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International Press Correspondence

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1922.

Member The Federated Press

FIVE CENTS

Miners Will Win Without Violence If Government Will Keep Hands Off

The show down between the miners and the coal operators will come before long. The reserve stock of coal will only carry the industries and utilities through a period of a few months.

When the owners of the industries and utilities begin to clamor for coal then the government will act.

If the fight were simply between the 75,000 mine operators and the 600,000 men who walked out, the finish of the operators would be easy. The miners could have them on their knees in short order.

It is only because the government will back the operators that the fight will be hard. Government agents are watching every act and government troops are being moved to the territories affected by the strike. These troops will not be brot into action upon the operators even tho they have openly violated contracts.

The government will eventually help cow the miners.

That is what will happen unless the railroad workers become courageous. If the railroad workers who promised the miners moral support would let that grow into backbone enough to tie up transportation for a short time, the miners would win. They would win more than immediate better living conditions. They would win a confidence in their strength and intelligence that would help them eventually to finish the job and to run their own affairs freed from exploiters.

The workers must learn to fight together as the owning class does or be reduced to slavery. United forces or annihilation. That is the choice.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—A congressional effort at settlement of the coal strike, particularly as it involves the bituminous fields, was begun today when Chairman Nolan of the house labor committee was authorized to telegraph invitations to a number of representative operators and officers of operators' associations in the central competitive coal field to attend a meeting with the miners' union leaders in Washington, April 10, and attempt to reach an agreement.

At the same time, Senator Borah, Republican, Idaho, took occasion to say in the senate that "drastic public action" might be demanded and to charge the operators with contract-breaking in precipitating the strike.

Daugherty Statement.

A possible divergence between the views of members of congress and those of the administration, however, was seen when Attorney General Daugherty issued a statement reiterating that the "government is not undertaking to do anything in the present situation of the coal matter" declaring that "men have a right to quit work and men have a right to employ other men," that the public was not menaced with coal shortage and that it was the duty of local authorities to maintain order.

The government would not look with favor upon coal price increases, Mr. Daugherty said, adding that he "saw no reason at this time to believe that disorder need be feared" but asserting that the government "will perform whatever may be its duty in the premises," if local and state agencies cannot maintain peace.

Parley Follows Hearing.

The house committee action came after its members had spent two days listening to discussion of the strike from the miners' viewpoint by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers. Mr. Lewis assured the committee he would advise his assistants to negotiate with any "representative group" of operators from the central field, which includes Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and western Pennsylvania, even though not all the operators could be induced to deal again with the union. The union, he insisted, would not and could not settle the dispute in other states until this basis had been established for a national wage level.

The committee decided to appeal direct to the representatives of operators' groups in the states named and Mr. Lewis tonight declared it "had put forward a proposition worth considering."

Refusal Still Holds.

CHICAGO.—Coal operators in the central competitive field refused to meet as a body with the miners to negotiate wages before the miners' strike began and there "apparently is no reason to believe that they have changed their minds," said Dr. F. C. Honnoid,



The Russian Famine Area.

This map shows plainly to what extent military invasions financed by the allied powers were responsible for the famine. Only the territory inside the heavy dotted line was free from invasion. Invasions caused confiscation and destruction of crops as well as interference with the agricultural economy. Help the famine stricken by sending your contribution to The Friends of Soviet Russia, 201 West 13th Street, New York City.

Faced By Wage Cut Protest By Walkout

LAWRENCE, Mass. — The textile mill strike which went into effect here against a 20 percent wage cut has practically tied up the seven cotton mills. More than 10,000 workers now are on strike, while at the Arlington mills, which have locked out their workers, about 5,000 are idle.

Reports received here from Providence, R. I., show that the number of textile mills closed by the strike in that state reached 22 with the shutdown of the Andrews mill at North Smithfield following a walkout of its employes in protest against a 10 percent wage cut. That plant, a branch of the Andrew Mill Co., Inc., of Philadelphia, is the first wool and worsted mill in Rhode Island to be affected by the strike.

secretary of the Illinois Coal Operators' association when informed late today that Chairman Nolan of the labor committee at Washington had sent telegrams asking the operators if they were willing to meet with the miners.

"In Illinois we are willing to negotiate a separate agreement with the Illinois miners, but so far as group meetings are concerned, it will have to be all or none—in other words the negotiation would have to be for all operators in the country or for none," he said.

Ford Hires 3000 More But Cuts Pay Of 50,000

DETROIT.—Henry Ford has announced that a five-day working week of 40 hours went into effect March 27 in the Highland Park plant of the Ford Motor Co., the schedule to be extended rapidly to the D. T. & I. railroad, the River Rouge plant and blast furnaces, and all other Ford units. The reason which Ford gave for the new schedule was that "Every man needs more than one day a week for rest and recreation. We believe that he should have more time for his family, his home, his garden, and his reading."

The wage of \$6 a day however, will not be increased to offset the loss of one day's work a week, according to the announcement. The new schedule will give work to about 3,000 additional men and will affect a total of 50,000 workers.

"Market demands now are such that we feel a six-day operation is warranted, but we nevertheless hold to the opinion that the five-day week is practical, and we have adopted the policy as a permanent one," the announcement said.

ENGINEERS AID WEST VIRGINIA MINERS

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers has sent out an appeal to the local divisions of the organization asking for contributions to the Miners' Relief Committee, that is making every effort to save 18,000 West Virginia workers from starvation.

LARKIN'S RELEASE IS HELD UP

Governor Miller, of New York, has refused to liberate Jim Larkin, declaring such action is premature pending an appeal to a higher court.

Alexander I. Rorke, the Assistant District Attorney who prosecuted Larkin, declares, in a letter to the governor, that:

"It may well be that, even considering the crime he committed and for which he has been convicted, he has served a sufficient time in prison to accomplish the purpose of his imprisonment. If this be the case, I see no serious objection to commuting his sentence and to granting liberty to him and likewise to all the other defendants."

"I have been informed that the leaders of the general strike in Winnipeg, Canada, which took place in 1918, resulting in riots, destruction of property and bloodshed, were given their liberty by the Canadian authorities after a year's imprisonment.

"The Left Wing Manifesto cited the Winnipeg general strike as the proper method to be pursued by the proletariat of the United States to overthrow our government. The action of the Canadian government may possibly be a precedent."

There was, of course, no "riots," destruction of property and bloodshed" in the general strike that put Winnipeg into hands of its workers, just as Seattle, for a time, was taken over by its working class.

But numerous strike officials were arrested, placed on trial, convicted and sent to prison. Canadian labor, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, (Continued on page 3)

Wife Sent Husband To Steal Food To Eat

Mrs. Paul Hartung confessed tonight that she started her husband on a career of stealing during which he robbed 350 homes.

Mrs. Hartung, age 24, held her two-year-old baby close to her as she sobbed her story.

"My husband was out of work," she said. "We spent all our savings and were hungry. We appealed to relatives but got no aid.

"Finally I become desperate lest the baby would starve.

"We put the baby in the carriage and started down the street. I stood outside of homes while Paul entered and robbed them of food."

Police were puzzled over Hartung's burglaries. Valuables were overlooked, while he took food and little household trinkets.

Desire For Votes Won Kate O'Hare Spoke

The desire for votes in the coming elections won out in Madison, Wisconsin, when Governor J. J. Blaine decided to allow Mrs. Kate Richard O'Hare, who was imprisoned fourteen months during the war as a political prisoner to speak in the assembly chamber of the capitol despite the protest of the American Legion.

Mrs. O'Hare was brought to Madison by the Social Science club of the university, which arranged for the assembly room at the capitol without attempting to secure university hall in view of the attitude of the university authorities toward liberal speakers.

APRIL 15 TAG DAY FOR RUSSIAN RELIEF

The "Friends of Soviet Russia" has been granted permission from the city officials to hold a tag day in order to secure money to send to the starving Russians. It is most important work. Every one should do his utmost by giving and by helping to carry on the drive.

Mike O'Rourke is the local treasurer who is responsible for seeing that the money goes to the Russians. At least fifty women are needed to help with the tagging. The city will be distracted. Do not wait to be asked. Show that you understand the need. Leave your name at the headquarters of "Friends of Soviet Russia" 8, N. 5th Ave. West or telephone to Mike O'Rourke Hemlock 1073 that you are willing to help. This is the time to get the money from those who do not ordinarily give. Help to get it! Show what the supporters of TRUTH can do.

Italian Workers Score Sacco-Vanzetti Verdict

Ten thousand working men in Rome protested the pending execution of Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, New England labor men, who were convicted on a capital charge on circumstantial evidence, at an open air meeting in the shadow of the Coliseum, according to a letter from an American sojourning in the Italian capitol.

The writer, Harry Kelly, points out that such travesties on justice as the Mooney case and the Sacco-Vanzetti conviction "help to stimulate hatred of Americans in Europe and are a powerful weapon in creating a world-wide revolutionary movement among the working class."

BRITISH LABOR WANTS GENERAL AMESTY IN U. S.

British workers have begun to voice their indignation against the continued imprisonment in America of men sentenced for war-time opinions. They are asking "why?" The Class War Release Committee in London says: British labor is asking "why?" in letters to the General Council of Trade Unions; the British Labor Party; the British Foreign Office; the American ambassador; and to President Harding.

"Agitation for the American political is gathering momentum in all the big industrial centers here—Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Southampton, Sheffield, Leeds, Hull, Cardiff, Glasgow, Edinburgh.

"Twelve of the 113 war-time prisoners in America are British-born—Richard Brazier was a metal-worker in Birmingham; Joe Oates was a miner at Cleator Moor; Ted Frazer hails from Manchester; Sam Scarlett was a member of the old Amalgamated Society of Engineers in Glasgow. Others of English origin are Charles Lambert, Bert Lorton, J. A. Macdonald, Don Shreidan, Frederick Esmond, Harry Lloyd, Herbert Mahler and William Moran.

Thousands of leaflets summing up the plight of the political in the United States are being circulated by the Class War Prisoners Release Committee in London.

"Brutal prosecution still continues in America against workers active in defending the interests of their class," declares the committee in these leaflets. "American capitalism is the most powerful, brutal, unscrupulous and cunning in the world. The organization of the working class, belief in and teaching of the solidarity of labor is hateful and in opposition to the interests of capitalism, and is ruthlessly condemned. No stone is left unturned to railroad advocates of such doctrines to the penitentiary.

"We have had some experience in this country of individuals being prosecuted by the authorities for expressing ideas that the dominant class consider harmful to their interests. The most recent

case is that of Albert Inkpin, secretary of the British Communist Party, who was sent to prison for six months. But persecution here has been nothing to what our American brothers have suffered.

"It is hard for the British worker who is used to some pretense of justice to understand conditions in the United States. There the class war is fought nakedly and ferociously; trustified capital uses all methods, legal and illegal, to prevent the workers from organizing and so gaining power.

"Union men have been murdered, cold blood, cruelly beaten, branded, tarred and feathered, kidnapped, driven insane by the fiendish punishment and torture perpetrated by the hired gunmen and thugs of Big Business.

"In 1917, soon after the United States entered the Great War, wholesale raids took place. Those suspected of not being 100 per cent in favor of the war or who were known to be opposed to the present system of exploitation were arrested. After a trial lasting 128 days in Chicago, 93 Industrial Workers of the World were found guilty by an openly biased capitalist jury of what simply amounted to class consciousness.

"The infamous laborbating Judge Landis sentenced these 93 men to a total of 807 years imprisonment and fines totalling \$2,2570,000.

"What was their crime? They were educating and organizing the workers of the industrial field, were fighting for a better standard of living, were loyal and useful in their efforts on the part of the working class. But this was not simply a prosecution of men accused of opposing the war, preventing enlistment and organizing strikes for better conditions. Ideals and ideas were on trial, as the prosecution conclusively showed throughout the whole proceedings.

"It is up to you, workers of Britain, to protest against this persecution of your brothers. The cause for which these men lie in America's bastilles is your cause."

CHICAGO CHURCHES PETITION PRES. HARDING FOR AMNESTY

(By The Federated Press.)

CHICAGO. — Six hundred and fifty Chicago churches which have 300,000 communicants have gone on record in favor of releasing all men held in federal penitentiaries for expressing opinions against the war. These churches, which comprise 16 denominations, are petitioning President Harding to free the political without further delay.

Official action to this effect was taken at a meeting of the Chicago Church federation. Previously a resolution urging Harding to grant general amnesty was proposed before the federation, but was objected to by delegates who insisted that a statement from the government be first obtained showing the precise status of all the prisoners in question.

Accordingly, the Rev. M. P. Boynton, chairman of the federation's political action commission, addressed on inquiry to Attorney General Daugherty. In reply came a letter over Daugherty's signature accusing the I. W. W. of destroying \$50,000,000 worth of property in California, and implying in an ingeniously worded paragraph that the I. W. W. members all took an oath that they would "hold in supreme contempt all the institutions of capitalism, ecclesiastical and secular, including its laws, its

courts, its religions, and its flags."

Daugherty's letter was turned over to the Federal Council of Churches for investigation, and after an exhaustive research the federal council issued a long statement showing the falsity of both charges. It revealed that the appeals courts, in their finding on the two principal I. W. W. convictions, had ruled that no cases had been made by the prosecuting authorities on the industrial counts, which included the alleged property destruction.

This report of the federal church council was read at the Chicago Church federation's meeting by the Rev. W. R. Wedderspoon, chairman of the federation's commission on world friendship, and the amnesty resolution was again offered. It passed unanimously.

Denominations represented in this protest are these: Baptist Churches, North; Church of the Brethren; Congregational Churches; Disciples of Christ; Evangelical Association; Evangelical Lutheran Church; Friends; Methodist Protestant Church; Methodist Episcopal Church; Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.; Reformed Church in America; Reformed Episcopal Church; United Brethren Church; United Evangelical Church; United Presbyterian Church.

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MINERS' WAGES CONTRASTED WITH THE OWNERS' PROFITS

The coal Mine Owners are flooding the country with misleading propaganda concerning the earnings of the miners and the profits of the coal companies. Congressman Bland, of Indiana, an extremely conservative member of the House, inserted in the Record on March 17 a statement of the average wage of coal miners in the United States.

"This statement," said Mr. Bland, "is as accurate as it is possible to compute it."

According to Mr. Bland's statement, the miners in the Pittsburgh district worked an average of 123 days in 1921, and their average annual earnings were \$762. In Ohio the men worked 119 days on an average, and their average earnings averaged \$550 a year. In West Virginia they averaged only 80 days during the year, and their average earnings were \$500. In Tennessee one-third of the miners worked one-third time and averaged \$105 per month per man for the time worked.

A few days before Congressman Newton, of Minnesota, another extremely conservative member of the House, presented figures showing the profits of the leading coal companies. Among the examples cited by him were the following:

The Leigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Co. reduced production from 1912 to 1920 about 30 per cent, but despite this decrease in production the company increased its surplus from 3½ millions to 27 millions, or nearly 900 per cent. In addition it paid dividends totaling 305 per cent.

The Leigh Valley Coal Co. also cut down its production between 1912 and 1920. Nevertheless it paid dividends of 190 per cent, reduced its bonded debt from 20 millions to 11½ millions, and increased the value of its property from 5½ millions to 12 millions.

The Philadelphia & Reading Coal Co. increased production from 1912 to 1920, 6 per cent. But it increased its surplus from 1½ millions in 1912 to 25½ millions in 1920, an increase of 1700 per cent. The company also increased the value of its property from 9½ millions to 33½ millions, or 360 per cent.

The Temple Coal Co. decreased production 33 1-3 per cent between 1912 and 1920, but increased the net income capital stock from 29.3 per cent in 1912 to 121 per cent in 1920.

RUSSIA WILL NOT DISCUSS MERITS OF SOVIET SYSTEM

By LOUIS P. LOCHNER
(European Director, The Federated Press)

BERLIN (by radio)—Russia will not tolerate any discussion as to the merits of the soviet system and soviet economic policies at the Genoa economic conference, Chicherin, Russian foreign minister, has announced in a telegram received here from Moscow.

The German delegation is absolutely mum on its plans for Genoa. Walter Rathenau, foreign minister in the Wirth cabinet, refuses to be interviewed. His friends insist that his rival, Hugo Stinnes, the Morgan-Rockefeller of Germany, shall not be a member of the German delegation to the conference.

Talk about Lenin's "mysterious illness" is hostile propaganda timed for effect on the Genoa conference, according to reliable reports received here. The fact is that Lenin is terrifically overworked but refuses to take a rest. He holds to his 16-hour daily grind. His friends hope to persuade him to take a rest.

Christian Rakowsky, the Ukrainian premier, on a visit here, says the reports about Lenin's "incurable disease" are nothing but the political speculation of elements which after the collapse of the various intervention schemes, now hope for the Russian leader's death. Two months will restore him, Rakowsky declares.

Chicherin's wire declared that Russia will insist on the recognition of her rights as a sovereign state at Genoa.

"Russia and the capitalist nations can gain from the Genoa arrangements because Russia needs technical means of production while other nations need her natural resources," he said. "Russia is willing to pay the profits which western capitalism will demand for its tools and transportation."

"Genoa is a mere incident. From the Genoa conference or later there must logically spring the political recognition of Russia, the abandonment of intervention schemes and the liquidation of the White Guards."

BRITAIN'S COAL GRAB IN EAST COST THOUSANDS OF LIVES

BY HENRY WOODHOUSE

Conclusive evidence of revolting conditions that have caused the death of hundreds of thousands through cholera and other highly contagious disease and are endangering the health of the world is revealed by a mass of secret British official documents, reports of secret investigations and private and official correspondence.

These documents describe conditions created by British maladministration, greed and repression in India, Mesopotamia, Syria, Palestine, Persia, Turkey, Asia Minor and elsewhere. They have just reached the United States as part of the data obtained in the investigation of Great Britain's schemes to obtain control of the world's oil resources.

The iron curtain of British censorship is thrust aside by these documents.

Bur'en Put on India.

The innermost secrets of British activities, the designs back of the activities and the origin of the horrible conditions that have caused the populations of those countries, exceeding five hundred millions, to turn hostile to British rule and influence stand revealed.

These documents total more than six hundred and exceed 500,000 words in content. They describe in detail the outstanding phases of British maladministration which caused the death of tens of thousands of British and Indian officers and troops during the past five years. The facts that follow summarize the documents.

Five hundred thousand Indian and 100,000 British officers and soldiers were drafted and sent to Near East places to fight specifically to grab the oil resources of Mesopotamia, Turkey, Persia and Palestine. India has had to bear for a number of years the huge burdens of Great Britain's extensive military "oil operation."

Appalling Death List.

There were 15,017 cholera deaths in India from October 2 to October 22, 1921; 4,411 from plague, October 23 to November 26, 1921; 1,446 from smallpox, October 16 to 22, 1921, and 1,011 from cholera November 27 to December 10, 1921.

Increasing hostilities in these countries have caused large increases, especially in the air forces and mobile troops. The highest number of British and Indian troops used in these "oil operations" was in 1918 when, according to the official figures, there were 104,400 British and 307,740 Indian officers and soldiers.

Due to what is officially described as a "medical debacle," maladministration, repression and other shortcomings on the part of the India administration, thousands of these British and Indian troops suffered and perished under horrible conditions.

A report by Maj. Carter, a British officer in charge of the hospital

at Basra, Mesopotamia, is typical. He describes conditions surrounding wounded and sick British and Indian troops sent to Mesopotamia essentially for the official stated purpose of protecting "the oil fields, pipe lines and refineries of the Anglo-Persian Company" and "the defense of oil interests in Arabistan and of the Basra Vilayet." I quote verbatim:

"There is but little chance for recovery for men with severe gunshot fractures, who lie on the bare decks of boats and barges for thirteen days, swept at night by a wind that dropped nearly to zero, without any protection against cold save their clothes and country blankets, which in the case of total cripples were sodden."

Many of the reports are too sickening and revolting to quote.

This officer described to a parliament committee the arrival of one of the British Tigris river convoys. The following excerpts will give an idea of the shocking conditions:

"I was standing on the bridge in the evening when the 'Medjidieh' arrived. As this ship, with two barges, came up to us I saw that she was absolutely packed, and the barges, too, with men. The stench was quite definite. . . we found a mass of men huddled up and

how—some with blankets and some without . . .

"One man had a fractured thigh, perforated in five or six places. He had apparently been writhing about the deck. Many cases were almost as bad. There were cases of terribly bad bed sores. In my report I described mercilessly to the government of India how I found men with their limbs splinted with wood strips from 'Johnny Walker' whisky boxes, 'Bhoosa' wire, and that sort of thing."

Repressive measures were taken by high British officials to prevent publication of these shocking facts. Officers who reported what they saw, with a hope of bringing about better conditions, were threatened with arrest.

Oil Grab Behind It All.

The British India administration has been repeatedly charged in reports to Parliament with being directly responsible for "all the troubles in Mesopotamia," which means all the troubles in the Near East, since Mesopotamia has been merely the military base for the British operation in the Near East.

The actual military orders and military plans from 1914 to 1922 show conclusively that the campaign in Mesopotamia was undertaken entirely to seize oil resources and maintain British control

over the Persian and Mesopotamian fields.

The evidence of present British oil operations under military and official auspices includes the building of a huge pipeline and drilling of over twenty wells and extensive oil operations in the territory designated for occupation in 1914-15, and subsequently occupied at such an awful cost in lives and suffering.

Here is one of the military orders summarized:

"On September 26, 1914, Sir Edmund Barrow, Military Secretary of the India office, recommended that an expedition be sent to Basra, one of the purposes being to 'protect the oil installation at Abadan.'"

Turned Turkey Into Foe.

On October 5, 1914, the British Secretary of State from London telegraphed to the Indian government stating that:

"The intention is to occupy Abadan, protect the oil tanks and pipe line and cover the landing of reinforcements."

The instruction sent to Gen. Delamain show that before Turkey entered into the war Gen. Delamain, commanding the Indian Expeditionary Force "D," was given permission to take hostile action against the Turks in case of "absolute military necessity," while the British forces were violating the sovereignty of both Turkey and Persia in occupying Abadan Island and Basra and Lower Mesopotamia to control navigation and commerce on the Tigris and Euphrates rivers for the stated purpose of "protecting the oil refineries, tanks and pipe lines."

This historic order proves that Great Britain took the initiative against Turkey and Persia and thus precipitated Turkey's entry in the World War on the German side.

Many of the facts contained in these documents have been submitted during the past month to Sir John Cadman, head of the British oil monopoly and director of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, who has been in New York since November.

As Sir John Cadman had insisted orally that there were no British oil operations in Mesopotamia, I submitted to him official British maps showing the location of oil operations and the above quoted military orders and reports of the activities of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company in Mesopotamia.

Sir John Cadman thereupon stated that the original objective of the Mesopotamia expedition was not the Mesopotamia oil fields, but the protection of British oil operations in Persia.

This reveals an evil with which the British government had not been charged heretofore. That Great Britain deliberately occupied Mesopotamia and other peaceful territories by force for the double purpose of violating the sovereignty of Persia and controlling Persian oil resources as well as those of Mesopotamia.

Chic. Herald and Exam.

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INLET OR OUTLET?

T BONE SLIM

"The Vent", is a paper published monthly in the interest of the Gilbert and Barker Manufacturing Company, Springfield, Mass. Its aim is to aid in the promotion and maintenance of a strong and healthy company spirit among the "employees"—slaves. Incidentally, the company coins "this" spirit into dollars and greenbacks—tobacco, if you please.—Here is one of their poems, written by Selected, who ever he is—(a woman wouldn't write it).

— MY JOB —

It isn't as big as the other chaps,
With the flaming sign,
It isn't as marked as yours, perhaps,
But it's mine.
Just my own little job to hold down tight,
Freeze to and stand to
With man's strength and might.
It doesn't go down to the golden way,
Sun-kissed and alight,
It isn't all laughter and cloudless days,
But it's mine all right;
My own little job that I have to do
Earnestly, faithfully, fearlessly too.

—Selected.

— THAT JOB —

That "my little job", is a toil-permit
Which a slave secures—
Else, why do you have to beg for it,
If it's yours?
Just "my own little job" to held down flat—
Freeze at and starve at?
There's something to that—
It doesn't go down to the "golden" way
(I'm "bumped" by a brat)
It doesn't bear much of the light of day
(And the boss grows fat)
"My own little job" (sob) excuse me, I blush;
I blush very easy on Selected's mush.
My own little job is to "kill" such slush!

P. S.—I don't believe Selected ever had a job—he seems to know more about B. S.

SLIM.

(Editor's note: "Bumped by a brat" means, to give up your job to a child.)

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THE UNION CONSUMER'S CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY,

1911 West Superior St.

Phone, Melrose 321

STATEMENT

of Ownership, Management, Etc. As
Required by the Act of Congress
of August 21, 1912.

Of "TRUTH", published weekly at
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State of Minnesota, County of St.
Louis, SS. Before me, a notary, in
and for the state and county aforesaid personally appeared the editor of the "TRUTH" and said that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief a true statement of the ownership management, etc. of the aforesaid publication, for the date shown in the above caption, required by the act of Congress of August 24, 1912 embodied in section 443, postal laws and regulations, the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are: Publisher: West End Labor Association, Hotel Rex, Duluth, Minn.; Editor and Managing editor, B. Van Hove, Rex Hotel, Duluth, Minn.; and Business manager Axel Johnson Rex Hotel, Duluth, Minnesota.

Signed B. Van Hove, Editor.
Sworn and subscribed before me this 29th day of March 1922.
Carl H. Salminen, Notary Public.
St. Louis County, Minn.
My commission expires Nov. 6, 1922

MAMA'S GROWING CITIZEN

Boy dressed all red-white-and-blue;
Dancing eyes look up at you.
Standing straight and with a smile,
With the others, single file.

Marching gay with soldier's air,
Boy now under mama's care;
Stepping to authority—
Ted, the biggest of the three.

Now begins his martial strain,
Under orders, so they train:
By the time that he is grown
Gods of war his body'll own.

Time may call him off to war,
Millions like him trained before,
Filled with glory of the fight—
Mama didn't start him right!

—Hal Brommels.

Financial Statement

FRIENDS OF SOVIET RUSSIA OF DULUTH, MINN.
From Sept. 23rd 1921 to March 23rd 1922.

RECEIPTS:—

Collections on lists	\$210.52	\$210.52
P. P. Cosgrove Meeting	132.88	
Hulet M. Wells Meeting	83.60	
George Hardy Meeting	37.06	
A. S. Broms Meeting	41.20	
Max Lerner Meeting	50.25	344.99
Total receipts	\$555.51	

DISBURSEMENTS:—

Advertising and Printing	\$ 31.56	
Hall Rent	45.00	
Office Work	10.40	
Office Supplies	19.82	
Express	1.16	
Remitted to National Office of F. S. R.	376.20	
Cash in Duluth National Bank	71.37	555.51
Total	\$555.51	

DULUTH BRANCH OF FRIENDS OF SOVIET RUSSIA.
(Signed) MARTIN G. LANDIN, Treasurer.

AUDITORS' STATEMENT.

We, the undersigned, have this day audited the accounts of the Friends of Soviet Russia of Duluth, Minn., from Sept. 23rd 1921 to March 23rd 1922, and note the following:

Gross Receipts	\$555.51
Miscellaneous Disbursements	107.94
Remitted to Headquarters of F. S. R.	376.20
Cash in Bank	71.37

We have verified all receipts to duplicate copies of receipts given to parties contributing and to Contribution lists. Also we have verified the Disbursements to receipts received from parties to whom payments have been made. We note them to be correct.

Duluth, Minn., March 23rd, 1922.

Auditors:

(Signed) LUDWIG ANDERSON, (Signed) AXEL JOHNSON.

INTEREST IN SACCO-VANZETTI QUICKENED BY E. G. FLYNN

NEW YORK, April 6.—Quickened interest in the fate of the two convicted labor organizers in Massachusetts, Nicola Sacco and Bartholomeo Vanzetti, marks the route of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, organizer of the Workers Defense Union, who has just returned from a ten weeks' tour of the Mid-West in behalf of the imperiled New England leaders.

Conversant with every phase of the case which has aroused an international protest, eloquent as usual, she spellbound a territory from New York to Minnesota in a chain of 43 enthusiastic meetings, six of them for general amnesty and 37 specifically for Sacco and Vanzetti. Even the kept press in many important centers took note of the gatherings and incidentally gave its readers a few stimulating quotations from the speaker's opinions.

"Credit for whatever good my trip has done," Miss Flynn said upon her return here, "is due in large measure to the many individuals and organizations whose co-operation made the meetings possible and successful. Despite the innumerable factional disputes, the plight of the two comrades in Massachusetts and of class war sufferers generally still touches a common chord in all the groups. I have had valuable assistance from so many that it is almost impossible to list them all.

"But I do want to express my appreciation, and I know I speak also for the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee, to the locals of the United Mine Workers in Illinois and Indiana, the Italian comrades of all parties everywhere, the General Defense Committee of the I. W. W., the Italian Defense Committee in Chicago, the Workers Party branches in many cities, the socialist officials in Milwaukee and elsewhere, Friends of Soviet Russia secretaries, the Civil Liberties Union in Cincinnati and Detroit, the Central Labor Council of Clinton, Ind. and the group publishing 'Truth' in Duluth."

At many of the Flynn meetings Arturo Calvani spoke in Italian. In Beul, Ill. they spoke in the hall of the American Legion, and in practically all the mining camps the halls were donated by the United Mine Workers Locals, which in many instances also paid for the advertising.

"The miners were splendid!" Miss Flynn exclaimed when interviewed, "I spoke again in Duluth, where I had been arrested the last time I went there, and it was a joy to go to the Mesaba Range again, where they said I would never be allowed to speak again. There are really signs of a re-action in the Mid-West country against mob violence and more civil liberties than I was prepared to expect."

In Milwaukee and Two Harbors, Minn. the socialist mayors, Hoan and Holliday, presided at the Sacco-Vanzetti meetings. The Court houses both at Minneapolis and at Taylorville, Ill. were obtained for the meetings, and free of rental, too.

In dozens of cities and mining camps where Miss Flynn and Calvani visited, developments in the New England capital case are being watched closely and thousands of workers stand ready to aid actively in the defense.

Bookkeeper And Cat Rewarded By Noyes

(By The Federated Press)

BOSTON. — Local papers are extolling the generosity of Charles R. Noyes. Boston millionaire fruit merchant, who left rich legacies to his favorite bookkeeper and his favorite cat.

The first of these beneficiaries is Charles D. Hsley, who has been bending over profit accounts in Noyes' office for 38 years, and is heir to \$50,000 of it. The cat has been in the office for a considerably shorter period and its legacy is smaller in proportion with its smaller needs.

The will also disposes of \$25,000 among the other employees of the big Noyes establishment, but the great bulk of the fortune remains with the immediate family of the millionaire.

LARKIN'S RELEASE

IS HELD UP

(Continued from page 1)

He stood by their spokesmen and they were soon released.

The prosecuting attorney in the New York cases himself confessed the crime that was committed in sending the Communist prisoners to the bastilles of New York. They have already served a longer time than their Canadian comrades.

The New York prisoners were convicted for holding an opinion, for an idea, not for any act that they committed. The Canadian labor spokesmen went to prison for having taken an actual and prominent part in a great demonstration of the solidarity and power of labor.

—The Worker.

Is Four Power Pact A Union Against Russia?

WASHINGTON. — When Senator Robinson of Arkansas sought to exclude the southern half of the island of Saghalien from the protection of the four power treaty, Senator Underwood opposed him, saying there would be no danger that the United States would be involved in a Russian attack upon Japan in Saghalien during the 10-year term for which the treaty runs. Senator Johnson tried to make Underwood confess that what he really had in mind was that Russia would not dare attack Japan in Saghalien because the four power pact was indeed a military alliance against Russia. Underwood denied it, but explained that a diplomatic controversy would be certain, and "it would seriously affect any change of Russia to finance a war."

He further expressed the opinion that before the 10-year period of the treaty is past the Japanese will have withdrawn from northern Saghalien and from Siberia, Manchuria and Mongolia, in accordance with their pledge given in the Washington conference.

Senator Robinson pressed the point that Japan made similar pledges as to Korea, and broke them and has never shown the slightest inclination to make amends. Underwood replied that the American government, by its refusal to protest the theft of Korea independence, had shared the crime.

"I am not criticizing Japan entirely," said Underwood, "because we have taken some territory by the force of arms, and so has every other great civilized nation. I only hope that that period in the world's history has passed forever and that the subjugation of weaker nations may never again be carried out by force. That is why I stand for the four power treaty—because I believe it is a step toward the reign of peace."

One Thing After Another

WASHINGTON.—Out of the wilds of Mexico, where he fled following his indictment 2½ years ago on the charge of criminal anarchy, Dr. Max Cohen, former leader of the Communist party, today appeared at the district attorney's office with an offer to plead guilty. He was immediately arraigned and placed on probation for five years.

MINNEAPOLIS.—Closing of the lumber camps in the woods is causing the Minneapolis bread line to increase at the rate of 60 men a day. Early last month there was a falling off in applicants for free

meals, but with the influx of timber workers the "line" is increasing.

The bread line was established through the efforts of labor leaders and has provided meals and beds for an average of 1,000 men a day throughout the winter.

Over 100,000 men use Minneapolis as a clearing point every year, and leave an average of not less than \$4,000,000 annually in the city.

LOS ANGELES.—While awaiting trial here on a criminal syndicalism charge, James Fink has been arrested again. He was at a Russian relief mass-meeting selling copies of Industrial Solidarity and the Industrial Workers, and the police nabbed him. Apparently it is the intention of District Attorney Thomas Lee Woolwine's office to set down the selling of I. W. W. literature as an added black mark against Fink.

Because the court calendar is jammed with murder cases and prosecutions arising out of hooch and erotic complications, the trial of Fink and four of his fellow

workers for alleged criminal syndicalism has been postponed to June 26. The five industrialists lately demanded a prompt trial, but Woolwine's office objected strenuously, and it was refused.

Those under indictment in addition to Fink are Harry Clayton, William Allan, Daniel Duffy and Daniel Stephens. Membership in the I. W. W., they declare, is the only evidence that the prosecution can produce against them; but that has been sufficient in numerous California cases to convict.

NOTICE!

O. T. ROSAAS, Photographer

has moved from 2030 West Superior St., to Corner 21st Ave. W. and 2nd St. Will open for business on May 1st.

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Take advantage of this offer while it lasts. Address TRUTH, Duluth, Minn.

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NOTICE!

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

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GUST V. PETERSON, Manager

TRUTH

Issued Weekly By The West End Labor Association.
J. O. BENTALL, Editor.

"Entered as second-class matter November 12, 1920, at the post office at Duluth, Minnesota, under the Act of March 3, 1879"
Subscription: 1 year \$2.00. — 6 months \$1.00.



WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

J. O. Bentall is still in Leavenworth, and in spite of our work for amnesty that is where he is going to remain unless his friends and the supporters of TRUTH get busy.

James Larkin's friends do not sit back after they have demanded general amnesty by means of letters and petitions. They do not feel that their responsibility ends there. They keep someone on the trail every day, interviewing politicians, interviewing priests, interviewing anyone able to pull strings at Washington. They want Larkin out. And they are on the job trying every possible means to get him out.

The priests and the ministers and the politicians use the workers when they want to put something across. And the workers bob like jumping jacks to do their bidding. Why shouldn't the politicians bob for the workers once?

It is a most critical time in the labor movement. The owning class is vicious and is bent on the destruction of the working class.

The workers are divided, different factions are asininely quarreling with each other, wasting money and energy in duplication of organizations and efforts and publications. If ever men with mature judgment and intellectual honesty like J. O. Bentall are needed it is now. He is needed for TRUTH. He is needed in the local activities. He is needed on the platform.

Many of the rank and file workers are dubs (not thru any fault of their own) but they are dubs nevertheless—brains untrained, hands untrained, no moral stamina,—the same thing holds true for many of the so-called leaders. They have illogical brain action, no manual skill, no backbone, all mouth,—they are dubs.

J. O. Bentall is not. He has courage, he has stability, he has brains, he has honesty. They are rare these days. We need them outside of the prison.

What have you done to get him out?

THE FIGHT FOR MORE BREAD

A part of the working class has a fight on. It is not for complete justice. It is only for another loaf of bread. The coal miners are striving for the extra loaf.

Why are those of us who are out for the overthrow of the capitalist system of industry anxious that they should win? Why are we urging the railroad workers and the steamship workers to refuse to transport coal? Why are we doing all in our power to help the miners win the strike when they only ask another loaf of bread and the damnable system that can starve them is left to continue its work?

We wish the workers were powerful enough and intelligent enough to tackle the whole job. But the truth is that they are not ready. They have many things to learn first and it is because we hope that this strike may teach them some of the things that will be useful to them in their future struggles that we are with them in this fight for wages.

The workers must learn the weakness of craft organizations and the greater power of industrial organizations. They must come to realize that the government is the tool of the mine owners who are also the Wall street bankers and railroad owners. That it will do what the mine owners want done. If it keeps out of the fight it will only be because the operators can accomplish what they wish to do, alone.

The miners should learn from actual experience that even by winning a few shekels more they still have nothing. But they should also experience the feeling of strength that comes from working together, through solidarity. They need to gain confidence in themselves. They need to learn that they can do things. Then they will not rest until they have perfected a real fighting industrial organization. One strong enough to hel, bring the final crash of capitalistic production and to help run the industries after the crisis has come.

It is only because we think these lessons may be learned that we are with them in the fight for the bread.

CAPERS OF THE OWNING CLASS.

The man chase for oil a big part of our present civilization. Britain and America are the speediest contestants with France and others panting behind.

This race for oil is all based on the assumption that the use of crude oil and its products will continually increase.

It may not. Over night a scientist may bring forth a substitute which will change the whole direction of the chase. Unless those already having oil investments succeed in dumping the scientist and substitute into an asylum or some deep lake.

Barnabas Bryan, who knows enough about the world's oil situation to get his name into the "Magazine of Wall Street", says that coal dust burning is liable to become a strong competitor to oil for all purposes including railroad locomotive and steamships. He says electric power will be carried ever-increasing distances and will also be a competitor if the power lines of the East can be tied up by means of the Great Lakes ship canal.

But whatever direction the race of the owning class may be tomorrow, today it is towards the oil fields. The ruthless tactics used are exposed when the contesting groups tell on each other like thieves who have turned traitors to their pals.

In Mexico the American Oil companies and the British owned companies have back yard squabbles in regard to the best method of evading taxes. The Standard Oil and other companies, zero per cent American, partly due to good Obregon guns, have decided to pay taxes. They will

UPSTREAM

The strong men keep coming on.
They go down shot, hanged, sick, broken.
They live on, fighting, singing,
lucky as plungers.

The strong men ... they keep coming on.
The strong mothers pulling them
from a dark sea, a great prairie,
a long mountain.

Call hallelujah, call amen,
call deep thanks.
The strong men keep coming on.

Carl Sandburg.

have nothing to do with the bad British Morgan outfit, who were fomenting revolutions in Mexico to hold up the Mexican government to avoid paying taxes. Not they! They will pay like nice Sunday School boys! And this liberal attitude in regard to taxes will bring cordial relations and cordial money estimated by Henry Woodhouse to be one thousand million dollars to go to American industries.

Henry Woodhouse who knows enough about oil to write for the respectable Chicago Herald and Examiner" tells all about the wickedness of Britain's oil grabbing in the East. Five hundred thousand Indian and one-hundred thousand British officers and soldiers were drafted and sent to fight to grab the oil resources of Mesopotamia, Turkey, Persia and Palestine. Of course thousands of natives were killed. But what of that?

Whether these American and British exploiters chase East of West or South for oil or for a substitute, the end is inevitable. They will be at each other's throats and then each side will scream for working class boobs to do the fighting for them. And they will get them too. It will take another hellish war for the capitalists to wake some working people up. To get them to unite their organized strength against the capitalists. They are not awake yet except in small groups, so the oil chasers will find fighters.

FREE AIR?

Who says air is free? The man who drives up to the curb to get a few pounds for his Ford? The woman who throws open the window to let out the odor of cabbage and suds and to let in the factory belch? Yes, that is free.

But if you want to test the ignition of the Ford, neon, a part of air, is used and you pay.

The air we breathe has 78 per cent nitrogen, 21 per cent oxygen and 1 per cent of other gases and vapors. This 1 per cent consists, according to scientists, of argon, neon, xenon, carbon dioxide, hydrogen, helium and a little water vapor.

Neon applied to the spark plug will show the strength of the current by the depth of the rose colored light—provided there is any current to test.

If you want the carbon removed from the cylinders of the Ford, oxygen is used and you pay. Withdrawing oxygen from air and marketing it has become a regular business. John Walker Harrington who writes in "Drug and Chemical Markets" says that "the price of oxygen varies from \$1.31 to \$1.40 a hundred cubic feet and every year the value of this air product is from \$13,000,000 to \$14,000,000."

So we are "mining air," selling air, buying air, but we are not purifying air. Only the poor are obliged to live and die in filth laden air. The rich just drive thru those localities when they are slumming, holding their dainty kerchiefs to their noses. If they had to live in stench from the slaughter pens and belch from the factories, scientists would work on the elimination of the impurities. But there is no incentive for that now. It doesn't pay. There is no economic pressure along that line. And working people, who live in those regions will never get any change until they get economic power. Inventions and their use follow economic pressure.

SEES SYMPTOMS, NOT CAUSES

A "Texas Tornado" has broken into New York. His real name is Rev. Frank Norris and he is said to have the largest Baptist Church in the world at Forth Worth, Texas.

He is having a lot of excitement in New York by condemning his own church and all other churches. He says "The churches are after money and they are preaching what money demands. The laboring classes are not fools. They see the church bow down to mammon. That is why we have a great chasm between the churches and the masses. That is why a great revolution will engulf this country."

The "Tornado" shows by some of his other remarks that he is not down to bed rock in his thinking. He curses symptoms instead of causes. Riotous living, poverty, foolish girls, and brainless men, these he denounces with scathing words. But in regard to the rotten industrial system that is the cause of all the sickening symptoms that he sees so clearly, he is silent.

He will have to exercise his own gray matter some more. He has a long way to go. But he may never get to causes. He has probably found a more interesting way of making money than by preaching in a musty church—the Billy Sunday way. The capitalists will not interfere with him as long as he entertains them with the symptoms. When he gets down to causes as the I. W. W. and Communists are he will not be so popular.

RUSSIA'S VALLEY FORGE

As the winter months wear on—for it is still deep winter on the Volga—the news from the stricken region carries a cry which passes from an exclamation to a shudder. Photographs are arriving in this country of scenes from which the eye turns away. Recent cuts received from the Friends of Soviet Russia give some conception of the wholesale wiping out of a population.

One scene is at the gateway of a Russian graveyard. In the background is a forest of crosses, rudely and hastily made of wood. These are the buried. In the foreground are huge piles which look like cordwood. These are the unburied. Cadavers, frozen to the stiffness of rock, mostly of children, are stacked like railway ties in long and deep piles, half covered with snow, waiting for spring to bring them burial—if by that time there are enough left of the living to dig the graves. Out of these piles are sticking feet and arms, pointing with that grotesque effect which lends a higher pitch to horror—at what?

They point, first, at the authors of the economic blockade of Russia—at that gigantic effort of international capitalism to starve an idea, and which succeeded only in starving millions of children. They point to the drugs and medicines which were denied the sick; to the machinery which would permit Russian transportation to function, and Russian agriculture to operate.

They point at the devastation of their land by the Kolchaks, Denikins, Judeniches and Wrangels, backed by American funds and propelled by American-allied "culture". They point at the equipment furnished without charge by the American government to the armed forces of Poland.

They point at the impoverishment of the workers of the United States, who would now have 10 times what they have given, were they able—accomplished by the same industrial and financial powers which blockaded Russia.

Lastly, they point at the "statesmen", journalists and propagandists of the United States who rejoice at the starvation of 10,000,000 babies, having found at last conclusive proof that Communism will not work. (To prove that a horse cannot run — hamstring him in the dark. To prove that a motor car is defective — put emery duct in the bearings. To prove that the Russian revolution has failed — commit massmurder upon Russia's children. The announce the demonstration.)

Every editorial writer who attributes the Russian famine to the soviet form of government is an accessory after the

fact to the murder of these millions, since he conceals the criminals.

And while he writes, the piles of frozen carcasses rise higher; the rags, stripped from those that re Lrown naked upon the piles, are wrapped about the dying; and more and ever more ghastly members point stiffly through the drifted snow of the Russian winter from the long, high hedge-rows of the slain. — Butte Bulletin.

BABES IN PRISON

If more evidence is needed to show how civilized we are, here it is.

Three boys seven, eight and eleven years old are serving terms of five years in a federal penitentiary for the alleged burglary of a postoffice in West Virginia.

The authorities found these robbers by using blood hounds to track them. Ten boys were supposed to be implicated but of these three were sentenced. They confessed.

Now Mrs. Warren Harding is trying to get them released.

Of course these criminals are working class children. Owning class children receive more intelligent treatment. But by means of the owning class court these working class babes were sentenced to be punished—these babes who grew up in the atmosphere of daylight robberies and thugges by those who own the industries as well as the courts. These babes are punished in 1922 in the United States of America.

Heathen Chinese know that even for adult criminals there should be no punishment, only scientific medical treatment. If the court had been an expression of intelligence instead of a tool of oppression used against the working class, these babes would have been given good food and education and love. Then they would have a chance to grow up to be healthy individuals in their bodies and ideals. But that would take money and thought. The penitentiary is cheaper.

And so the president's wife is trying to save these children from the sentence imposed by her class.

TWO KINDS OF CLASS COURTS

The American courts are like the Russian courts, in that they are class courts. In both countries the courts are instruments to keep a class in subjection. But they differ in the fact that the American courts hypocritically deny their class character, whereas the Russian courts proudly boast of it.

In the United States the Landises, the Andersons, and the thousands of their ilk who wear the "robes of justice", shamelessly do the work of the employing class and crush the workers down to submission. They fill the jails with Mooneyes and Howats, and negate every liberal law on the statute books. Then with solemn pomposity they fare forth to convince a gullible world that their purely class institutions are based upon principles of impartiality. How different it is in Russia! There the courts soak the so-called "better classes" as a matter of principle. Over their doors, in spirit if not in letter, runs the fateful legend: "Abandon hope all ye capitalists who enter herein." They discriminate openly in favor of the workers, and are careful to tell the whole world of the fact.

Why the hypocrisy of American courts, and why the frankness of Russian courts, in recognizing their manifest class character. The answer is easy. The class that the Landises serve is an exploiting class, a parasitic class, whose prosperity involves the enslavement and degradation of the rest of society. They do not dare to acknowledge their defense of the interests of such an anti-social class. But in Russia the courts protect the interests of the great working class, the useful class, the class whose supreme mission is the regeneration and civilization of society. The Russian courts may well be proud of their important social element. That is the difference between America class courts and Russian class courts.

—The Labor Herald.

OIL, ITS INFLUENCE ON POLITICS

By FRANCIS DELAISI.

(The following excerpts were chosen from Delaisi's book "Oil, Its Influence on Politics", because we think it is though provoking material. We are not in sympathy with the author's aims and conclusions. — Editor.)

An engineer takes a waste product of oil, mazut; he transforms it into a fine spray, which he projects into the furnaces of a great ship. This simple fact is going to change the structure of societies and disturb the balance of empires. Mazut dates from a few years ago and already we see the great liners everywhere adopting the new fuel. It gives more heat for the same volume, is cheaper, and takes less room; the saving in bunker space allows more goods to be carried on less cost, and this leads to a lowering of freights and of the prices of all commodities carried by sea. He have a commercial revolution springing from a technical invention.

In the meantime, warships as well as merchantmen adopt oil fuel, the smaller volume of which, allows both their radius of action and the weight of their guns to be increased. But in this case the nation which has the biggest supplies of oil will be able — other things being equal — to build the most powerful navy and to reduce all rival fleets to a position of dependence. The substitution of oil for coal gives rise to a military problem of vital importance. In consequence governments go hunting about everywhere for oil wells.

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There is an oil duel between Great Britain and the United States.

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The United States controls 80 per cent of the world's oil production. But foreign countries consume half as much petroleum as the United States while their soil contains seven times as much. Those countries consume at present 200 million barrels a year; at this rate, they have sufficient reserves for 250 years. The United States consumes 400 million barrels a year; and has an assured supply for only eighteen years. In other words, the United States is using up its reserves sixteen times as quickly as the rest of the world.

The total quantity of petroleum which may be extracted from the soil in the entire world is estimated to be 60,000 million barrels, out of this only 7,000 million barrels exist in the United States and Alaska and the remaining 53,000 are in foreign countries. It is impossible to prospect and extract 7,000 barrels still buried in American soil in so short a period as eighteen years.

Hence there is a rushing around for concessions, in Mexico, Central America, Burma, Bolivia, Columbia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic and elsewhere.

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"Two-thirds of the improved fields of Central and South America are in British hands. In Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador, a decisive and really overwhelming majority of the petroleum concessions are held by British subjects. They will be developed by British capital. The Alves group, whose holdings encircle practically two-

thirds of the Caribbean Sea, is wholly British, working under arrangements which ensure that perpetual control of its undertakings shall remain in British hands. No American citizen and no American group has acquired or ever could acquire any such position in Central America as that which enterprise and personality have secured for M. Alves. Or take again that greatest of all oil organizations, the Shell group. It owns exclusively or controls interests in every important oil field in the world, including the United States, Russia, Mexico, the Dutch East Indies, Rumania, Egypt, Venezuela, Trinidad India, Ceylon, the Malay States, North and South China, Siam, the Straits Settlement and the Philippines.

"How oil is to become a cause of international conflicts could not be better described.

"Henceforward, under the customary formulas of courtesy, the conflict has opened, no longer between two groups of business men, but between the two greatest economic and military forces in the world. It is no longer a question of commercial competition among companies hunting for dividends; it is a question of the control of a product whose abundance or scarcity may change the ever unstable balance of power among nations. To obtain or to keep this product, each of two rival Governments is ready to bring into action all the economic and military weapons which it has at its disposal. Between the two, nations of the second rank will be subject to formidable pressure the one trying to force them to open their doors when the other is compelling them to close them. Thus the question of oil has entered the danger-zone of diplomatic rivalries; and all nations will have to take part.

PIG STIES IN NEW YORK

By HARRY GODFREY

(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

NEW YORK.—Housing conditions in New York City in 1921 were so bad that more than one-third of a million renters were driven to the courts for relief.

The figures are set forth, exactly, in a report by a committee of municipal court judges on "general welfare." Dealing with rent litigation since the enactment of the state emergency rent laws on April 1, 1920, the report notes the striking increase of such legal actions over the years 1919 and 1920. The number of families actually forced by shameful housing conditions and the extortionate greed of landlords to seek protection under the rent laws in 1921 was 361,345.

That figure shows an increase of 47 percent over the year 1920.

It might seem that the 1920 rent legislation, under which most of these cases were brought, was unusually "favorable" to the tenants. It was, perhaps, "unusual." But how, and in what way?

Boiled down, this legislation passed by the legislature grudgingly and for no reason other than that the law-makers feared the political consequences to themselves if they opposed it, merely says that except in certain special instances, no tenant shall be dispossessed from his residence so long as he is willing to pay his landlord a reasonable rent—even though he may have been practically forced into an agreement to pay an exorbitant rent. And the law designated the municipal courts as the arbiters of what is a "reasonable rent."

In general, and in far the greater number of cases brought under this law, the municipal courts have rendered decisions regarded as fair and satisfactory.

A LETTER FROM ALASKA

O. B. U. Alaska.

Fellow-Workers!

Although we don't receive TRUTH regularly, we have been receiving it quite often the last couple of months.

Now I take the liberty to tell you that the Fellow-Workers who read TRUTH, sure are pleased. Renew our subscription for another year.

Keep up the good work Fellow-workers, you are doing fine. We admire the pluck of Fellow-worker, J. O. Bentall; may as well speak my mind now and here, as I for one, believe he has the courage of his convictions. Will do all in my power to help release him. At the same time will try to interest as many fellow-workers as possible toward enlisting their aid in mentioned defense.

I must assure you that we are with you, heart and soul, not intending to praise but we do intend and mean to encourage and back you as much as possible.

Nuf Sed,

(We omit name as we have not secured permission to use it.)

COMRADES! HELP TO RELEASE J. O. BENTALL!

Cut out the petition below and get signatures. Get additional lists. We need thousands. Get them at once.

All petitions must be sent to T. E. Latimer, Security Bldg., Minneapolis, Minnesota. Personal letters to President Harding and to Attorney General Daugherty will also help. Send copies of personal letters to T. E. Latimer.

Inasmuch as the war is over; we, the undersigned, ask the release from Leavenworth of J. O. Bentall, who was convicted of offenses (during the war) involving expressions of opinion.