

Will they Scrap old Warships Only to Build New Ones? Watch the Hypocrites at the Arms Table

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"TRUTH"

DULUTH, MINN.

WISCONSIN GOVERNOR JOLTS ANTI-PICKET JUDGE RULING

Fight Between Bench and Executive To Bring Out Important Decision

(By The Federated Press)
Madison, Wis. — A dramatic conflict between the executive and the judicial power of the State of Wisconsin, involving the right of union labor to defend itself against the destructive onslaught of the so-called "American Plan," will reach its climax in the chambers of Governor J. J. Blaine Monday, November 14, when Sheriff Hans Rodd of Oneida County must appear to show cause why he should not be removed from office for failure to obey the lawful order and warrant of the governor. The governor had pardoned a union picket sentenced to four months for contempt when he pleaded guilty to violation of an injunction procured by the Rhinelander Paper Company during a paper mill strike. The sheriff refused to release the pardoned picket and now faces removal by the governor.

Peter J. Christ, the imprisoned picket, had taken an active part on the picket line as soon as the strike broke out last spring. The International Paper Makers' Union and the Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers' Union both struck after the company has slashed wages and refused to confer with committees of the men, thus making the mill an anti-union shop. The unions had asked postponement of the issue until the international officers had completed their negotiations with the Eastern paper makers. The company refused.

Judge A. W. Reid issued the usual anti-picketing injunction and the company brought in strike-breakers. The sheriff deputized thugs and minors and the customary labor dispute was well under way.

On July 2, Christ and twelve others were arrested for contempt of court for their activity on the picket line. Christ pleaded guilty and was given four months in the Oneida County Jail at Rhinelander, Wis.

His popularity in the town was so great that crowds gathered in front of the jail and he continued to encourage the unions to hold out by making strong appeals through the lars of the jail. The sheriff then removed him to the Langlade County Jail, 60 miles away. His wife and daughter, who also served on the picket line, were arrested but subsequently released.

On July 29 the strike was settled by the mediation of R. G. Knutson, labor member of the Wisconsin Industrial Commission, on a basis satisfactory to both sides, but Christ remained in prison.

The Rhinelander unions and the Wisconsin Federation of Labor con-

vinced Governor Blaine that Christ was being illegally held because the maximum penalty for criminal contempt is 30 days, which Christ had already served. If the contempt was civil his release was also overdue because punishment for civil contempt ends when the opportunity to purge one's self of it ends. The close of the strike had removed this opportunity. Governor Blaine thereupon issued his pardon order directing the sheriff to release his prisoner.

Instead of obeying, the sheriff took Christ back to the Rhinelander jail and held him there until the full term had expired, having been threatened by Judge Reid with imprisonment for judicial contempt if he obeyed the governor's order.

The summons by the governor for the sheriff to show cause why he should not be removed was the executive answer to the judicial threat.

The situation has developed so that the question involved, the governor wrote to the Wisconsin Federation of Labor, "is so important to an orderly system of government that I instead to pursue that course where legal consequences will follow, so far as the executive's authority is concerned, under the constitution and the law."

The governor had previously written: "To continue this party (Christ) in prison after the strike, out of which the contempt proceeding grew, has long been settled will only give force to the fast growing public feeling that the law is an instrument to be used only against the weak and in favor of the strong."

In corroboration of this attitude is the comment of Superintendent of School Willis Colburn, Rhinelander, who stated in an interview: "Our people are divided on the Christ case. The business men, the employers and bankers are with the judge, while the labor group is almost solidly with the governor."

"This a case of judicial tyranny in its baldest form," asserted Henry Ohl, Jr., organizer of the Wisconsin Federation of Labor. "These injunctions have the effect of intimidating the unions and are issued in violation of Chapter 211 of the Statutes, which is the anti-injunction law. It is on the books but never enforced. We shall campaign to elect men to the legislature next year who will vote to impeach any injunction judge who acts as Judge Reid has done."

The Hellward March

By John E. Nordquist.

I saw a vision in the night
Of the boss-man in wild flight,
Chased by six million unemployed—
Oh such a lovely sight!
And all the blocks of Yankland
Stumbled after him,
But where they went, I guessed not
For the vision then was dim.

They swam a hundred rivers
While the workers splashed behind;
Thru scores of mountain passes,
The boss and blocks did wind.
O'er deserts hot and barren
Pushed on by workers' sons,
Onward fled the boss-man
And his simple trusting "nuns".

Then my vision smoked and blistered
While flaming darts appeared,
And the block mob hurried onward
As it's destiny it neared.
Then the gates of hell yawned open,
And ere the portals closed,
They had swallowed up the boss-man
And the simple bone-head host.

An Appreciation

The Board of Directors for TRUTH and all the members of the Scandinavian Local of Duluth and the numberless friends of the cause of the workingclass want to express their hearty appreciation and thanks to all the merchants and business men and Friends of Duluth for their generous donations to the Bazaar that was held at Workers Hall last week.

The splendid success of the Bazaar is due to this generosity and to the faithful work of the many comrades who gave their services so unselfishly to help in the undertaking.

Sincerely and gratefully,
The Committee.

THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF NATIONAL ECONOMY

By Helen Augur
Moscow.—Nothing could better display the modern spirit of the Russian revolution than the Supreme Council of National Economy. Into this body the best technical brains of the country have been gathered and given freedom to work out an industrial program for all of Russia along Communist lines.

Industry in order to be effective must be Communist, just as health and art are Communist. It means balance, unity, integration. The Russian revolution said in effect: "We have abolished profits, competition and industrial slavery. At last we are striving not against each other as rival producers, but we are all striving together to conquer the forces of nature and thus to free mankind." One may read some such slogan on the gaily-painted propaganda trains that carry the messages of the central government to the remotest parts of Russia.

It is the task of the Supreme Council of National Economy to write this message of order and fruitfulness into the industrial life of Russia. "To it is entrusted the work not only of drawing up plans for a synchronized industry of the most modern type, but also the less inspiring but essential work of keeping the existing industry running."

Early in the year there was a discussion as to whether the council should do the work of supervising the entire economic life of the country, including agriculture and transport, or should limit its efforts to industry. The All-Russian Council of Soviets which met in May decided that the latter job was quite big enough.

The Supreme Council of National Economy, which is known by its Russian initials, V. S. N. K., is directed by a presidium of 11 members. The president, Bogdanov, is an engineer, as are Ludwig Martens

and Dulgov. As for the others, Ipatziev is a world-famous chemist, Emilga is a jurist, Eisman and Srida are university graduates, Kuibishev is a former army officer, and Chubar, Rutzitov and Sopronov are workers with considerable education. All but two are Communists.

There are 15 departments of the V. S. N. K., corresponding to the main industries metallurgical, mining, textile, leather, etc. Each member of the presidium has one or more departments under his charge and at the head of each is a little directing group of five or seven specialists.

Several immense office buildings are occupied by the various departments of the V. S. N. K. The offices are furnished with massive elegance and throughout the big buildings there is an order and an air of accomplishment that could hardly be duplicated in America. The faces of the executives and engineers are keen and intelligent and so are the faces of the stenographers. The "flapper" type has not yet evolved in Russia. The typical business girl here speaks at least three languages, and has an eager mind for facts.

In its task of directing industry the V. S. N. K. works in close connection with the All-Russian Council of Trade Unions. Kuibishev represents the unions on the presidium of the V. S. N. K., and a further connection is made by having joint sessions of the presidium and the Trade Union Councils on important questions concerning labor. In practice all labor policies are left to the trade unions to decide.

The biggest accomplishment of the V. S. N. K. on the creative side of its program has been the working out of the plan for the electrification of all Russian industry. One hundred and eighty experts were employed to evolve

this plan, and their work, recently published in a bulky volume, constitutes one of the magnificent achievements of the revolution. The electrification plan involves a rebuilding of Russian industry so that fuel, raw materials and factories will be brought together in the same place. This in itself is a revolution, for the czarist industrial geography put the factories in Moscow, Petrograd, Nishni-Novgorod, and other cities far from raw materials and fuel.

The electrification project as it is being actually put into effect is to build a chain of great power plants all around Russia. The fuel peculiar to each region is being utilized for the making of the current used in that region. For instance, the factories of Moscow are run on current supplied by the lignite coal, peat and wood of the district. In the Donetz Basin and the Ural Mountains, coal will be burned; in the region of Baku, oil. At present the linen industry which centers in Simbirsk province on the Volga is using as fuel a "shiefer," a sort of stone which burns.

Several of these power plants have already been constructed. Besides those in Moscow and Petrograd, there is a new million horsepower plant in Alexandrovsk on the Dnieper, and several others scattered through the country. When this work is complete it is proposed to use electricity in large scale farming, and experiments are now going on in the use of electric plows.

Even under the best conditions, this work of electrification will take ten or twelve years for completion. Meanwhile the V. S. N. K. is concentrating its energies upon building up Russian industry to its pre-war level. The fuel and transport crisis with which it must cope in this work will be discussed in the next article.

HALL IS PACKED TO HEAR ABOUT FAMINE RELIEF IN SOVIET RUSSIA

An audience that packed the hall to the doors listened with rapt attention to the plain and effective story about the Workers' Republic of Russia, its beginnings and its struggles, its hardships and its victories, its hunger and its hope, told by Comrade P. P. Cosgrove, field representative of "The Friends of Soviet Russia," last Sunday night at Workers' Hall here under the auspices of the Duluth Division.

Plunging into his subject, "Free Russia and Uneasy Europe," Cosgrove lost no time in getting started and related in a vivid manner the story of old and new Russia. We give the following outline of his lecture for the benefit of those who may not have a chance to hear him:

I have just returned from Soviet Russia. Russia was not always governed by a Soviet form of government. I was in Russia a number of years ago during the reign of the Czar, and it would be an almost impossible task to describe conditions under which the workers lived at that time.

Russian War Forces.

I want to tell you, brothers, who are members of a trade union, if one tried to organize a trade union in those days they were arrested and sent to Siberia. In 1905 a revolution broke out, but it was not a success, due to lack of solidarity on the part of the workers. Then came the European War. When the war broke out between France and Germany, Russia joined in with the other allied countries. Many people

in this country do not realize how much Russia helped to wage the world war. She mobilized and sent twelve million men to the front. France mobilized and sent only 7,500,000; Great Britain, 7,500,000. Nine Million Casualties.

During the war the Russian army was badly disrupted. The dead, wounded and prisoners amount to about 9,150,000, or seventy-five per cent of the army. The workers in Russia, like the workers in other parts of the world, were told that there was a man by the name of Kaiser Bill who has making trouble for the people. They were told that he wanted to rule the whole world. They exhibited posters saying "Get the Kaiser." After fighting a long time they got tired of it. There was no proper ammunition and no food. They looked around for the Kaiser and kept looking around but could see no Kaiser. They could not even see a general of the Germans. All they could see was German workers just the same as they were. They made up their minds that instead of going to get the Kaiser they would go back to Moscow and get the Czar, and they did. As soon as the Czar's regime was overthrown, everybody in the United States seemed pleased.

Kerensky Appears.
Another man came on the scene—that was Kerensky. Kerensky formed a government and said he was going to give the people democracy. The capitalist in America spoke well of Kerensky, and said that he would reorganize the Russian army and help to crush German militarism.

But the peasants wanted the land. The workingclass did not want to fight any more. In April, 1917, another man appeared on the scene—Nicholas Lenin. He looked over the field and then told the working men and soldiers: "You made this Revolution, and it belongs to you. Do not let the usurpers keep it away from you, take the power in your own hands."

After the bourgeois showed that they could not run the government, the workers took Lenin's advice and took the government in their own hands. They made Lenin premier and have kept him on the job ever since.

"In Pay of Germany."
Now, I want to call your attention to some facts. The capitalists said that Lenin was in the pay of Germany. That this Bolshevism was something made in Germany and sent over to Russia by the Kaiser to disrupt the armies of Russia. Now Brothers, why is it that during the time that the working class fought the Kaiser they were noble fighters, but as soon as Lenin appeared on the scene, the papers changed their opinion immediately. Instead of picturing the Russians as noble fighters, they were caricatured as long bearded men with gun in each hand, and knives between their teeth.

When bolsheviks controlled

When Lenin and the Bolsheviks came into power they said: "He

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MOONEY'S MONTHLY BARRED FROM ATLANTA PRISON

San Francisco, Nov. — Reports that the warden of the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., had banned the circulation of "Tom Mooney's Monthly" among "political and industrial prisoners," inmates of the institution, today prompted a letter to the warden from publishers of the monthly in which information was demanded as to whether the censorship had been invoked at the warden's own discretion or at the order of Department of Justice officials in Washington.

Inquiry was made whether any issue contained on article or cartoon to which official objection had been raised. The letter follows:

"The Warden,
U. S. Penitentiary,
Atlanta, Ga.

Sir:—
"Information has reached us from an authentic source that copies of Tom Mooney's Monthly have been kept beyond the reach of inmates of your institution to whom the publication has been regularly sent.

"Will you, at your earliest possible convenience, inform this publication whether we have been misinformed in this matter which we consider of great importance to us?

"If there has been an actual suppression of the publication to prevent its circulation among the political and industrial prisoners who, through the hand of fate, are for the moment under your physical and spiritual guidance, will you set

our minds at rest on the following points:

"1—Has the suppression been brought about at your own direction or that of Department of Justice officials in Washington?

"2—Was there any particular article or cartoon to which official objection had been raised?

"3—Is it directed against any specific inmate or inmates?

"4—If you believe the publication or certain portions of it are unobtainable, have you called it to the attention of the proper authorities, the United States Postal officials?

"We shall be relieved to hear from you that our information is misleading and that no effort has been made by you to suppress or censor our publication in violation of our plain rights as publishers and those of your institution's inmates as readers.

"Very respectfully,
Rena Mooney, Sec'y-Treas.

Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings are now serving a life sentence following conviction for murder as an outgrowth of the 1916 Preparedness Day bomb outrage. Charges have been repeatedly and have been supported by a federal investigation that Mooney and Billings are the victims of a "frameup." "Tom Mooney's Monthly" is being issued to obtain the freedom of both men as well as the release of "political and industrial prisoners."

CUT WAGES AS FOOD PRICES RISE

HONOLULU.—At a conference between the heads of the principle business houses in Honolulu it was decided to put into effect this month the long contemplated drastic cut in the wages of all clerical workers. This reduction will represent a wage cut of 20 per cent. It is to be followed by parallel cuts in the wages of mechanics and semi-skilled workers.

During the last month the average cost of living in Honolulu has advanced between 4 and 5 per cent, while in outlying districts the rents have been raised 10 per cent. The dealers in clothing, dry goods, groceries and general merchandise are quite optimistic, freely predicting a marked upward trend of prices before the first of the year.

Rice, the staple food of the Oriental population, is expected to double in price within the next two months; in fact, there has been extensive buying up of the stocks for speculative purposes. With rice at 10 cents and the wages of the plantation laborers cut to \$26 a month a serious situation may develop.

Russia Balks War Debt Cancellation

New York. — A new twist has been given to the proposals which are being industriously circulated for a reduction or complete cancellation of the interallied debts. The proposal of the British National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce to call upon the British government to start such negotiations, according to the London Daily News, comes at the "interesting" moment when the Russian government has conditionally proposed to pay the debts to other nations incurred by the czarist regime.

"We believe," the London Daily News is quoted as saying, "that

when, as now seems inevitable, a conference is called to consider the question of interallied debts, it will be impossible to avoid including Russia in any scheme of cancellation that is accepted if there is real intention to admit Russia to the comity of nations."

Persons here who have followed closely the diplomacy of recent years in which the Russian Soviet statesmen have outgeneraled the allied and American politicians at almost every point in such negotiations and interchanges as have taken place, point out that this may be one more instance in which Moscow has seized the psychological moment and again availed itself of the confused and opportunistic efforts of world capitalism to exorcise itself from the financial net in which it has entangled itself. They assert that any attempt at debt repudiation by France and England and the other allied and "associated" nations which is not made to include Russia will be a confession of insincerity; and further that it would involve financial juggling which could not fail to end in disaster.

National Vote To Declare War Urged by Jurist

PASSAIC, N. J., Nov. 11.—An amendment to the constitution taking power to declare war out of the hands of the President and Congress, except in case of invasion, was urged by Justice J. F. Minturn of the New Jersey Supreme Court in an Armistice Day speech.

"He said wars should be undertaken only after a national referendum.

"Prayer will not abolish war," he said. "We have been praying thousands of years and war is more malignant than ever. Let us start the good work by getting every candidate for Congress to support this proposed amendment, and then pray."

HALL IS PACKED TO HEAR ABOUT FAMINE RELIEF IN SOVIET RUSSIA

(Continued from page 1)

that does not work, neither shall he eat," and immediately the capitalists began to get out of the country. It was considered a bad district for capitalists. Before the revolution the working class did the work and the capitalist lived off their work. They used to enjoy everything of the best that the working-class produced. But now it is different. If you don't work, you can't eat. The result was that over two million of the capitalists left Russia and went to other parts of Europe. Then the workers took control of everything. Now what do we find? Immediately the press throughout the world began to fight Soviet Russia. They wanted to crush the idea. Russia is one-sixth of the world and three times as large as the United States. The workers of Russia put up the hardest fight ever put up, but the capitalists of other countries did not want to see this country ruled by the working class. That was the main reason why they wanted to crush and overthrow the Soviet government.

Overthrew the Kaiser

But the workers of Russia not only overthrew the Czar, but they were instrumental in overthrowing the Kaiser in Germany. No credit was given them for it. The Russian workers sent their men into Germany to talk with the German workers there. Finally the German workers saw their point of view, and the Kaiser was forced to go to Holland. Another thing the working class of Russia have done which they were not given credit for was that they saved millions of lives of the people of England, France, Germany and the United States, too. They saved these lives through the Revolution—anywhere from one million to one million and a half American boys were saved. Many people expected the war to last from six months to two years, and if you recall, they had a second draft taking the men from eighteen to forty-five years of age. Just when they were filling out their questionnaires, word came from abroad that they didn't need them any more.

Attempt to crush Russia

The Allies still tried to crush Russia and fought her on nineteen different fronts. The working class of Russia were obliged to fight on nineteen different fronts. At the same time a blockade around Russia was begun and not even a bottle of medicine, a pair of shoes, or anything else was allowed to come into Russia, and still she was obliged to fight. She defeated her enemies and drove them out of Soviet Russia but still the workers of Russia had another way of fighting—Propaganda. And here is how they used to work it. At night, they would send up airplanes. Instead of dropping bombs, on the working class, they would drop leaflets, and in the morning when the soldiers awoke they would find these on the ground. This is what most of them read:

"Brothers of England, why are you fighting us? We have never injured you, the working-class of England. We have no desire to ever invade England. Why don't you go home and take care of your families? and let us go home and take care of ours?"

Russian Propaganda

Whether he was a Frenchman, German, or Englishman, or any other nationality, and even the Japs, the Russian workers would print them so that they could read it. The result was that when the English read it, they said that Russia could never invade their country. They had no navy to do it with, even if they had wanted to. Why not let him go home and take care of his family? Finally it came to the point, when the captain would tell them to get ready to go over the top, they told him, "If you want to go over the top, go yourself. We want to go home." The armies were beginning to mutiny. Many of the men demanded to be sent home—and their governments had to send them home. But the blockade was kept up.

French loans to Czar

At one time the capitalists of France loaned some money to the Czar, to help fight the working class. They wanted the working class of Russia to pay that money back. The working class refused to pay it. They said that France had loaned it to the Czar, and now they could go and collect it from the Czar. Because of this France decided to go into Russia. France

wanted Lloyd George to force England to war with Russia. Lloyd George was willing, but the workers were not. They told Lloyd George that if he declared war on Russia, they would declare war on him. Through the agitation carried on by the British workers, a trade agreement was signed between England and Soviet Russia, and trade is now carried on on a large scale. Now brothers, I have given you an idea of Russia in days gone by, and I will now tell you of Russia as it is today.

En route to Moscow

Last March I was sent as a delegate to attend the first congress of the Red International of Trades and Industrial Unions, at Moscow, and arrived in that city on April 19, 1921. Arriving at the Russian border is different from arriving at any other border. As soon as we came into a small village, a man came around to get the number of people in the car. There were twenty. We rode in box cars, as in Latvia there were not enough passenger cars. There were 190 people going into Russia at the time I went. We wrote out a slip and later we were handed food for twenty people. That was all. They asked us no questions. Everything was free. The next morning at five o'clock, I left the box car and got into a passenger car furnished by the government and rode in comfort to Moscow.

Meets Bill Haywood

The scenes viewed were beautiful. It was April, the fields were beginning to get green, and peasants were working upon the land. Some were repairing their houses, others building new homes, because now, under the Soviet government, the peasants were allowed all the timber free, while under the Czar's regime they could not get any timber. We were met at the depot and taken to the hotel in automobiles. Moscow is a quiet orderly city, much quieter than a person would expect. In a great hotel I was assigned a room. This room was free. I was given a card which said that I was a guest at that hotel, also a meal ticket. A meal ticket was given men that is good for fifteen days. These meal tickets are issued on the first and fifteenth of each month. Upon entering the dining room you present the ticket to the clerk and receive your meal. About five in the evening, a fellow asked me if I would like to go to the theatre. This person was Bill Haywood, who had gone to Russia to escape twenty years at Leavenworth. He preferred Russia. The tickets were free. At five o'clock, a man from the hotel would come around with tickets to the various theatres, and you would pick out tickets to the one which you wished to see. We went to the Bolshoi Theatre. This theatre was one which had been patronized by the Czar. We sat in a beautiful box. All this is true, although it seems like a dream to me now as I talk about it.

1600 Moscow Churches

The first Sunday I spent in Moscow, I was awakened by church bells, for in Moscow there are 1600 churches and everyone of these churches had at least fifteen bells, to judge from the sound. The sun was shining on the domes of these churches, and you can imagine what a beautiful sight it was. The domes of the churches are covered with a gold plate.

Visit Czar's Palace

After breakfast, a guide, one Finn, asked us if we would like to see the Kremlin. This was the palace of the Czar. We got together a party of about forty and went to see the Kremlin. It occupies a large space of ground surrounded by a great wall. The Kremlin is a citadel with a wonderful collection of churches, graceful towers, green and golden domes, big bells and wonderful art collections. We were taken into the palace and shown beautiful architecture. Beautiful walls inlaid with gold, Lenin now makes his home there. We went through the Kremlin from top to bottom, spending about four hours there. We had dinner, and after dinner we went to the theatre. We went to the Bolshoi where we listened to Grand Opera. I might say that they have some of the finest actors and actresses in the world, great dancers, and fine musicians.

Free Entertainment

The Soviet government is doing everything to encourage their young children to be actors. They say that the working men need

recreation and amusement after working all day. If the workman wants to see a show, he must see his shop chairman and tell him he wishes to attend a certain theatre and the next day a ticket is handed him. Here he sees a real show, not a cheap pie-throwing comedy. Workers in the capitalist countries have to be content with seeing and watching Charlie Chaplin on the screen because they have not the price to see a real show. (Charlie Chaplin is a real artist.—Ed.)

Workingclass Control

We have heard it stated that the working class do not receive much money. That is true, but under a Soviet form of government where the working-class controls everything they don't need much money, for, when the worker goes to work, he gets what is called a "pick," receiving so much flour, meat, sugar, and the other necessities of life. If he needs shoes, he presents his card and gets shoes; if he needs treatment for his teeth, he goes to the dentist and has them fixed. People ask, what does the dentist get? Why, the dentist receives the same.

Rents are Free.

The rents are free. Here should the landlord try to increase your rent five dollars, you will pay him or go to court and fight the landlord against raising the rents. The only men who get anything out of this are the lawyers. Now in Russia it is different. No rents are collected. The electric lights are free to the workers. In the capitalist countries the lights are used mostly for the great big signs on the top of buildings. Instead of electric lights in the workers' homes, you will find a small gas light burning. It is very dim because it is possible that the last quarter has been put into it and it has to last until next payday. In Russia it is different. The lights are used for lighting the homes of the working class. The telephones are free. Call the party you want, and talk to them, but in other countries you have to put in your nickel.

Russian Trade Unions.

About the Trade Unions of Russia. In Russia, before the Revolution, there were very few trade unions. Only a small number of the workers were organized, because to organize a union meant to go to prison. But since the revolution, the workers have organized themselves into 21 unions. These unions are along industrial lines. In the United States there are 111 national and international unions, and they are divided into 34,000 locals. I must say that it is on account of the dividing up of the unions that the working class have not got better conditions.

I shall here state the way it is worked. If the engineers go on strike, the firemen would scab, and if the conductors would strike, the brakemen would scab. And nothing could be accomplished. Not until the Big Four, the Engineers, Brakemen, Firemen and Conductors, made their demands for an eight-hour day at the same time, did they accomplish anything.

I attended the All-Russian Trade Union Congress.

At this meeting 2243 delegates were present. All the different unions were represented. From all parts of the country, the delegates assembled.

Russian Rest Home.

Now another thing—That is the Rest Homes that they have for the workers. Each worker has a month's vacation a year. In this country when a worker gets a month's vacation, he comes home and says that he has a month's vacation? No, he says that he has been laid off for a month. In Russia it is entirely different. When the worker gets his vacation he has the privilege of going to the rest home. There are 70,000 rest homes in Russia, where the workers may go to spend their vacations. These homes were owned and occupied by the nobility and are in good condition. I was in several of them. One in particular, in which I stayed several days. At one home, which used to be occupied by one old lady and her servants, there are 75 workers. One home has been turned into a rest place for tubercular people. They are beautiful homes, beautiful rooms for sleeping.

Children in Russia.

The care and education of children is an extremely interesting subject in Russia. The children are educated and taken care of until they are sixteen years of age, by the government. They are not allowed to work in the mines, over-

time of night work until they have reached the age of eighteen. Children that show a desire to learn, or those with special talent, are given a higher education. Another thing which they have established is the physical training schools. It is a fine sight to see thousands of them doing their exercises on the green fields.

Russian Women.

Now the question about women. There has been a story that all the women of Russia were nationalized. The women have more freedom and have the same rights as a man. They can be elected to any office in the Soviet government or trade unions.

When you meet a man or a woman in Russia, you address them all the same no matter whether the man is a taxi driver, a theatre employee, or Lenin himself. You address them all, "Hello, Comrade". The people of Russia are very pleasant to get along with. There the people have prohibition. Absolute prohibition. No liquor, beer or wine is sold in Soviet Russia, and there are no drug fiends. These have been wiped out entirely.

Pleasant Question.

Now another question, I want to discuss with you. The peasant question. They used to be kept like slaves. They did not get the benefits of their toil. Now they have control of the land. They organized the Red Guard. They have arranged for officers' schools where boys ranging from 17 to 21 obtain military education. I have talked with some of them and they seem satisfied to be there. I spoke to about thirty from the Ukraine district. These boys are taught not merely a military education, but they are taught to read, write and mathematics. They are given along with training, along electrical lines, repairing dynamos, electric motors, how to set up and operate telephones, how to install wireless telegraphy stations; thereby obtaining a good technical education. They make better officers for the army and their knowledge of electrical work will be useful to them in the future. Not having enough Communists officers they use some officers from the former Czar's army; but these are watched by Communist Commissars, who report to headquarters about anything go wrong.

Reconstruction Going On.

Another thing is the reconstruction that is going on in Russia. Here, we talk a great deal about the transportation system being broken down. This is not the fault of the working class. Three thousand iron bridges were destroyed by the Allies and counter revolutionists. The result was, that the workers there were obliged to build wooden bridges, this causing a considerable slowing down in the speed of the trains. Now they are building electric light plants in many parts of the country. They have been at this for the three years. Electric light stations are using peat. They have erected buildings, schools, hospitals and theaters, and today they have model towns. They have erected a hotel with a printing shop below, where the newspapers are printed. They have one doctor to a model

town, and I inquired as to how many sick persons, they had in that town. On that day there were four. He explained that as soon as they have any contagious disease they are immediately taken care of. They never have much sickness in those model towns.

Russian Famine.

You have heard about the famine in Russia. The famine in Russia is confined to the Volga district, where no rain has fallen this summer. Everything has been scorched by the sun, crops destroyed, soil baked.

On account of the blockade, it has been impossible to get new machinery or even repair parts for the old; and much modern machinery is lying around while the peasants must resort to the primitive, using wooden plows and scythes instead of modern reapers and binders.

Relief is being sent, money being given by the workers of England, Germany and other countries. The working class of Russia who are fighting the battle of the entire world, appeal to working men and women of the United States, to you working men and women, and upon you depends the task of raising funds to feed the starving men, women, and children in the famine districts of Russia. It is up to you workers to show your working class solidarity, and come to the assistance of your fellow-workers in Russia. Give generously. The "Friends of Soviet Russia" is the unified collecting agency in this country, and all money can be turned over to them in this locality. Money will be spent for supplies which will be sent directly to the famine districts of Russia.

When Comrade Cosgrove called for a collection the audience responded generously. The committee announced the amount to be \$132.88.

The local division is now busy collecting money and clothing, workers being assigned to specific territory going from house to house asking for such aid as the people can give.

Contributions may be sent to Martin G. Landin, 3008 Vernon St., Duluth, Minn. Or to local headquarters, "Friends of Soviet Russia," Hotel Rex.

Rockefeller Company Breaks Contract

Denver. — John P. McLennan, president of the United Mine Workers of the Colorado District, declares a strike will take place when the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company (the Rockefeller corporation) carries out its announced policy of reducing wages 30 per cent. McLennan says a reduction is a violation of the contract signed by the company which does not expire until April. Resistance of the workers to the labor policies of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company seven years ago led to the famous Ludlow massacre in which many lives were lost.

THREE BIG DRIVES IN ONE!

We are going to raise a Christmas Fund to express remembrance for our Fellow Workers who are in prison.

There is great need for a Relief Fund, to help take care of the wives and children of Fellow Workers who are now compelled to waste their lives behind prison walls.

We must have a Deportation Fund, to assist and help on their way the many members who will be deported upon completion of their prison sentences for the "crime" of attempting to organize the working class and also those others who will be sent out of the country for their activity in this great cause.

So there must be three Funds — and each one is as important as the others.

The General Defense Committee has been ordered to arrange for the collection of these three Funds, because by having the drive carried on from a central point it can be handled with less expense and with better results for our prisoner Fellow Workers and their needy families.

We shall have two ways of collecting these Funds: One way will be by giving entertainments and applying the receipts to the three Funds, and by holding meetings to bring forth collections for this purpose.

The only other resource will be voluntary donations from members and from the well-wishers of our organization.

The drive is on! And it will continue until January 1, 1922.

All delegates should write immediately to the General Defense Secretary for a receipt book, and get busy "on the job."

These receipt books will be handled in this manner: The original receipt will be given to the donor; the first duplicate will be sent in with the remittance; and the second duplicate will be kept by the collector, for reference.

In this way, clear reports can be made weekly to the General Defense Secretary, and remittances can be sent in promptly as the collections are made. Thus a systematic account can be kept all the time, and we shall always know just where the drive needs "speeding up."

We are going to get this money for our Fellow Workers — and we shall need all the help that can be given us. No member who is true to our slogan of "solidarity" will fail to do his part in making this Big Three Drive a great success.

"They are inside for us; we are outside for them!"

Address all communications, and send remittances to: Harry Feinberg, General Defense Secretary, 1001 W. Madison St., Chicago, Illinois.

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NEXT SUNDAY

The papers tell us that now is held in Washington the greatest world congress in the history of civilization. Why this meet. Who are there. What will happen at

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THE STORY OF A PROLETARIAN LIFE

By Bartolomeo Vanzetti

(Autobiographical notes written in the State Prison, Charlestown, Mass., and translated from the Italian by Eugene Lyons. The conviction of Vanzetti and his friend Nicola Sacco on a murder charge has roused the greatest international protest since the Mooney-Billings conviction.)

MY BOYHOOD IN PIEMONTE

My life cannot claim the dignity of an autobiography. Nameless, in the crowd of nameless ones; I have merely caught and reflected a little of the light from that dynamic thought or ideal which is drawing humanity toward better destinies.

I was born on June 11, 1883, of G. Battista Vanzetti and Giovanna Vanzetti, in Villa Fallo, province of Cuneo, in Piedmont. The town, which rises on the right bank of the Magra, in the shadows of an amazingly beautiful chain of hills, is primarily an agricultural community. Here I lived until the age of thirteen in the bosom of the family.

I attended the local schools, and loved study. My earliest memories are of prizes won in school examinations, including a second prize in the religious catechism. My father was undecided whether to let me prosecute study, or to apprentice me to some artisan. One day he read in the *Gazzetta del Popolo* that in Turin forty-two lawyers had applied for a position paying 55 lire monthly. The news item proved decisive in my boyhood, for it left my father determined that the worker's life should be mine.

And so in this year 1901 he conducted me to Signor Comino, who ran a pastry bakery in the city of Cuneo and left me there to taste, for the first time, the flavor of hard, relentless labor. I worked for about twenty months there—from seven o'clock each morning until ten at night, every day, except for a three-hour vacation twice a month. From Cuneo I went to Cavour and found myself installed in the bakery of Signor Giore, a place that I kept for three years. Conditions were no better than in Cuneo, except that the bi-monthly free period was of five hours' duration.

I did not like the trade, but I stuck to it to please my father and because I did not know what else to choose. In 1905 I abandoned Cavour for Turin in the hope of locating work in the big city. Failing in this hope, I went on further to Courgne where I remained working six months. Then back to Turin, on a job as caramel-maker.

In Turin, in February of 1907, I fell seriously ill. I was in great pain, confined indoors, deprived of air and sun and joy, like a "sad twilight flower." In all Turin there was no one who cared whether I

suffered or not. But news of my plight reached the family and my father came from Villa Fallo to take me back to my birthplace. At home, he told me, I would be cared for by my mother, my good, my best-beloved mother.

And so I returned, after six years spent in the fetid atmosphere of bakeries and restaurant kitchens, with rarely a breath of God's air or a glimpse of his glorious world. Six years that might have been beautiful to a boy avid of learning and thirsty for a refreshing draught of the simple country life of his native village... years of the great miracle which transforms the child into the man. Ah, that I might have had the leisure to watch the wonderful unfolding.

The three hours on the train I leave to the imagination of those who have suffered pleurisy. But even through the mist of pain I saw the majestic country through which we passed and became part of it in imagination. The deep green of North Italian valleys which not even winter can dull, is a living thing in my mind even today.

My mother received me tenderly weeping from the fullness of her happiness and her sorrow. She put me in bed... I had almost forgotten that hands could caress so tenderly. There I remained for a month, and for two months more I went about with the aid of a heavy walking stick. At last I recovered my health. From there until the day I parted for America I remained in the house of my father. That was one of the happiest periods of my life. I was twenty years old, the magic age of hopes and dreams, even to those who, like myself, turn the pages of life's book precociously. I made many friends and gave freely of the love that was in my heart. I helped to cultivate the garden at home with an ardor that I had never felt in the cities.

But that serenity was soon destroyed, and by the most painful misfortune that can strike a man.

One sad day my mother fell sick. What she, the family and I suffered no pen can describe. The slightest noise caused her atrocious spasms. Many times I rushed toward the groups of young men approaching along the road of an evening and singing gayly to the newborn stars, imploring them for the love of God and their own mothers to be quiet. Many times I begged the men on the street corner to go elsewhere for their conversation. In the last few weeks of her life her sufferings became so agonizing that neither my father nor her relatives, nor her dearest friends had the courage to approach her bedside. I remained alone to comfort her as best I could. Day and night I remained

with her, tortured by the sight of her suffering. For two months I did not undress.

Science did not avail, nor love. After three months of brutal illness she breathed her last in my arms. She died without hearing me weep. It was I who laid her in her coffin; I accompanied her to the final resting place; I threw the first handful of earth over her bier. And it was right that I should do as I did, for I was burying part of myself... the void left has never been filled.

But it was too much; time, far from softening my loss, made the pain more cruel. I watched my father get gray in a short time. I became more retiring, more silent; for days at a time I uttered not a syllable and passed the days wandering through the forests which border the Magra. Many times, going to the bridge, I stopped long and looked down at the white stones far below in a bed of mud, and thought of them as a bed where there would be no more nightmares.

This desperate state of mind decided me to abandon Italy for America. On June 9, 1908 I left my dear ones. My sorrow was so great at the parting that I kissed my relatives and strained them to my bosom without being able to speak. My father, too, was speechless in his profound sorrow, and my sisters wept as they did when my mother died. My going had excited interest in the village and the neighbors crowded the house, each with a word of hope, a blessing, a tear. In a crowd they followed me far out on the road, as if a townsman were being exiled forever.

An incident of the parting is vivid in my memory; several hours before leaving I went to say farewell to an old woman who had for me a maternal feeling since the death of my mother. I found her on the threshold of her house, together with the young wife of her son.

"Ah, thou hast come," she said, "I expected thee. Go and may the love of God follow thee. Never have I seen a son do for a mother what thou hast done; blessings upon thee, my son."

We kissed. Then the young daughter-in-law spoke.

"Kiss me, too. I like you so much, you are so good," she said, swallowing tears.

I kissed her and fled, and could hear them weeping behind me.

Two days later I left Turin for the frontier town of Modane. While the train carried me toward the border, some tears fell from my eyes, so little used to crying. Thus I left my native land, a wanderer without country! Thus have blossomed the benedictions of those simple souls, those noble hearts...

this we ask no one to take our word; let the curious study the speeches of General Fries, head of our Chemical Warfare Service, or the facts in Will Irwin's "The Next War"; let them recall the poignant regret of our poison gas officers that the unexpected ending of the war prevented them from trying out their new gas which would, they said, if released near a great city, kill some two or three hundred thousand persons. Was it not General Mitchell, assistant chief of our flying corps, who begged a month ago to be allowed to try a little poison gas and some aerial bombs on his striking fellow-Americans in West Virginia? Every practical test bears out the assertions of all the progressive officers of the army and navy that the day of the great battleship is over. That mankind will turn from now on to these new chemical means of destruction the power and range of which may be measured by the recent explosion in Oppau is the burden of every militarist's song—without regard to the fact that these terribly forces may some day master humanity and beyond question place power in the hands of a few miscreants to perpetrate indescribable horrors upon their inoffensive fellow men.

No, for once the ideal and the practical are the same. There is no road to the reduction of taxation and the restoration of business surer than that which leads through disarmament. Men will prate, of course, that war must ever be, that the passions of men can never be changed. So some doubtless spoke when the race began to eschew cannibalism and so we know they spoke when the duel was placed without the pale of law. Nor is it the passions of men that are to be feared today as much as the greed and cupidity the blindness and cruelty and folly of diplomats and rulers. No people unwhipped by its imperialists hates another and no people but is capable of being moved by a new passion of fraternity, of brotherhood, of good-will, such as was preached in Galilee.—The Nation.

Great Election Victory Of Communists In Bulgaria

Municipal elections have taken place in about 130 towns and villages on the 2nd of October. It is a well-known fact that the municipal administration of nearly all Bulgarian towns was in the hands of the Communist Party. The Communist municipal councils voted heavy taxes on property and a progressive income tax causing great dissatisfaction among the bourgeoisie, which demanded the dissolution of the Communist administration by the government. Very soon the government dissolved all Communist administrations and appointed new elections for the 2nd of October. All the bourgeois parties formed a coalition which was supported by the government. The government made the state of siege and the censorship more severe. Arrests and political murders are the habitual means of defense of Bulgarian democracy against the Communists.

In spite of persecution and terror the Communist party gained a victory over the Bulgarian bourgeoisie on the 2nd of October. In the cities the C. P. got 15,633 votes, the dominant peasant party 3411, the united bourgeois parties 16,779 and the Social Democrats 2401 votes. The C. P. got an absolute majority in ten communities. The total of Communist votes was 24,965, peasant party 33,167, united bourgeois parties 34,116 and the S. D. 3339.

In nearly all the cities the government illegally postponed the elections on the eve of the election day. In these constituencies, the elections are to take place on the 9th, 23rd, and 30th October. As they are all under a strong Communist influence, it is to be expected that government terror will considerably increase in intensity. —Rosta Wien.

DISILLUSIONMENT

"Put" reports from Harbin that the feeling among the counter revolutionaries of the place is very depressed. The resumption of civil war has few supporters even in ultra-Right groups. Also the plan of destroying the Soviets from within has been given up as a result of the latest reports from Russia telling of the successful combat against the famine by the Soviet authorities.—Rosta Wien.

Union Scabs Help Defeat Own Brothers

BOSTON, Mass.—The Boston Post has locked out 93 members of the Typographical Union No. 13, who went on strike in support of one of their members who declined to work overtime.

Until recently the overtime work had not been forced on the members of the Post chapel of the union, but extra men had been allowed to choose this work. When the Post made its decision to force members to take this work a test case was made, the 93 going out in support of the first member chosen for overtime work. After being out three days the union refused to recognize the strike and the strikers were ordered to return, whereupon the Post refused to allow them to return.

While the members were on strike the Globe and other papers of Boston set type and provided mats for the Post so that the paper was not seriously inconvenienced and the workers of Boston were kept in ignorance of the facts in the case.

The strikers are still out and the case has been carried to the International Typographical Union for its decision. The members of the Typographical Union feel that the overtime strategy is only a move on the part of Boston papers to lengthen the working hours, although the present scale of 42 hours has prevailed for the past 26 years.

Thugs Beat Teacher Instead of Organizer

St. Paul, Minn. — F. A. Hurst and George C. Chambers, employees of the Citizens' Alliance, an anti-labor organization, are under arrest, charged with second degree assault on John M. Guise, principal of the Johnson School.

Guise was brutally assaulted by two men in his garage several weeks ago. The police theory at the time was that the school principal was assaulted by mistake in place of John Klaus, organizer for the Typographical Union, who lives next door to Guise. The two use the same garage.

Didn't Mean Anything

General Foch was to arrive at Union Station, Chicago, at nine A. M. A guard of honor was drawn up in military array. A great throng awaited expectantly.

Union station, unfortunately for the setting of the occasion, faced the disreputable Canal street—that dismal street of laboring agencies and flocks of unemployed, and down-and-outers. Looking past the guard of honor and throng of visiting spectators, the unkempt, shabby dressed individuals of Canal street formed the third line of defense. The warped labor agencies with their scrawled letter signs "NO MEN WANTED" and "NO SHIPMENT TO-DAY"—this together with the unmovable line of hungry looking men presented a sorry background to the military splendor of the greetings.

At precisely nine, the field marshal appeared. The crowd began to rend the air with cheers which indicated by their volume the patriotism was not yet dead in this country. When the marshal had saluted and the cheering was at its height, I felt a tugging at my coat sleeve. I turned to behold a sodden-faced, broken-down old man of the hopeless type that one sees along this street. The cheer-

ing and noise was so great I could barely hear his weak voice.

"What is the noise about," he asked. I was amused but I answered his question. "General Foch is in town today and the people are celebrating."

"A look of disgust replaced the look of expectancy. 'Hup, a that it,' he said turning away. 'I thought somebody was getting a job.'"

Rostan Quilan.

NOTICE!

Duluth Scand. Local meet every Tuesday Night at Workers Hall, Cor. 19th Ave. W. & 1st St. —New Members welcome!!

SUPERIOR SCANDINAVIAN LOCAL

meets at 8 o'clock Second and Fourth Thursday evening of each month. TERMINAL HALL Corner Winter and Ogden

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Bacon	25c
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Three Eggs	25c
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The Way To Disarm

The way to disarm is to disarm. This is our reply to those of our readers who have asked us for a program and a platform for the coming Conference. It is, moreover, absolutely practical and, since the last war, no longer open to the charge of visionary sentimentality. The Nation long ago declared that the world must get rid of war or war will get rid of the world. A true description of this Conference would be that it meets not for the limitation of armament but in its essence to prevent the human race from committing suicide. For to this pass have we now come; the world is in ruins as a result of this last struggle; it is economically wrecked. In Central Europe it is by no means certain that civilization will survive; that five to six millions of human beings may yet die from starvation in Europe is the belief of hard-headed men who have lately surveyed the situation. Yet all of this was the result of a struggle which only began to draw in whole populations, had only begun to use the discoveries in the field of poison gas, chemical and aerial warfare which in the next struggle will blot out whole armies and cities. To commit suicide or not to commit suicide, that is the question before the Conference.

So our program goes far, far beyond a naval holiday, or limitation of armaments, or the forbidding of conscription, or the outlawing of submarine and poison gas, or making wars dependent upon referendums. We are for muzzling out the navies to the last ship and disarming to the last man. These are our fourteen points of disarmament—all in one. If international disarmament does not

come out of the Washington Conference we are for once in accord with William J. Bryan in demanding that the United States go ahead and disarm by itself. This country is powerful beyond any in its material resources; it is entirely self-contained and self-supporting; it cannot be starved out for subsided by any now existing Power. Its authority in the world is of the greatest. Let it but disarm and in time all the world must follow. The moral forces of every other country would compel their people to follow in our footsteps even if the disastrous state of their public finances and the increasing burden upon their productive power did not drive them to such a step.

That preparedness means war and not peace is now the admission in England of so brilliant a military writer as General Maurice and in the United States virtually of President Hibben of Princeton and of Raymond Robins. It is only four years since these two Americans succumbed to the preparedness mania; they bore their share in the turning of the United States into an armed camp. Today they apparently have seen a new light. How can any reasoning man do else if he considers the outcome of the Great War itself? That that was a dead failure so far as its avowed objects were concerned every candid man must now admit. True, militarism was defeated in Berlin as it was in France in 1871 and 1870. But that it was stirred into new life in the countries of the Entente, and that it stalks in full regalia in one small nation after the other is beyond the need of proof. For the rest, the resort to arms has merely filled the world with such economic distress, bitterness,

and hatred as to appeal the most optimistic observers. It is still true that the way to cure war is no more by means of more war than the way to cure the drink habit is by increasing the amount of drink. President Hibben and Mr. Robins are now right; preparedness leads straight to more war. No single thing save one could so insure peace between the United States and Japan as the hauling up on land of the fleets of the two countries.

Save one thing. And that is a new way of life for the great nations of the earth. We admit freely that complete disarmament will not wholly insure peace as long as nations seek to impose their wills and wishes upon others as has Japan in Korea, Shantung, and Siberia, and the United States in Haiti, Santo Domingo, and Nicaragua. As long as two such nations violate the common decencies of international life, as long as a professedly Christian nation like ours will slay and torture a defenseless people who in no wise ever offended against us there can be no certainty that nations will be beyond attack from others as imperialistic as Japan or England or ourselves. What is needed is a complete moral revolution against the whole miserable policy of dominating others by force and particularly a moral revolution against the new prostitution of science to the business of murder by wholesale. The science that should be the very means to a better and richer life, a safer and happier one for the multitudes that toil—this is now to be the handmaid of war, capable of tearing down in a month the labor of centuries, for, we repeat, the will to war today is the will to suicide. For

TRUTH

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J. O. BENTALL, Editor.

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Subscription: 1 year \$2.00. — 6 months \$1.00.



ARE THE BOLSHEVIKS PRACTICAL

Have the Bolsheviks good sense? Have they any sense at all?

The opponents of the Soviet Government say no. One of the instances P. P. Cosgrove gave might settle at least part of the question. Cosgrove saw with his own eyes some of the doings of the Bolsheviks. He saw this:

There is a large peat field about 80 miles from Moscow. Peat can be made into good fuel. The Bolsheviks have put in machinery to convert this peat into ready fuel. They have done this since they got rid of the czar. They are now putting up huge quantities every day of ready fuel from this peat field which has a peat bed about 16 feet deep. The supply is almost inexhaustible.

Moscow is a large city. It has driven out a great number of people to help the peasants raise food. But it still has almost a million people. These people need heat and light. They must cook food and light the dwellings and theatres and churches and stores.

There are also many factories in Moscow. These need power to run the machinery.

Now it would be possible to haul coal hundreds of miles to fire the boilers right in Moscow. Or the peat might be hauled 80 miles and put to use in the city.

But the Bolsheviks find that such procedure would entail a lot of useless labor.

So the Bolsheviks simply built a power plant right at the peat field where they create electricity. Then they run wires to Moscow and light the houses and all the city and furnish power for the factories and heat for cooking and home comfort. They have done away with the power plants in Moscow and have placed them where the fuel is.

Now no one will dispute the saving in labor by having the power plants where the fuel is. It is simply good common sense. The Bolsheviks have it. They are using it.

In other parts of Russia there are coal beds. The Bolsheviks put power plants there also and create electricity. They send this electricity wherever it is needed.

In other parts there are water falls. They hitch them up to the generators and send electricity from the power plants at the waterfalls. They light the houses of the peasants and the people living in the small villages. This is an economic way. Peasants who could never dream of getting electric light into their homes have it now. That is one of the reasons why the peasants like the Communist government.

And the people of Russia have no gas or electric light bills to pay. There are no meter readers and no collectors. Light and heat come free to the people, for the people produce their things themselves and can not see any sense in charging themselves for what they produce.

This is very simple. The workers all over the world are able to see thru it. Therefore this system is so dangerous to capitalism.

We shall tell you more about what the Bolsheviks are doing from time to time. Cosgrove gave us several points and they are worth passing on.

BOOZE AT ARMS CONFERENCE

When our preachers pray for the success of the arms conference they have to remember that they are including successful drinking and boozing as well as successful hypocrisy.

The diplomats of the fine countries of England and France who had heard that most of the moonshine was being copped by our respectable bootleggers made sure that they would not have to go hunting in some bishop's cellar in their hurry to fill up on the stuff that inebriates and so they took with them earloads of wines and whiskeys to our capital where they are to settle the questions of civilization.

What do our prohibition laws amount to before the rushing hordes of foreigners who storm our great city of Washington with their booze? Do those invaders respect our laws? Do they care for our rights?

They are the guests of our highly Christianized and hypocritized government. This government does not see fit to enforce its laws when the drunken sons of the ruling class of other countries come along to pollute our shores. They are hailed as great dignitaries when they get dead drunk and roll around like swine in the uncleanness of their vomit.

But when a workman arrives and talks to the laborer about a higher and better and cleaner life this fellow is howled down as a "foreigner" who has no business in our splendid country. Jim Larkin had not so much as a bottle of beer with him when he came and still he was thrown into jail and is there yet just because he told the workers how to get more of the product of their labor.

When the workingclass delegates of all lands gathered at Moscow for the Third Congress of the Third International there was no booze shipped in to accommodate the delegates who wanted to make hogs of themselves if such a one should have come — tho no one of that kind is reported to have showed up. The law of Russia says there shall be no booze and that holds good for all the people who live in Russia and for all who come inside her borders. Even the great multi-millionaire Vanderbilt could not get so much as a pint bottle of brandy for his sick stomach, tho all Russia was searched.

What would the world have thought of the workers in their international congress if they had been drunk and wallowed in their filth as the diplomats do in Washington today? What would you not have read in the papers about the drunken Bolsheviks? What a scandal it would have created!

We are glad that our comrades have decided to have nothing to do with the poison that destroys body and mind. It is a capitalist dope that the capitalists themselves should be allowed to have for themselves. But the intelligent workers will keep sober and thru that clean and vigorous brain the workers will evolve plans to conquer the earth.

Looking at the situation in Washington once more we do not see how they could get along without a nice prayer at the opening of the arms confab. Prayers are very necessary in ruling class circles where there is booze and hypocrisy.

The international congress was opened without both booze and prayer. Neither was necessary.

SCRAPPING THE BATTLESHIPS

Probably the most ingenious stroke of capitalist diplomacy on the part of the United States was made by Secretary Hughes as he opened the arms conference.

The thing that has astonished the world and some of the college presidents is the suggestion that our battleships be scrapped as junk and sunk in the bottomless sea where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Of course all gullible boobys will be fooled by this wonderful suggestion. It seems so earnest and also very sincere.

Who is going to question the motives of the arms conference when the chairman tells you that it is necessary to scrap the battleships in order to reduce armaments?

Looks pretty good, doesn't it?

We might write a dozen columns on this bit of suggestion and show you what is behind it. We would have to do so if we were writing for the benefit of the ordinary boob who has never read TRUTH before. But to the regular readers it is necessary to say only two or three things.

First, there is no money in the battleships that are already built. That is pretty clear.

Second, public sentiment seems to be rather opposed to building more battleships until those we have are done away with. Guess we agree on that.

Third, there is a lot of money in building new battleships.

Well, now we have almost spoilt your curiosity. The thing is as evident as the backbone of a society belle.

As soon as it is decided to sink the present battleships and as soon as they have been sunk, the newspapers will come along and tell you that Japan has broken her agreement to disarm as the other fellows expected her to do. She is already groomed for such a coup. The papers are getting her ready to do just such a thing. In fact she may not come across with much of an agreement except to agree to do the dirty work of the allies and spring the trap when the time comes.

You will remember that already Japan is supposed to be a formidable foe of world peace. She is one of the danger points in civilization as it were. The papers tell us so. She has taken the place of the kaiser.

That will make a fine excuse for a new fleet that will cost several billion dollars. Several of these billions will be lodged safely in the pockets of the diplomats and the other profiteers.

Sure, scrap the battleships. They cost only about \$40,000,000 a piece. The new ones will cost \$200,000,000 each with smokestacks and all.

You bet.

The hypocrites are playing a lusty game and they will get away with it if they can. They can if the workers keep on snoring as they are doing now.

OUR POSTMASTER

It happened that Duluth has had the good fortune of having a competent postmaster for several years.

A young man in the ranks worked his way up by sheer efficiency till he won recognition for his competency and was appointed postmaster during the Wilson administration.

Thomas Considine is his name, and he has what is known as an innate sense of justice, which often gets him into trouble.

It seems that the politicians could not use him the way they pleased. This peeved them. For what is a postmaster for if he is not willing to be the tool of petty politicians? Originally a postmaster was supposed to serve the public, but that has become a dead supposition. The trouble, therefore, with Considine was that he had forgotten to change from the original way of postmasters and stuck to the job of making the post-office of Duluth a beehive of efficiency.

So the politicians got their wise heads together and filed charges against him. It seems that the charges included gross negligence and lack of ability to swim to shore if dumped in the middle of the Sea of China, or something like that. The gross negligence charge was about to stick when all at once it developed that this negligence was in regard to poker games and politics. Considine confessed that he had neglected both, being quite busy with the service in the postoffice.

We are now gratified to learn that the charges have been dropped by the politicians both at home and at Washington and Considine stays with us. For once the people got what they wanted and our mail comes regularly as before.

Considine is a good postmaster and we want to let him know that we appreciate him.

REV. ELDERKIN

There were several speakers at the armistice meeting at the Armory last Friday. They all gloried in the war that was to bring peace and democracy. They all that that "we won the war." They all that that it was necessary to have it to save our country.

They also agreed that the next war would be a bad thing. They were afraid of it. They thought it might involve gas and airplane raids that would be hard to hide from. It might hit the stay-at-homes and that scared them.

As a whole their speeches were fairly good. They would have been very good if one could have forgotten the holler that these same speakers made for the war while the lords wanted war. Not one of them had lifted his voice against this outrageous conspiracy against humanity. Now they come along and prate as if they were sincere lovers of peace.

Of course they may be, but they have not given proof of it in the past. They did not impress us for that very reason. We could not see that they would prove more true to the principles of peace than they did four years ago, unless they are scared of gas and bombs.

The Rev. Elderkin made a good speech — the first part of it. He came out boldly and declared that this war which promised to end all war has not made good. He showed that there are more wars right now than ever before. He deplored the preparations now going on and expressed hope that the arms conference might put a damper on these preparations. He showed all the horrors and dangers of war. He showed that civilization would perish if this war business is to continue.

All that was good and true. Dr. Elderkin was much in earnest. No one would doubt his sincerity.

So it was a great disappointment when he came to deal with causes and remedies. His cause for war was found in distrust and pride. Nations went to war and kept on preparing for war because they do not trust each other. They also felt their oats and did not want anyone to snub them and get ahead of them. This caused war. The remedy was easy to guess, and Rev. Elderkin guessed it for us. Just trust your fellows. Just have less dread that the other nation might get

ahead of you. That would end all war and would cut the preparations for war to a minimum.

It seemed such a pity that a man so fine in sentiment and so eager to have the curse of war eliminated should be so shallow in his analysis of the actual elements that make for war. Only the slightest hint did he make that capitalism was at the root of war. No sign did he show that he had any idea what capitalism is. That was the pity of it. He harped on the old string of trying to be good. He could not see that the system is wrong and that only the removal of the system would result in the elimination of the products of the system.

Let us help you, Dr. Elderkin. Let us show you that as long as there are classes in society that have different interests there will be a struggle.

As long as there is a working class and an exploiting class there will be fights. As long as the exploiting class in one country can gain over the exploiting class in another country there will be war between the exploiting nations.

This has nothing to do with trust. Between rulers of the nations there is much trust. Roosevelt visited with the kaiser and the Prince of Wales has hobnobbed with the aristocracy of many countries. Kato of Japan is shaking hands with Harding and Briand grabs the fist of Lloyd George, Foch and Pershing ride in the same limousine and dine in the same palaces.

It is when the house of Morgan clashes with the house of Stinnes that we have war. It was always thus. Trust is not reckoned with.

Do away with classes. Make everyone work for his living. Let no one live on the back of another. Use the machinery of production and the resources for the good of the people and not for the profit of the few and you will have solved the problem of war and all other problems.

We have friendly feelings for Dr. Elderkin, but we must not hide his shortcomings in teaching the people. He has a great responsibility. All ministers have. But there are very few we would spend time and advice on. We have hopes for Dr. Elderkin and do not want to be disappointed.

ALREADY IN SECRET SESSIONS

The press promised us in such bold headlines that the arms conference would be open and that the people could go right in and listen to the diplomats when they fought and chewed the rag about which nation should be allowed to have the best killing machinery.

But already the boys are pulling the curtain and hiking into the dark. Their deeds are dark and so they have to have darkness to work in.

So now this country and the world has to sit around and wait for a few months or a year till the fellows who decide the destinies of the race are ready to report their conclusions.

These conclusions will be like those of the peace confab in Paris. The world expected so much — was promised so much — but got so little.

Not so little — it got much. But that much was not peace, but war. It got just the opposite to what it expected and what it was promised.

This time we should not be fooled. At least we should not be fooled as easily as before.

Only when the workers have abolished this whole system can we look for honesty and progress. Don't fool away your time trying to patch up this old garment. Your patch will only tear a bigger hole.

Workers of the world, unite. Abolish this system of classes and put the people of the earth in charge of the earth. Then they will need no killing instruments and will not take a year to decide that it is a bad thing to commit murder.

LIVING STANDARD HIGHER

We jumped right into the ceiling this morning when we read in a big headline that the standard of living had gone up. We had been so weary of always seeing the dull and uninteresting information that the "cost" of living was frolicking among the stars that this new spelling of the situation thrilled us.

Of course we could not resist reading very carefully the details.

In the first place we located the name of the great discoverer of this most interesting phenomenon. It was "the trade board."

In the second place the spokesman, Magnus W. Alexander during a spell of honesty says that "Americans are generally optimistic," but also that "absolute proof on such a vague question as that of the standard of living is not obtainable."

In the third place it was not about the standard of living of this present year of our lord that the board was talking. It was of the year 1918. It compared the standard of living of the year 1918 with the standard of living of 1901.

In the fourth place it would not deceive the public by saying that the standard of living was as high in 1918 as in 1901, but that the workers paid as much money for their living in 1918 as in 1901.

But this comes at the end of the great article that is headed with the wonderfully inspiring flash that makes the reader feel that the matter dealt with is something of the present year 1921.

Shucks! We should be next to the deception of headlines by this time. It's our own fault.

FARRINGTON AND LEWIS

Like most of the labor organizations in this country the united mine workers are the victims of a leadership that is entirely uncertain.

Just at present, there is a fight between the president of the Illinois Organization and the national. Frank Farrington of the Illinois miners and J. L. Lewis, international president are in a hair pulling contest and each is protesting that he is the true leader.

The miners have been very unfortunate in their leaders for many long years. The only white man they had was former President White, but he was incompetent and lacked backbone.

Lewis is a politician of the first order and will sell his organization as cheaply as any man that has preceded him. There is nothing to hide about Lewis. He will take his place soon with a former Lewis who is now in the employ of the capitalists fighting the union he once was president of.

John Mitchell lined his pockets so well that he could leave a will running into several hundred thousand dollars as a result of being a conservative president of the united mine workers.

We hate to think of Frank Hayes and Jim Lord and John Walker who all had a fine chance to stand up in the splendid position the miners organization had given them, but not one of them has made good.

Now Farrington is trying to blow dust into the eyes of the union by fighting Lewis. Let no one be deceived. Farrington is looking for the job Lewis now has. He

will be no better and no more true to the workers when he gets there.

It is important that the workers understand that the only labor leader that can be trusted is the one who understands the class struggle and is clear on the tactics that must be adopted. He must also be willing to sacrifice all he has to the cause and not be seeking the handouts from the bosses. Only the intelligent and sincere revolutionist can serve the workers in the capacity of leader.

It is a pity that the present leaders are able to blind the rank and file with cheap politics in their unions and excuse themselves with the threadworn argument that they cannot go faster than the rank and file. As a matter of fact the rank and file are now far ahead of the leaders. The thing to do is to remove the reactionary leaders and get revolutionists in their places who understand that at best the unions can only hope to get a little better conditions and a little bigger loaf, but never full justice, till this capitalist system has been done away with and communism established.

TWO NEW DIMES

We are reliably informed by the evening paper that one evening in New York on a ferry a little girl was singing a song that so pleased John D. Rockefeller that he gave her two brand-new dimes.

This generous gift by this big hearted mas has been the cause of printing his name in ten thousand papers in this country and the cables have been busy letting the other side of the world know that we have a man who has a soul both to appreciate music and have compassion on the poor.

The dispatches do not say that Rockefeller had a number of old dimes. He probably had. But a big man is always careful to give only the best. From among the other dimes he carefully chose two new ones. He gave those two new dimes to the poor girl as she finished her little song and as tears welled in her eyes when she thought of the brother and her sick mother at home who would be so happy when she told them that she had added to her meagre income by the wonderful tenderness of the billionaire humanitarian.

Two dimes — two new dimes — for a child's song that reached the hearts of the throng on the ferry.

And we can hear the little girl hush her "Thank you, Mr. Rockefeller — thank you."

And we can see Mr. Rockefeller become a bit more cheery as he realizes that he has added so much to the happiness of a poor child. And when he realizes that ten thousand million people of all tongues and nations bowed in solemn admiration he could certainly not regret his action and wish he had given her two old dimes instead. No, Rockefeller gave freely of the best he had and feels even now that he has received fair returns for his munificence.

He gave a little girl two dimes — two new dimes.

THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is on us. We have several things to be thankful for.

The comrades have been getting quite a number of new subs for TRUTH. Isn't that something to be thankful for? And they are going to get more and that is more to be thankful for.

Then we have the great satisfaction of hearing every day that the rebels are getting more and more numerous. There were a million in this country last year. There must be five million this year.

Last thanksgiving we had several years to go till the revolution. Now we have one year less. That is a good subject to pour out our heart in thanks over.

Then too there are less kings in the world now and they are getting fewer right along. Thanks!

Less people believe in spooks now than a year ago. More believe in Bolshevism. Any turkey should be willing to give his head for such progress.

So come along and push the great labor movement and help get rid of the oppression that is destroying the world. We can then have a great feast and thank ourselves for having a bit of good sense.

PAY FOR GETTING JOBS

If you are out of a job all you have to do is to go to the Salvation Army and ask to be put on the payroll.

The Salvation Army has a job for you and that job consists in getting out to find a job. The Army pays you the princely sum of \$1.50 a day and it is very courteous about the matter too. For it gives you all sorts of "leads" so you may find a job as soon as possible.

We do not know whether the Army is innocent or not. It may be simply stupid. For you know well enough that when you ask for a job the employer wants to know where you worked last. That is easy to tell — for the Salvation Army.

Good and well.

How much were you getting in wages where you worked last? You clear your throat and admit that it was the princely sum of \$1.50 per day.

It is not the order of these times to raise wages. The order is to cut them. So the new employer cuts off a quarter a day and phones to the Army that he has hired so and so and the pay stops on the Army roll.

So you see the Army is helping the profiteers to get victims at slave wages — lower than they would have to pay in the open market.

For you must remember that the Army always makes the victim believe that this is God's own plan and that if the victim has faith the Lord will help him to get an increase pretty soon.

The way the capitalists are using religion would make Joseph Smith turn in his grave and blush before his wives.

COMMUNISM AND CHRISTIANISM

This is a Lucid, Penetrating and, at times, startling boog. I think it is one of the most important books of a socialist nature issued in a number of years. It is full of marvelously good material and will open many eyes. The book deserves to get a million circulation. — The Appeal to Reason.

Your book came as a revelation from on high, it held up my hands, it gave me more backbone, it was more than manna to me, I fed upon it, I devoured it gluttonously, I told others it was the bread of life, to come and eat of it, and it would make them whole. You have been to me a rock in a weary land — the water of life has gushed from that rock for me — you are my Bishop. — William George Henry.

I have in my time read many books on Socialism and Freethought but none so forcible and clear and to the point as "Communism and Christianity." It is in my mind the equal to the Age of Reason and more modern. — J. H. Snyder.

25 cents a copy. 6 copies \$1.00. Order from TRUTH, Duluth, Minn.