

LAUD PROGRESS OF USSR LABOR

Discuss Losovsky Report at R. I. L. U. Meet

MOSCOW, March 25.—In the course of a polemical attack upon Nin's speech at the Congress of the Red International of Trade Unions here yesterday, Yaglom of the Soviet Union pointed out two harmful deviations within the ranks of certain organizations.

Deviations.

"In the first place there is a tendency of these organizations to adapt themselves to the backward reformist psychology of workers adhering to the Amsterdam trade unions which distracts our attention from the true class struggle," he said. "Our task is to disclose to the working masses, on the basis of specific facts, the harmful essence of reformism, thereby advancing the revolutionizing of the masses.

"The other deviation amounts to an underestimation of the forces of reformism which practically means renouncing the struggle for unity. On one hand, we must consolidate the ranks of our own revolutionary organizations and, on the other, struggle for unity within the reformist organizations."

Germanetto of Italy, then energetically condemned Nin's speech and declared that in his opinion, the statement that there is a lack of democracy among the trade unions of the Soviet Union has a defeatist character. Those who have been in

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DISCUSS LOSOVSKY REPORT AT CONGRESS

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western Europe and know the reformist trade unions can correctly evaluate trade union's "democracy." "Those who have been in the Soviet workshops and mills or attending workers' conferences and meetings can see the results that true democracy has effected in the trade unions and organizations of the U. S. S. R.," he said. "The workers themselves are building up their own organizations and carrying on work in all fields of economic and cultural construction. A limitation of democracy is out of the question. Such a charge is a calumny."

Dutch Militants Struggle.

Reinhard of Holland then spoke on behalf of the opposition in the Dutch Labor Secretariat, entirely supporting the policy of the Red International of Trade Unions. Altho the "leaders" are expelling the militants, the revolutionary wing is struggling daily for the revolutionizing of the labor movement.

Poiret, of France, next dealt with strike tactics and the struggle of the General Conference of Labor. He considered that the main fault lay in the fact that strikes were not sufficiently prepared for in advance. "We must give definite instructions to the leaders of the strike movement in order to carry on an unabating struggle against the employers and call strikes whenever necessary to defend the eight hour day and wages," he said. "We must have recourse to strike also whenever the government attempts to enforce measures directed against the labor movement."

Defend Minority Leaders.

Hardy, of England, read a declaration of the British delegation refuting Carney's reproaches against the leaders of the Minority Movement and emphasizing the necessity of a stronger organization of the Minority Movement in Ireland.

Hardy further dwelt on the relations between the trade unions and cooperatives, pointing out the assistance rendered by the latter during strikes. The speaker considered that the cooperatives must be definitely made a part of the class struggle of the proletariat.

Chisostomo, of the Philippines, then reviewed the political situation and the position of the Labor movement in the Philippine Islands.

Portuguese Delegate.

Alvez of Portugal spoke of the growing repressions against the trade union organizations on the part of the fascist Portuguese government. Portugal is suffering from the lack of experienced leaders in the left wing movement, Alvez said. The building up of a new national centre for the trade union movement is imperative, according to Alvez, as the Portuguese anarcho-syndicalist confederation was practically defunct.

Tikhomirova of the U. S. S. R. described the position of the Soviet working women. She stated that there are over 900,000 women employed in U. S. S. R. industry, with an earning power of 65 per cent of the men's wages, an increase of 66 per cent in three years. Over 2,700,000 women are organized into the U. S. S. R. trade unions, according to Tikhomirova.

Blavier of Belgium pointed out the difficult conditions under which the Belgian revolutionary organizations were working, due to the persecution of Communists within the trade unions. However, Blavier said, the revolutionary movement is progressing more rapidly every year, and the revolutionary minority has brought several reformist trade unions under its influence.

Sweden Swings Left.

Brandler of Germany welcomed the fact that Losovsky's thesis has laid

down the program for action of all sections of the R. I. L. U.

Volan of Norway pointed out the steadily growing revolutionization of the Scandinavian labor movement in recent years, which he said explained the close rapprochement of the Scandinavian and the Soviet trade union movements.

Irish Question.

Carney on behalf of the delegation of the Irish Labor Union, read a statement declaring that the Irish Labor Union would remain a section of the Red International of Labor Unions since it had never made any definite decision to leave the Red International of Labor Unions. Special questions regarding the Irish labor movement can be decided by the congress at the usual proceedings together with the trade unions of other countries.

After Appelt's report and Croisat's co-report on work among the youth, a discussion of all reports was begun. In all capitalist countries the labor of young workers was widely exploited as cheaper and more profitable. The wages of young workers are from thirty to fifty per cent lower than those of adult workers.

Accidents Among Youth.

In the Czechoslovakian mines, there are 155 accidents daily, a considerable percentage of which young workers are victims. In Poland, instead of adult workers who are dismissed, young workers are engaged at extremely low wages. In Latin-America there are absolutely no laws for the protection of young workers. On the other hand the capitalists are energetically working youth toward their sport clubs, and thereby drawing their attention away from the political struggle.

A different picture was presented by the representatives of the young workers of the Soviet Union, where rationalization, unlike rationalization in capitalist countries, has resulted in bettering the conditions of the youth. As indicated by the representatives of the Central Committee of the All-Union Leninist Communist Union, on January 1, 1927 there were 1,068 factories and mills with apprenticeship schools, with an enrollment of 107,000 pupils. The qualifications of the young workers are steadily increasing.

The Workers' State

An answer to the
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The report of Stalin's
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