. All of those and a number of other members of the Delegation prominent members of the Trade Union movement, active in organizing them in the days of the Czar, which work for the Trade Unions did not mean an appointment by Gompers to a fat sinecure, but it meant prison or gallows.

of the more rapid economic reconstruction of the world. They have declared, however, that the U. S. S. R. cannot assume a burden which would thwart the very purpose of recognition, from whatsoever standpoint it is viewed. The justification for reduction of the capital value of the debt, and for its forfeiture in the case of those persons who were actively hostile to the Soviet Government during the civil war, was set out in these columns last week. But with these reservations, the Soviet Delegation has declared its readiness to give satisfaction to the claimants for pre-war debts—providing the Soviet Government is placed in the position to make repayment in an effective manner.

No Foreign Control.

It is here that the question of a loan arises. Only a loan, flowing into the channels of industry and agriculture, can pour new life into the paths of commerce, and thereby provide sufficient revenue, not only for the service of the loan itself, but also for the gradual repayment of the sum agreed upon. But it must be absolutely clear that the loan is being asked for specifically on account of the existence of the debt claims, and further, that there is no question, as some hostile critics assert, of borrowing money from claimants in order to repay a portion of their claim. The money if lent will be devoted to such purpose as must expand Anglo-Soviet trade, send down the cost of living, and provide increased employment for the workers of both countries. It is not proposed to devote it to cash payments. Moreover, several newspapers have actually suggested that the Soviet Union should fall into the position of Turkey before the war, and permit a commission of Foreign Bondholders to have jurisdiction over its internal affairs. This again is one of the dangerous suggestions which were referred to at the beginning of these notes. No delegation of the Soviet Government, even were the internal conditions of the U. S. S. R. infinitely worse than at present, would for a moment entertain any even informal conversation on such a theme.

Soviet Integrity

It is asserted, to justify such a monstrous proposal, that the foreigner is not guaranteed elementary rights under

the Soviet Constitution, that contracts concluded by the Soviet Government have no sanctity, that concessions granted to foreign enterprise have proved worthless, that no reliance can be placed in the word of the Soviet Union. All these are empty assertions, and this or that interpretation of or interpolation in the Soviet Constitution cannot conceal their emptiness. Let any foreigner who has come to Russia since the new economic policy, legitimately and with a legitimate business purpose be asked whether his rights of property or civil liberty have been denied him. Let any of the hundreds of firms, in this country or any other other, which have had dealings with Trade Delegations of the U. S. S. R. or with Arcos, point to any occasion on which the word of the Soviet merchants has not been as good as their bond. Let any of the concessionaries who have working steadily in the U. S. S. R. during the last three years, observing the Soviet laws and dealing with Soviet authorities, be asked whether they have not been able to make their stipulated profits. Finally, let any concrete instance be quoted, on the basis of fact and not of unsupported press campaigns, in which the promise of the Soviet Government has been broken. Only then will there be any ground for making what we unhesitatingly declare are slanderous attacks on the Soviet Union and for putting forward proposals which would have the effect of transforming the U. S. S. R. into a colony of foreign capital.

Practical Conclusions

To sum up. The Soviet Union can continue to exist and develop without a loan. A loan is only a matter of urgency if the question of placing new financial burdens on the already overstrained Soviet budget arises. No obligation to make payments, still less any immediate payments, are possible unless a loan is granted. If a loan is realized, it will be devoted to productive purposes only, of direct interest to both sides. It is to be hoped that the goodwill already abundantly displayed on both sides of the Conference table, and the concrete results already achieved, will be sufficient to overcome the deliberate or unconscious hostility which neglects these patent facts.



Rykov Trotzky

Zetkin

Bucharin

Stalin

On speakers tribune at opening of Congress of Russian Communist Party on Red Square.

great struggle, point out correctly that in this case it is more than a question of merely a seven-hour shift in the Ruhr mining industry. At the moment when the Micum agreement is to be followed by the plans of the experts against the German proletariat, at a moment when the Upper Silesian miners and sections of the miners in Middle Germany and Saxony are engaged in a struggle, the battle for the regaining of the eight-hour day in Germany has begun. The strike for the seven-hour shift for the miners is in its political consequences the passing over from the defensive after the October defeat to the offensive. That is the first practical struggle against the thievish plans of international capitalism.

In this matter the Communist Party has already performed enough work of instruction in the Ruhr district. The Ruhr miners, to whom the united front of the international exploiters against the proletariat was demonstrated by the Ruhr occupation over a year ago, say that the Communists are right and are prepared to conduct the struggle with them right up to the final consequences.

At the moment, however, when the Ruhr miners have begun the struggle against the Micum agreement and the plans of the Experts' Committee and for the regaining of the eight-hour day in the whole of Germany, their struggle is at the same time a vital question for the proletariat of the

unoccupied districts of Germany and from there for all other capitalist lands. Therefore, all Communist parties have the duty to support the great struggle in the Ruhr with all the means at their disposal.

The wave of the German revolution is rising. This time the flood must not ebb again as it did in October of last year and this time possibly in missing various stages it must set out straight ahead for the victory of the proletarian dictatorship.

The Chief Concessions Committee

THE Council of People's Commissars of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has ratified the following composition of the Chief Concessions Committee: Chairman, Piatakov; members, Litvvinov, Dogadov, Lepse, Korostelev, Krassin, Minkin and Mdivani.

Women as Judges and Attorneys in the Union of S. S. R.

AT Yaroslav, for the first time in juridical practice the judges and also the prosecuting and defending attorneys were all women. The case of a woman accused of cruelty to a child was heard. The accused was sentenced to 16 months' imprisonment.



Opening of street service in Baku. The whole street car system was destroyed or completely dilapidated by and during war and revolution. The workers of Baku had to reconstruct and rebuild it. The Belgian traction interest that controlled the Baku street car system in Czarist days claim proprietorship of this achievement of the workers of Baku.

CZAR'S HANGMEN ON TRIAL

By MAX BEDACHT

THE masters and parasites of the old order the world over hate Soviet Russia. They hate and fear it. The revolutionary force that created the Soviet Republic turned that part of the world upside down. Those that had for so long established a comfortable position for themselves by riding upon the back of the masses suddenly find themselves thrown down from the top of society and placed at the bottom of it. They are changed from the select of society to societies outcasts. Their slaves of yesterday became the masters of today. The persecuted of past days are the prosecutors of the new era.

The masters and parasites of the old order the world over have reasons to shake in their boots. They have reasons to fear and to hate. In the grim reality of the position of their class brothers in Soviet Russia they see the terrible vision of their own position of tomorrow. The greater the crimes they have committed against the underdog of today the greater

their fear, the deeper their hate. They know that when the seed of hate they have sown in their pitiless persecutions will once ripen and have its day of revenge it will be woe to them.

But the working class in its fight stands on its historic right and not on revenge and hatred. Once in power it will be just as a proletarian power against a defeated class as the capitalist power today claims to be toward the workers and their champions.

Proletarian Russia has its day of working class justice now. In its halls of justice those preside today who have been the accused of former days. And the uppercrust of yesterday's society, the prosecutors, judges and hangmen of the old order are the accused of today.

Thus it came to pass that on January 10 this year a great trial took place in Moscow in which the accused were some hangmen of the old order. They were not mere hangmen. Some of them were high dignitaries of the former Czarist regime.



CZAR'S HANGMEN ON TRIAL.

Front bench: I. P. Sementovsky (left), A. A. Kovalov (center), Dr. Riblinsky (right). Second bench: Welkich (left), Semashko—Solodovnikov (standing).

THE SOVIET-GERMAN INCIDENT

SPEAKING at the conference of the Russian Communist Party, Mr. Krassin, People's Commissary of Foreign Trade, urged that the strongest attitude be taken up vis-a-vis the German government in reference to the recent conflict. Under the system of monopoly of external commerce, he states, the extra-territoriality of the Trade Missions is a preliminary necessary condition of any commercial relations.

The speaker further states that there are data showing that all the affair was engineered in a provocative manner, Bozenhardt and Leman being provocators. Pending satisfaction being given to the demands of the Soviet government, which are quite in keeping with the international uses and not at all humiliating for Germany, no resumption of trade operations and no negotiations anent a commercial treaty or other agreements are possible.

As for Soviet export and import deals with Germany, which—Mr. Krassin remarks—were somewhat artificially enhanced owing the political relations, such operations can very well be transferred into other countries, and, in particular, to England.

"If the outrage against the Soviet Trade Mission at Berlin is an attempt at winning France's good favors, such an attempt is vain, for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, if it wishes, can find more easily its way to Paris than the German Foreign Office"—were the concluding words of the People's Commissary of Foreign Trade.



Raid of German Police on Russian Trade Mission in Berlin.

The Congress of the Communist Party of Russia

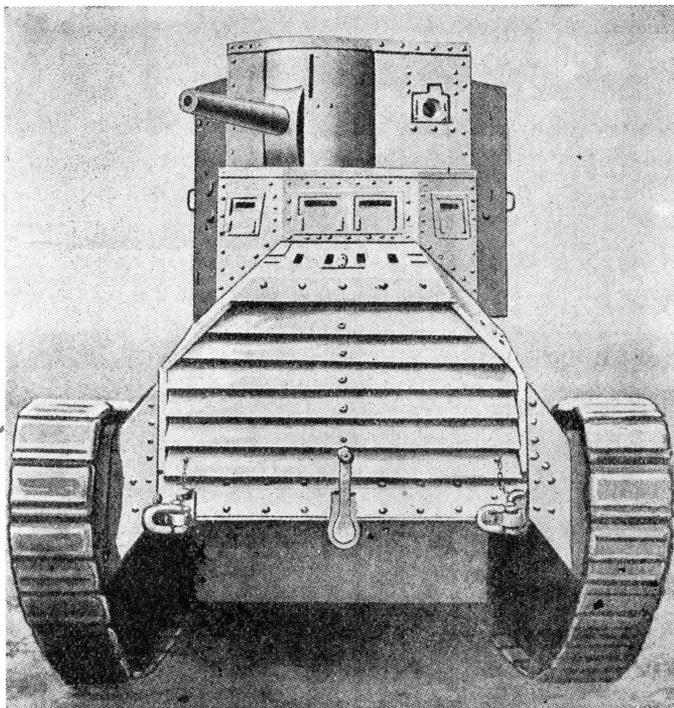
THE Thirteenth Congress of the Russian Communist Party, which has just ended, will be memorable because it was the first Congress without the direct or indirect participation of Lenin, and was obliged to adopt a series of very responsible decisions without his clear brain and sense of reality. This circumstance was the more important because both internally and externally 1924 has meant for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics the entry into a new era, marked, on the one hand, by the stabilization of the cur-



Headquarters of Azerbaidjan Soviet.

rency, and on the other, by the *de jure* recognition, of the Soviet Government by a number of foreign states. The Congress wisely followed the broad track beaten out by Lenin in devoting its chief laborers to the task of still further rallying the workers and peasants around the Soviet Government. With these allies in concord, the Congress expressed its conviction, that its leaders could continue without fear to grapple with the difficulties on both fields that lie before them. The support of the workers had been pledged, in a fashion unique in the history of the world, during the preceding three months, by the response of 200,000 factory workers to the call for new recruits to the Communist Party; and two of the chief resolutions of the Congress—on Party organization and on agitation and propoganda—were inspired by the desire to make these new recruits serviceable links between the Communist Party and the working class. Almost as impressive a vote of confidence in the Soviet Government had been passed by the peasantry, during the last few months, by the readiness with which it had accepted the new currency and the last state loans. The Congress took cognizance of this support in its resolution on work in the villages, which indicated a number of practical methods by which education, economic co-operation, and political consciousness are to be carried still further into the country-side through the medium of the Communist Party. Those who would depict the Soviet Government as tottering to its fall, its economic structure unable further to exist without a loan from abroad, and its political leadership in dispute and chaos, thanks to the death of Lenin, have been given the lie by the work of the Congress.

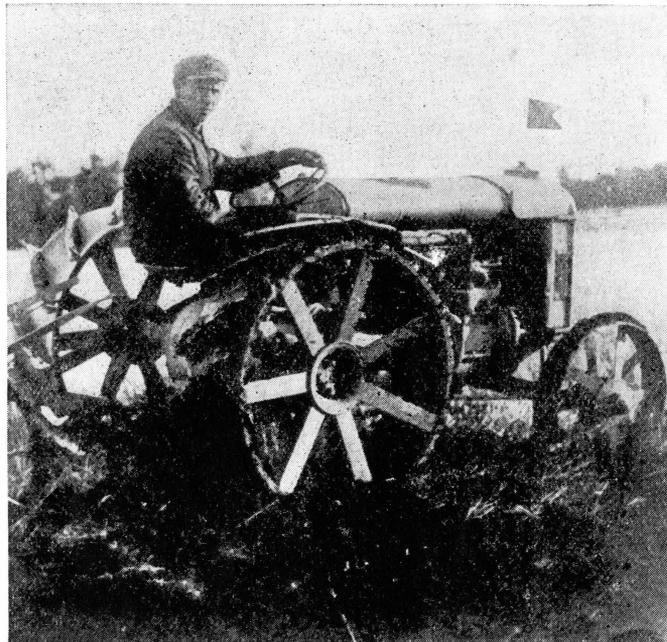
RECONSTRUCTION IN TWO COUNTRIES



1924 Model of War Tank built by Germany.

Like a cyclone the imperialist war swept over the world and wrecked empires that seemed to have been built upon unshakable foundations. But the foundation was capitalism, and capitalism could not banish any longer the specters it had called. Two countries especially suffered from the cyclone. Russia, with its badly organized economic structure, antiquated political machine, and a bulky military organization, Germany with a secure invincible military organization, a well developed economic machine and an unshakable political structure.

The world war, counter-revolutionary vandalism and an international blockade have destroyed the economic machinery of Russia. The revolution has overthrown Russia's political structure.



Reconstruction on basis of modern achievements in agricultural production in Russia.

Defeat in the war has broken up the economic structure of Germany, has destroyed its military organization and changed the monarchy to a republic.

The task of the two countries was to save its people by reconstructing their economic structures. Russia undertook this task on the basis of the rule of the hitherto ruled class, the workers. Germany clings to capitalism.

Above we have a characteristic sign of the fundamental conception of this task by capitalist Germany and Workers Russia. Germany striving to reconstruct its shattered military organization, rebuilding the very thing that caused its downfall.

Russia, on the other hand, reconstructing its economic machinery, building a new basis for the future development and happiness of its peoples.

AN INTERVIEW WITH RYKOFF

MR. RYKOFF, President of the Council of the People's Commissaries, stated, in an interview with Moscow journalists, that there were two outstanding facts in the international position of the Union of Soviet Republics, namely, the results of the French election and the signing of the agreement with China.

Mr. Rykoff hopes that the advent to power of a new French government, to take the place of a government which stood so resolutely for intervention, jeopardizing the peace of the world, will bring about a speedy settlement of Franco-Soviet relations. Even before new mutual relations with France are formally regulated, a certain revival is possible eventually in the sphere of economic intercourse between the two countries.

As for the treaty with China—Mr. Rykoff goes on to say—it is an event of the greatest political importance. It differs from all the treaties concluded during the last decades between China and the capitalistic countries, in particular—Czarist Russia, in that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics made its starting point the principle of full equality of both sides and surrendered entirely all the special rights and

privileges, humiliating for the nations of the East, seized in China by the European and American countries.

The Soviet government is convinced that China is rapidly moving towards national independence and liberation. Naturally, not only will the Soviet government not oppose this historical progress, but all its sympathies are on the side of the oppressed peoples of the East. At the same time, its treaty with China makes the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics an active factor in the Far Eastern policy.

There are also very considerable prospects of an economic co-operation between the Union and China—concluded the President of the Council of People's Commissaries. In particular, a big import of Chinese livestock has an immense importance for Soviet peasant economy. Direct trade relations must be established with China. Imports of tea, hides and raw materials from China into the Soviet Union must be developed, while the assortment of Russian goods should be adapted in accordance with the requirements of the Chinese market. A treaty of commerce must be concluded between the two countries on the same principles of equality as the agreement just signed, and cultural mutual relations must likewise be promoted.

FOREIGN RELATIONS OF SOVIETS

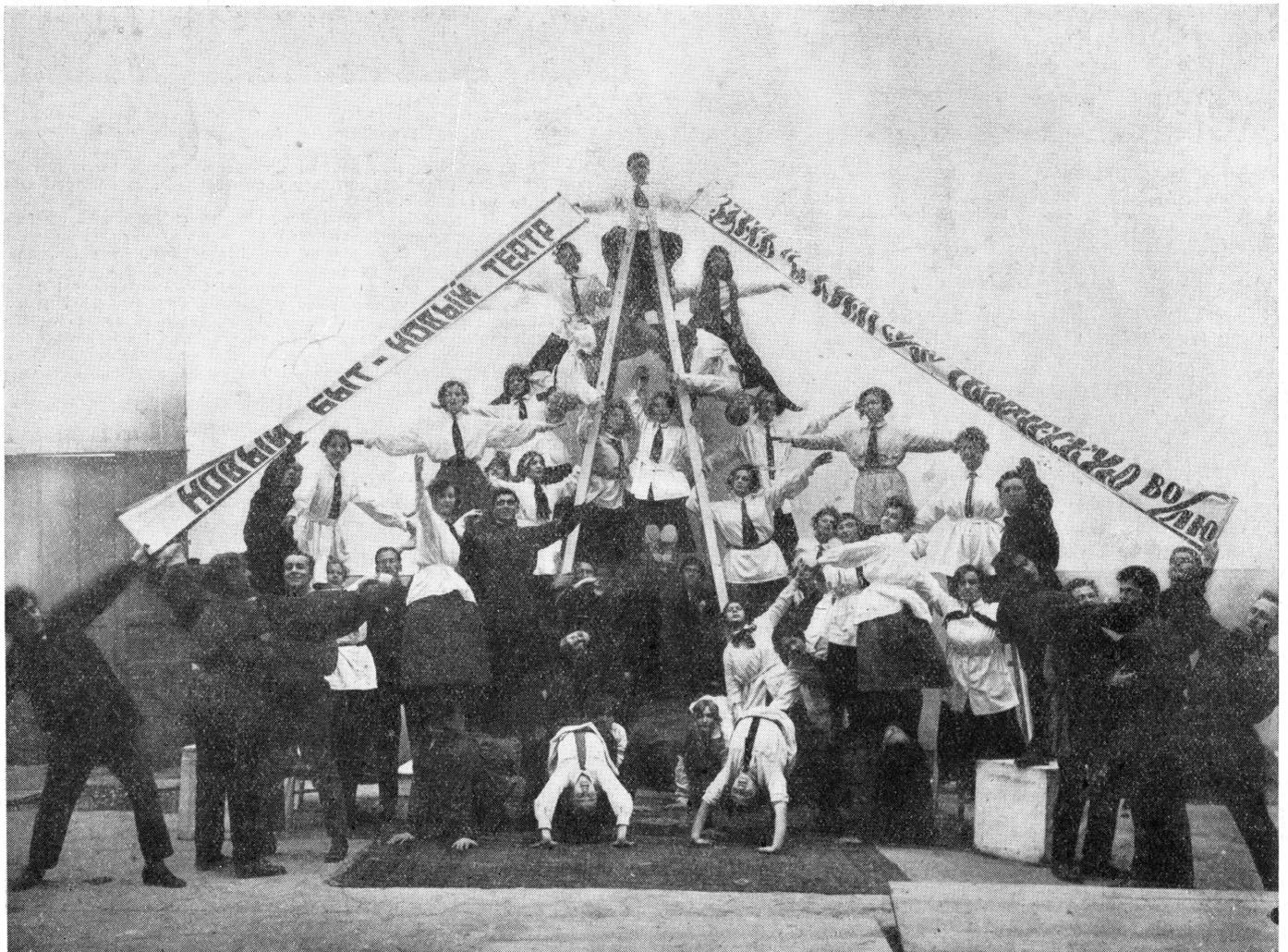
Soviet Relations With China and Japan

SOVIET statesmen fully anticipated that foreign pressure on the Chinese Government, following the recognition of the Soviet Government, would not be relaxed.

We have not had long to wait for a confirmation of this. Already, earlier in the week, rumors had been current that Japan was seeking to exert her influence by means of secret negotiations with Chang-Tso-Ling. And now, a Reuter's telegram, received a few days ago, reveals the fact that Japan has also come out into the open and has presented to China a note of protest concerning the Chinese Eastern Railway.

It is very satisfactory to learn that the Chinese Government has replied firmly to these and other foreign protests, pointing out that China is still a Sovereign State; while at

the same time the Soviet-Chinese Agreement has been definitely ratified. There seems good reason to believe, however, that these latest demarches on the part of Japan only represent the lingering traces of a policy that is shortly to be abandoned. An interview we publish on another page with M. Tamidsi-Naito, as well as other indications of Japanese public opinion, fully bears this out. It would indeed seem to be flying in the face of common sense to expect that Japan, with so many difficulties and so much lack of understanding to face in her foreign policy, should reject the hand of friendship offered by the Soviet Union. Let it be recalled that an earnest of the amicable intentions of the Soviet Union towards Japan was given by the contributions in money and kind collected throughout the U. S. S. R. after the Japanese earthquake.



Boys and Girls in Russian higher Educational Institutes are mindful not only of their mental, but also of their physical wellbeing. This picture represents a dramatic and gymnastic club of pupils of the technical high school in Baku.

Relations With Denmark

News comes of the *de jure* recognition of the Soviet Government by Denmark, after negotiations lasting some weeks. Although this comes a little late in the day, just as resumption of commercial relations by Denmark was very belated, it is none the less gratifying that a country, in which so much propaganda has been carried on against the Soviet Union, of a kind almost unique because of its sources of inspiration, should enter the high road of friendliness and reason. Denmark, both because of its geographical position and owing to its special economic development, is especially fitted to assist the U. S. S. R. in the coming period of rapid reconstruction. Its dairy farming methods have more than once been the subject of considerable discussion in the Russian press during the last twelve months, and attempts to introduce them in the U. S. S. R. have met with a certain amount of success. More important still, Soviet agriculture has reached a degree of regeneration at which it urgently requires improved equipment, special seeds, and new breeds of live stock, moreover, the growing prosperity of the peasantry is putting them in a position to seek for these things in the foreign market. Other things being equal, the majority of orders as a matter of business will naturally be placed where the Soviet co-operatives, the state trading agencies, and other organizations working on behalf of the peasantry can get best credit conditions. Even then, Soviet requirements are so vast that there is room for the participation of more than one country in meeting them. But conditions being what they are at the present moment, there seems every likelihood that the factors already mentioned, which make Denmark peculiarly suitable as a market for immediate orders, will produce material results very soon, now that a friendly understanding has been arrived at.

The Prospects in France

The ministerial declaration of M. Herriot contains a reference to the possibility of resuming normal relations with the U. S. S. R. The declaration, however, is hedged about with conditions and reservations which may conceivably constitute a serious obstacle to progress. Naturally, no one can question the right of the French Government to collect information and work out formulae, but it may be suggested with all good will, that such phrases have a smack about them of the old days when uncompromising hostility to the Soviets was thinly disguised by such ambiguities.



Mourning Demonstration in Baku.



F. E. Dzerzhinsky, Commissar of National Economy.

Is it putting it too crudely to say that the information has long ago been all collected, and every possible formula discussed? At all events, the position of the Soviet Government is not at all ambiguous. It fully recognizes that there are questions at issue between it and the French Government which must be cleared up. These questions embrace not only Russian liabilities of the past to France, but also French liabilities, incurred even recently, to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. There are questions not merely of debts incurred or property confiscated on either side, but even of general policy affecting the peace of Europe, that must be gone into. But in any discussion, the Soviet Government, which has proved its stability at home and which is now the oldest government in Europe, must be on the footing of an equal and not of a suppliant bargaining for a favor. It would be an intolerable position for the Soviet Government to sit at the same conference table as the French Government, and feel that in approaching any item at all its position is prejudiced beforehand by its international status. Therefore diplomatic recognition must precede any discussions. This is a truth which, as we have just seen, the rest of the world is recognizing more and more every day, and which France can recognize without any loss of dignity, or fear of hindering the establishment of firm and friendly relations.

TRADE UNIONISM IN THE VILLAGES

THE main strength of the trade unions of the U. S. S. R., as in other countries, lies in the towns.

Ever since the Revolution, however, various unions, or the workers of particular enterprises, have "adopted" various villages. A link has thus been established between town workers and peasants. The town workers help the villages they adopt by gifts of agricultural implements, books, journals, newspapers, etc., and by sending occasional lecturers.

Since the introduction of the new economic policy, the number of hired laborers in the villages has greatly increased. There are now more than a million and a half. With the appearance of a class of wage workers in the villages, the trade unions have naturally desired to draw these village workers into their organizations.

Towards the end of 1923 the trade unions in industries which employ a considerable number of workers in the villages commenced seriously, on a much larger scale than hitherto, to organize the village workers. Already much valuable work has been accomplished. The following are summaries of reports from the principal unions engaged in this work.

Land and Forest Workers

Hired laborers on peasant farms now number over 1,000,000. In 1922, the Land and Forest Workers' Union commenced to recruit hired laborers of the villages, and by October, 1923, the Union included 27,306 farm laborers (9.2 per cent. of the total membership of the Union). In addition, there are now 98,863 other village laborers (batraks) in the Union.

The poorer and middle peasants generally are quite sympathetic towards the work of the Union. Various peasants' organizations, such as the mutual aid committees in the R. S. F. S. R., the "Koschi" Union in Turkestan, and the "Komnezami" in the Ukraine, actively help the Union in its work among the hired laborers.

The Union has succeeded in many districts in decasualizing hired laborers whose work is of seasonal character, by inducing farmers to undertake to employ the same laborers every working season. During the five winter months the Union organizes courses on agriculture, forestry, political and economic subjects, as well as schools for illiterates. During 1923, there were 312 such courses, attended by 22,756 workers.

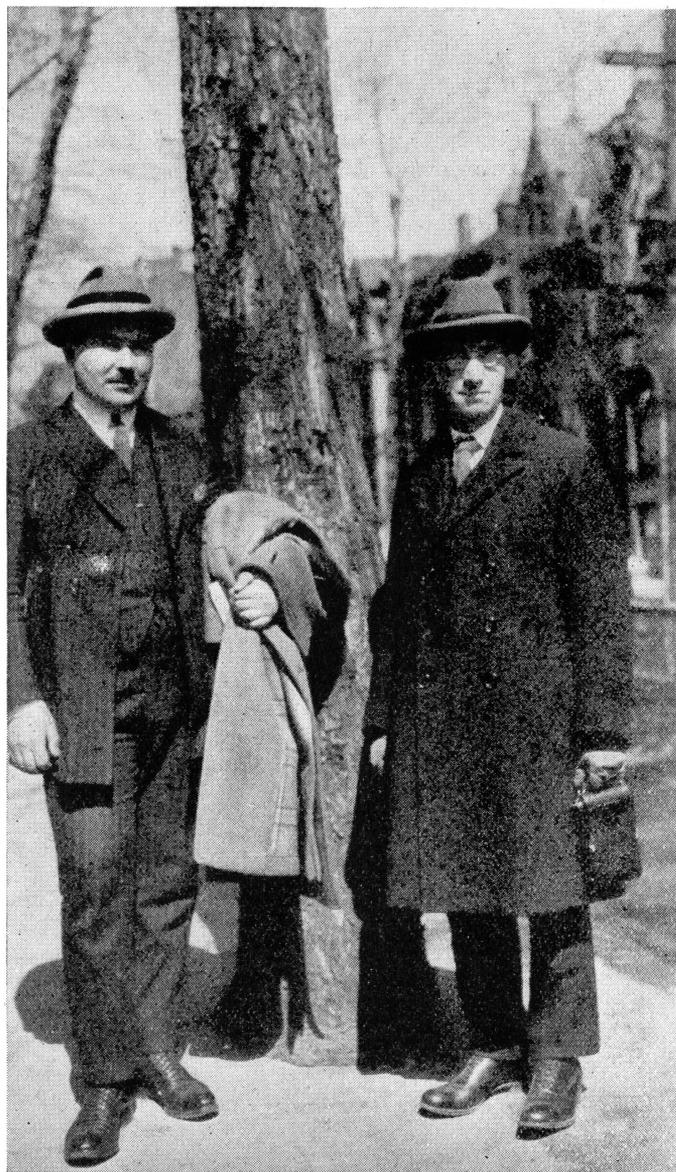
Sugar Workers

A very large proportion of the sugar workers of the U. S. S. R., both those working on plantations and those in the refineries, are, of course, seasonal workers. They are recruited for the most part from peasants owning small allotments of land, from the regular day laborers of the district in which the plantations or refineries are situated, and, to a less extent, from outsiders who come in search of work during the busy season.

The efforts made so far by the Sugar Workers' Union to organize these seasonal workers have been fairly successful. During the 1922-23 season, 54,545 were organized in the seasonal workers' section of the Union, out of a total of 71,345 seasonal workers. During the 1923-24 season, out of a

total of 95,000 seasonal workers, 48,420 refinery and 22,344 field workers were organized.

The Union has also undertaken successful educational work among these seasonal workers. Schools have been organized for illiterates, and lectures have been given on personal and special hygiene and on economic, political, and trade union subjects. To assist this work, cottage reading rooms, study circles, and travelling libraries have been organized. In places like the Ukraine, where most of the workers speak non-Russian languages, the educational work is carried on almost exclusively in the native languages.



Soviet Russia is now officially represented in Canada. The official Agent is A. A. Yazikoff (left). The Bureau of the Agency has an Agricultural Department, of which D. N. Borodin (right) is the head.